ANTH 3350 Food and Culture

Spring 2022

Lecturer: Sidney Cheung sidneycheung@cuhk.edu.hk

Lecture: 12:30 ~ 2:15 (Thu); Tsang Shiu Tim Bldg 312

Tutorial: 3:30 ~ 4:15 (Thu); T.C. Cheng Bldg 208

Tutor: Liu Shuman shumanliu@outlook.com

Introduction:

In this course students learn about various aspects of foodways, as studied through the cultural anthropological perspectives. This course is divided into three modules after the Introduction. In **module one**, students will learn about various theoretical frameworks for the Anthropology of Food and Eating; in **module two**, students will learn about how foodways is related to social values and cultural practices in different Asian countries; and in **module three**, students will learn about the roles of foodways and its development by examining various cases both in the urban and rural areas around the world. In particular, students will be guided to design a research topic in order to investigate the cultural significance of understanding foodways as a way for the discern of the social changes and cultural practices in the context of our everyday life.

Learning outcomes:

- 1. Students will learn major theories with examples of various foodways practices around the world and will be able to critically identify the different factors brought by food production, trading, and consumption.
- 2. Students will be guided in examining changing cultural values in East Asian countries by re-thinking food related activities such as colonial development, tourism, religious and traditional rituals.
- 3. Students will learn about different local Hong Kong foodways and their interaction with the changing social environment as well as impacts brought by globalization and urbanization.
- 4. After the course, students will appreciate the diversity of culture related to foodways, and the processes that mold and shape cultural identity.
- 5. Students will also learn skills in research design, cultural data collection, communication, and presentation of results.

Course Description:

Week 1 (Jan 13) Introduction: Choosing Food as a research topic

Readings: Cheung 2001

Week 2 (Jan 20) Development of Anthropology of Food

Readings: Tambiah 1969; Watson 2014; Cheung 2021

Week 3 (Jan 27) A Matter of Communication

Readings: Lum 2013; Serizawa 2007; Watson 1987

Week 4 (Feb 10) Caste System and Social Class

Readings: Leitch 2003; Phillips 2006; Ho 2020

Week 5 (Feb 17) Fieldtrip on 19 Feb (Sat)

Week 6 (Feb 24) Hong Kong (landscape and food traditions)

Readings: Cheung 2002b, 2007, 2019

Week 7 (March 3) China (food and cuisine)

Readings: Cheung 2005, 2020; Fabinyi 2011

Week 8 (March 10) Japan (postwar food development)

Readings: Allison 1991; Tsu 1999; Cheung 2002a

Week 9 (March 17) Southeast Asia (Peranakan and Macanese)

Readings: Mamak 2007; Tan 2007; Jackson 2020

Week 10 (March 24) Colonization and Urbanization

Readings: Cheung 2015a, 2015b; King 2019

Week 11 (March 31) Migration and Ethnicity

Readings: Levin 2020; Liu 2020; Duruz 2001

Week 12 (April 14) Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)

Readings: Appadurai 1988; Cwiertka 2019; Farrer and Wang 2020.

Week 13 (April 21) Project presentation

Each Ug student needs to present the research topic with outlines. (~10 mins)

Reading references:

- Allison, Anne (1991) Japanese Mothers and *Obentos*: The Lunch-Box as Ideological State Apparatus. *Anthropological Quarterly*, 64: 195-208.
- Appadurai, Arjun (1988) How to Make a National Cuisine: Cookbooks in contemporary India. *Comparative Study of Society and History*, 30 (1): 3-24.
- Cheung, Sidney (2001) Hakka Restaurants: A Study of the Consumption of Food in Post-war Hong Kong Society. In *Changing Chinese Foodways in Asia*. David Wu and Tan Chee Beng eds., Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, pp. 81-95.
- ----- (2002a) The Invention of Delicacy: Cantonese Food in Yokohama Chinatown. In *The Globalization of Chinese Food*, David Wu and Sidney Cheung eds. Surrey: RoutledgeCurzon, pp. 170-182.
- ---- (2002b) Food and Cuisine in a Changing Society: Hong Kong. In *The Globalization of Chinese Food*, pp. 100-112.
- ---- (2005) Consuming "Low" Cuisine after Hong Kong's Handover: Village Banquets and Private Kitchens, *Asian Studies Review*, 29 (3): 259-273.
- ----- (2007) Fish in the Marsh: A Case Study of Freshwater Fish Farming in Hong Kong. In *Food and Foodways in Asia: Resource, Tradition, and Cooking, Sidney Cheung and Tan Chee-Beng eds. London: Routledge, pp. 37-50.*
- ---- (2015a) The Social Life of American Crayfish in Asia. In *Re-Orienting Cuisine: East Asian Foodways in the Twenty-First Century*, Kwang Ok Kim ed. Oxford: Berghahn, pp. 221-237.
- ----- (2015b) From Cajun Crayfish to Spicy Little Lobster: A Tale of Local Culinary Politics in a Third-Tier City in China. In *Globalization and Asian Cuisines: Transnational Networks and Contact Zones*, James Farrer ed. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, pp. 209-228.

- ---- (2019) Floating Mountain in Pearl River: A Study of Oyster Cultivation and Food Heritage in Hong Kong. *Asian Education and Development Studies*, 8 (4): 433-442.
- ---- (2020) Reflections on the Historical Construction of Huaiyang Cuisine: A Study on the Social Development of Shanghai Foodways in Hong Kong. *Global Food History*, 6 (2): 128-142.
- ----- (2021) Hybridity and Authenticity in Global East Asian Food. In *Global East Asia: Into the Twenty-First Century*.

 Frank Pieke and Koichi Iwabuchi eds. Oakland, California: University of California Press, pp. 81-90, 2021.
- Cwiertka, Katarzyna J. (2019) From Military Rations to UNESCO Heritage: A Short History of Korean Kimchi. In *Culinary Nationalism in Asia*. Michelle King ed. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 73-91.
- Duruz, Jean (2001) Home Cooking, Nostalgia, and the Purchase of Tradition. *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review*, 12 (2): 21-32.
- Fabinyi, Michael (2011) Historical, Cultural and Social Perspectives on Luxury Seafood Consumption in China. *Environmental Conservation*, 39 (1) 83-92.
- Farrer, James and Wang Chuanfei (2021) Who Owns a Cuisine? The Grassroots Politics of Japanese Food in Europe. *Asian Anthropology*, 20 (1) 12-29.
- Ho, Hao-Tzu (2020) Cosmopolitan Locavorism: Global Local-food Movements in Postcolonial Hong Kong. *Food, Culture & Society*, 23 (2): 137-154.
- Jackson, Annabel (2020) Chapter 5. In *The Making of Macau's Fusion Cuisine: From Family Table to World Stage*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.
- King, Michelle T. (2019) A Cookbook in Search of a Country: Fu Pei-mei and the Conundrum of Chinese Culinary Nationalism. In *Culinary Nationalism in Asia*, pp. 56-72.
- Leitch, Alison (2003) Slow Food and the Politics of Pork Fat: Italian food and European identity. *Ethnos*, 68 (4): 427-462.
- Liu, Haiming (2020) Chop Suey, P.F. Chang's, and Chinese Food in America. In *American Chinese Restaurants:*Society, Culture and Consumption. Jenny Banh and Liu Haiming eds. New York: Routledge, pp. 155-168.
- Levin, Jacob R. (2020) Chinese Restaurants and Jewish American Culture. In *American Chinese Restaurants: Society, Culture and Consumption*, pp. 171-186.
- Lum, Casey M. K. (2013) Understanding Urban Foodways and Commicative Cities: A Taste of Hong Kong's Yumcha Culture as Urban Communication. In *The Urban Communication Reader III: Communicative Cities and Urban Communication in the 21st Century*, Susan Drucker, Victoria Gallenger, and Matthew Matsaganis eds. New York: Peter Lang, pp. 53-76.
- Mamak, Alex (2007) In Search of a Macanese Cookbook. In *Food and Foodways in Asia: Resource, Tradition, and Cooking*, Sidney Cheung and Tan Chee-Beng eds. London: Routledge Press, pp. 159-170.
- Phillips, Lynne (2006) Food and Globalization. Annual Review of Anthropology, 35: 37-57.
- Serizawa, Satohiro (2007) Edible Mercy: Charity Food Production and Fundraising Activities in Hong Kong. In *Food and Foodways in Asia: Resource, Tradition, and Cooking*, pp. 83-95.
- Tambiah, Stanley J. (1969) Animals are Good to Think and Good to Prohibit. Ethnology, 8(4): 423-59.
- Tan, Chee-Beng (2007) Nyonya Cuisine: Chinese, non-Chinese and the Making of a Famous Cuisine in Southeast Asia. In *Food and Foodways in Asia: Resource, Tradition, and Cooking*, pp. 171-182.

Tsu, Timothy (1999) From Ethnic Ghetto to 'Gourmet Republic': The Changing Image of Kobe's Chinatown in Modern Japan. *Japanese Studies*, 19 (1): 17-32.

Watson, James L. (1987) From the Common Pot: Feasting with Equals in Chinese Society. Anthropos, 82: 389-401.

---- (2014) Meat: A Cultural Biography in (South) China. In *Food Consumption in Global Perspective: Essays in the Anthropology of Food in Honour of Jack Goody*. Jacob Klein and Anne Murcott eds. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, pp. 25-44.

Course requirements

- 1. Do the readings;
- 2. Participate in class discussions; and
- 3. Write one Book Report and one individual Research Paper on a topic related to foodways

Grading

Class performance and Fieldtrip participation 10%

Book Report (7~8 pages) 40% (deadline: 10 May, 2022)

Individual Research Paper (15~18 pages) 50% (deadline: 10 May, 2022)

Note:

For the Book Report assignment, please choose one of the following books:

Liu, Haiming (2015) From Canton Restaurant to Panda Express: A History of Chinese Food in the United States. New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.

Mintz, Sidney W. (1985) *Sweetness and Power: The Place of Sugar in Modern History*. New York: Viking Penguin. Sutton, David E. (2001) *Remembrance of Repasts: An Anthropology of Food and Memory*. Oxford and New York: Berg. White, Merry (2012) *Coffee Life in Japan*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Note:

For the format, I prefer if you use the Anthropology Department citation style which you can find at www.cuhk.edu.hk/ant under Current Students -> Thesis Style.

Students are required to submit all papers to VeriGuide system (the Chinese University Plagiarism Identification Engine System). No paper will be graded without a receipt from VeriGuide system included by the student with his or her paper.

Please check the website https://veriguide1.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/

for more information on plagiarism and on how to submit papers through the system.