

ANT 267: Food and Culture  
Spring 2008 Tu,Th 10:00 — 11:15 am, Chambers 1006

Prof. Eriberto P. Lozada Jr.  
Office: Chambers B12  
Telephone: 704-894-2035

Office Hours: M, W 11:30 am – 12:30 pm  
T, Th 11:15 am – 12:30 pm or by appointment  
Email: [erlozada@davidson.edu](mailto:erlozada@davidson.edu)  
Web: <http://www.davidson.edu/personal/erlozada>

### **Instructions for the Review**

The Review is a closed-book, take-home examination, with questions chosen from the following list. Notes, books, or other supporting materials may not be used during the exam. All students registered for this course must take this **closed-book essay exam** in the allotted time of **one hour** and submit the essay to me by email by **11:30 am, Tuesday, 26 February 2008** (there will be no class on that day, so you may use the class time to do the exam). The essays can be submitted to me in person at my office, as an email attachment (preferred), or in the class Blackboard electronic dropbox.

You will receive two emails on Friday, 22 February; one will have a subject line of “instructions for the review,” and the second will say “food review – do not open until ready to take the exam.” Do not open the second email until you have put away your notes and other material, and are ready to take the exam.

A good answer will be more argumentative and less descriptive. Make sure you have a clear line of argument, supported by specific evidence from the readings, films, and lectures. Avoid duplicating ethnographic case materials in your two answers. Whenever possible use different examples to support your arguments. Please refer to my handout on “making an argument,” a.k.a. “How Prof. Lozada grades review essays.”

**Note: Your arguments must be supported by evidence drawn from lectures, films and (especially) course readings. Be specific and cite authors (in-text citation, however, is not required) when relevant.**

### **Possible Exam Questions:**

1. What does looking at food – its production, distribution, and consumption – reveal about social and cultural issues? How does food serve as a system of symbolic communication? Be explicit with your definitions of particular terms and concepts that you use in answering this question.
2. How do anthropologists study food and foodways in the field? How does the process of fieldwork shape conclusions reached in ethnographic studies? Consider issues of objectivity and subjectivity in the ethnographic studies by Dettwyler and Caldwell. Be specific in your discussion of ethnographic details as it relates to this issue of anthropological fieldwork.

3. How do particularities in local culture shape how social service organizations address issues such as hunger, malnutrition, poverty, and other social problems related to food? Describe and evaluate different approaches to solving food-related social problems.
4. Because food is a commodity that is universally exchanged and consumed, studies of food illustrate how the connections between the local and the global, or how local communities are interconnected with each other at a large scale. What does looking at food reveal about the connections between the local and the global?
5. What does food reveal about the intersection of market economics, state power, and local culture? Are problems related to food largely issues related to poverty and failures in economic development, weaknesses in state bureaucracies and regulations, or problems in social relations or culturally-based inequalities (or some combination)? Evaluate particular approaches to solving food-related social problems with respect to what they reveal about neoliberalism — about the market and the state.