

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: Globalized Capitalist Agriculture

Course Number and Section:

CGS

3527F 550

Instructor Name(s): Dr. Wendy Russell

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course examines the short history of capitalist agriculture. Across the course you will learn how this form deploys labour, technology and resources from the vantage point of humans, namely workers, producers and consumers.

Learning Outcomes:

The goal of this course is to develop interdisciplinary skills that help us understand (as in 'gain critical distance from') the dizzying complexity of a planetary system of production, circulation and subsumption of human bodies. We could be talking about purses as easily as we're talking about apples, and so this course strengthens general skills. Essential to our course is developing comfort with making claims about such complex systems- 'its processes depend on X structures of power' or 'its outputs determine social structures', e.g.- in order to understand the limited potential and vulnerability of the processes, structures and ideological commitments that seemingly hold it together. This is a course that exercises close reading and critical analysis in the interest of learning how to think beyond the limits of received ideas and argument.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

All of your readings will be available on our OWL page in units organized by Unit. Most units will be one week, but some will be continued over two weeks.

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Attendance		5
Participation		10
Response Papers x4		85

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Tuesday, August 26, 2025