

Food Systems Planning

City and Regional Planning 694, Spring Quarter 2011

Class time and location: M/W 6:00 – 7:48 pm

Instructor

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Office hours

TBA, or by appointment

Course Info: Access all course info at <http://carmen.osu.edu>

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to build knowledge of the food system, how it functions, and how it interacts (or could) with planning and public policy. Food planning and policy has traditionally been considered a national domain, and has dealt with issues such as public health, nutrition, anti-hunger, food safety, food labeling, international trade and food aid. In the past several years, however, food planning and policy has been recognized as an issue for local governance and planning. Community food governance and planning (or lack thereof) affects the ways that people produce, obtain, consume and dispose of their food. Food decisions affect where and how food can be grown, where and how food can be accessed, and how food is integrated into broader community goals.

The intent of the course is to familiarize students with key issues related to the practice of food system planning (the practice of creating and implementing food policies). Further, basic issues in our conventional food system (production, distribution, marketing, and disposal of food), particularly with regard to those elements that may be influenced by civic action and public regulation, will be addressed. Building on these basic issues, the course will provide the fodder to examine and critic alternatives to this system (e.g., urban farming, local foods, direct markets, civic agriculture). The class is structured to develop and challenge participants' thinking through readings, lectures, guest lectures, and structured discussion. At the end of the class, students should have an increased understanding of food systems as a planning and community development topic.

Course Objectives

- Learn the components and actors in the conventional food system and understand the problems and opportunities related to this system

- Identify and critique major issues and recent debates in urban, local and regional food system planning
- Develop an understanding of the planners role in food system development
- Hone and improve communication and presentation skills

Structure

The course is structured into topics by week. We will use readings, lectures, film viewing, interaction with guest lecturers, structured discussions, and a possible field trip to achieve the above objectives. Readings for each week will be from Carmen, books, and handouts as necessary. Because a main component of this class is discussion-based *it is expected that you will have done the reading before the class session*. This is crucially important; you should come prepared to discuss the material. Several class sessions will include guest speakers and films to inform our discussions.

Grading and Course Work

Class participation is a crucial part of this class, and will be a component of the grading as well. Further, to facilitate discussions and assist in synthesizing your thoughts, weekly summaries will be assigned based on the required readings. These are to be one page, double-spaced and will be graded on a binary scale (that is, you did it, or you didn't). They are to be submitted using before class begins, and you should bring a copy to class for your use. The syllabus provides some suggested readings as well for students who are interested in learning more on a topic.

The remainder of the grade will be composed of a presentation and a final project. Further instruction will be given on all three during class time.

Working in small teams, students will review and analyze a community food system plan or assessment (provided by the instructor). These teams will present the plan to the class and provide their analysis. For example, does the plan adequately address food system access, infrastructure, urban production and other aspects of the community food system?

Working in small teams, the final project for undergraduate students will be to take an existing community comprehensive plan (provided by the instructor) and write a chapter on the community food system, including planning goals, objectives, and implementation (5-10 double-spaced pages). Also working in teams, the final project for graduate students will be to write prospectus for a local food policy council assessment (10-15 double-spaced pages).

Requirements and Approximate Percent of Grading:

Class participation	10
Weekly summary/reflection	30
Presentation	25
Final Project	35

Academic Honesty

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (XX).

Disability Services

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

Course Schedule

Week 1 Course Introduction and Our Current Food System (Obstacles and Opportunities)

- Pollan, Michael. 2006. "The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals." Penguin Press. *Excerpts*
- Whatmore, S. (2002). "From Farming to Agribusiness: Global Agri-Food Networks." In *Geographies of Global Change: Remapping the World*. R. J. Johnston, P. J. Taylor and M. J. Watts. Malden, MA, Blackwell Publishing.
- Steve W. Martinez. The U.S. Food Marketing System: Recent Developments, 1997-2006. USDA/ERS. Rept. 42 May 2007.

Film: *King Corn*

Other: Carolyn Steel: How food shapes our cities (2009 TED Lecture, 16 minutes): http://www.ted.com/talks/carolyn_steel_how_food_shapes_our_cities.html

Week 2 Planners in the Food System – History and Current Roles

- Pothukuchi, K. & Kaufman, J. (2000) The food system: A stranger to the planning field. *Journal of the American Planning Association* 66 (2), pp. 112 – 24.
- American Planning Association (2007) *Policy guide on community and regional food planning*. pp. 1 – 20. On-line access: <http://myapa.planning.org/policyguides/food.htm>
- Clancy, Kate, 2004. "Potential Contributions of Planning to Community Food Systems." *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 23: 435-438.
- Raja, Samina, Branden Born, and Jessica Kozlowski, 2009. A Planners Guide to Community and Regional Food Planning. PAS Report 554, American Planning Association, sections TBD.

Suggested Readings

- Mendes, W. (2008) Implementing social and environmental policies in cities: The case of food policy in Vancouver, Canada. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* (32) 4: 942 – 967.

Caton Campbell, Marcia, 2004. "Building a Common Table." *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 23: 341-355.

Week 3 Community Food Security and Healthy Food Access

Wekerle G. R. (2004) Food Justice Movements: Policy, Planning, and Networks. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, vol. 23, 4, pp. 378 – 386.

Pothukuchi, K. (2004). Inner city grocery retail: What planners can do. *Progressive Planning*. Winter, 2004.

Winne, M. 1994. "The Hartford Food System" in Liedenfrost and Wilkins, eds., *Food Security in the United States: A Guidebook for Public Issues Education*. U.S, Department of Agriculture. pp. 91-96.

Community Health and Food Access: The Local Government Role. ICMA Press. 2006. American Planning Association Policy Guide on Community and Regional Food Planning. May 11, 2007.

Suggested Readings

Short, Anne, Julie Guthman, and Samuel Raskin, 2007. "Food Deserts, Oases, or Mirages? Small Markets and Community Food Security in the San Francisco Bay Area." *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 26:352-364.

Hunger Action Coalition of Michigan. 1998. *Food Security Status: A pilot study in a Detroit neighborhood*. Detroit: Hunger Action Coalition. Pp. 3-19.

Born, Branden, and Alon Bassok, 2009. "Beyond Bodegas: Affordable Groceries through an Innovative Store Format." *Journal of Urbanism*. Vol. 2 Issue 2, p127-143.

Week 4 Alternative Food Systems: Urban Agriculture

Week 4 Part 1: Introduction

van Veenhuizen, R. (2006) Introduction: Cities Farming for the Future. In R. van Veenhuizen (Ed.) *Cities farming for the future: Urban agriculture for green and productive cities*. IIRR/ RUAf/ IDRC On-line access: http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-100638-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html

Mendes, W. Balmer, K., Kaethler, T. and Rhoads, A. (2008) The role of urban agriculture in enhancing green communities: Experiences from Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, British Columbia. *Journal of the American Planning Association* 74 (4): 435 – 449.

Suggested Reading

Mougeot, L. J. A. (2005) Introduction: Urban Agriculture and the Millennium Development Goals In L. J. A. Mougeot (Ed.) *Agropolis, the social, political and environmental dimensions of urban agriculture*. Earthscan, London, UK. On-line access: http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-84289-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html

Other: The Diggable City: Making Urban Agriculture a Planning Priority: <http://www.diggablecity.org>

Carrot City Exhibit – Design and urban food systems:
<http://www.ryerson.ca/carrotcity/>

Week 4 Part 2: Farming in Urban Space – Location and Design

Viljoen, Andre & Katrin Bohn, *Continuous Productive Urban Landscapes: Designing Urban Agriculture for Sustainable Cities*. (Burlington, MA: Architectural Press, 2005). Chs. 1-5.

Guest Speaker: Katherine Bennett, Assistant Professor, Landscape Architecture, Knowlton School of Architecture, The Ohio State University

Week 5 Alternative Food Systems: Building Local/Regional Food Systems

Henderson, Elizabeth. 1998. "Rebuilding local food systems from the grassroots up." In *Monthly Review* 50(3) July/August. Pp. 112-124.

Born, Branden and Mark Purcell, 2006. "Avoiding the Local Trap: Scale and Food Systems in Planning Research." *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 26: 195-207.

Suggested Reading

Vallianatos, Mark, Robert Gottlieb, and Margaret Anne Haase, 2004. "Farm-to-School: Strategies for Urban Health, Combating Sprawl, and Establishing a Community Food Systems Approach." *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 23:414-423.

Week 6 Alternative Food Systems: Civic Agriculture

Lyson, Thomas. 2000. *Moving toward Civic Agriculture*. *Choices*

DeLind, Laura B. 2002. "Place, work and Civic Agriculture: Common Fields for Cultivation." *Agriculture and Human Values*. 19(3): 217-224

Guest Speaker: Shoshanah Inwood, Researcher, Social Responsibility Initiative, The Ohio State University

Week 7 Local Policies and Regulations and the Food System

Pothukuchi, Kameshwari, and Jerome Kaufman, 1999. "Placing the food system on the urban agenda: The role of municipal institutions in food systems planning." *Agriculture and Human Values* 16: 213-224.

MacRae, R. 1994. "So Why is the City of Toronto Concerned About Food and Agricultural Policy? A Short History of the Toronto Food Policy Council". *C&A Bulletin* v. 50 Winter, pp15-18.

Interagency Working Group. 1982. *Proposal for a Food Policy Council for the City of Knoxville, TN*. Knoxville, TN: Interagency working group, composed of representatives from: Community Action Committee, Department of Community

and Economic Development, and Metropolitan Planning Commission. This package also includes a 1996 report from the annual retreat of the Food Policy Council reflecting on the implications of recent developments in food systems for FPC work.

Guest Speaker: Amalie Lipstreu, Coordinator, Ohio Food Policy Council

Week 8 The Food System and Energy and Student Presentations

Week 8 Part 1: The Food System and Energy

Hendrickson, John. 1994. "Energy Use in the U.S. Food System: a summary of existing research and analysis." Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems, UW-Madison.
Pirog, R. et al. Food, Fuel, and Freeways: An Iowa perspective on how far food travels, fuel usage, and greenhouse gas emissions. Leopold Center. Iowa. 2001.

Suggested Readings

Whiffen, HJ & L. B. Bobroff, LB. Managing the Energy Costs of Food. Florida Cooperative Extension Service. May 1993.
The Validity of Food Miles as an Indicator of Sustainable Development. DEFRA. ED50254 Issue 7. July 2005.

Week 8 Part 2: Student Presentations

The remainder of this week will be set aside for student presentations

Week 9 – Assessing the Local Food System

Borron, Sarah, 2002. *Food Policy Councils: Practice and Possibility*. (p. 1-12 required, remainder optional).
Lyons, L. and Drake, L. 1994. "Community Food Security Assessment" in Liedenfrost and Wilkins, eds., *Food Security in the United States: A Guidebook for Public Issues Education*. U.S, Department of Agriculture. pp. 57-60.

Suggested Reading

Pothukuchi, Kameshwari, 2004. "Community Food Assessment: A First Step in Planning for Community Food Security." *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 23: 356-377.

Guest Speaker: Representative, Agriculture and Food Systems Working Group, MORPC

Week 10 Community-based Economic Development for Food and Agriculture

Week 10 Part 1 – Food, Agriculture and Economic Development

Morales, Alphonso, 2009. "Public Markets as Community Development Tools." *Journal of Planning Education and Research*; 28; 426-440.

Suggested Reading

Kami Pothukuchi. 2005. "Attracting Supermarkets to Inner-City Neighborhoods: Economic Development Outside the Box." *Economic Development Quarterly*. 19, 3 (August): 232-244.

ATTRA. 2001. "Entertainment Farming & Agri-Tourism."

Week 10 Part 2 – In-class work on Final Project

Exam Week

Final projects are due.