**Global Food Systems and Food Security:  
Schedule and reading instructions**

Spring semester 2023

**Örjan Bartholdson**  
orjan.bartholdson@slu.se

**Kristina Marquardt**

kristina.marquardt@slu.se

The course runs 11 weeks and consist of between two to four lectures and one seminar per week.

Lectures will always be held on Mondays 10.15-12.00 and 13.15-15.00, except for the first week, which starts with an introduction and two lectures on Thursday 23 March. There are also often additional lectures on Tuesdays. Seminars will be held on Thursdays. Exceptions to this pattern depends on the occurrence of public holidays.

Most of the lectures and seminars will be held live at SLU, but occasional lectures will be held on Zoom.

The main lecturers on the course are:  
Örjan Bartholdson, a Swedish anthropologist, whose research mainly has been focused on rural and urban issues in Latin America, including issues of deforestation and food production in the Amazon. He is also the course convener.

Kristina Marquardt is Associate Professor in Rural Development. Her research focuses on smallholders’ diverse and dynamic land uses for food production, agrarian change, forest transitions and maintenance of ecosystem services in the landscape. She has researched during many years in Peru and Nepal. Kristina is also assistant course convener.

Kjell Hansen, a Swedish-Norwegian ethnologist, who is an expert on issues of rural development, governance and social theory. Kjell has researched on various aspects related to rural development in Sweden.

Dil Khatri, a Nepalese rural development, who has researched and published extensively on rural development and food production by smallholders in Nepal.

**Theme 1: The history and structure of the global food system**

**Thursday 23 March**

09.15 - 10.00  
Presentation and registration

Course convener: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Lennart Kenne**

10.15-12.00

Introductory lecture. Key concepts: global food systems and food security.

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Lennart Kenne**

Required reading

Christoplos Ian and Adam Pain (eds).(2015) Chapter 1: Introduction. Chapter 2: Food Security and Food Crisis. *New Challenges to Food security. From climate change to fragile states*. Routledge. Pages 1-38

Clapp, Jennifer (2016) Chapter 1: Unpacking the World Food Economy. *Food*. Polity Books (2nd edition). Pages 1-25.

Hall, Derek. Chapter 1: Introduction. *Land*. Cambridge. Polity Press. Pages 1-23.

13.15-15.00  
World System Theories and Food regimes: International division of labor, consumption and political ecology

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Dvalin**

Required reading

Harvey, David. 2006. Notes towards a theory of uneven geographical development. *Spaces of Global Capitalism. Towards a theory of uneven geographical development*. London. Verso. Pages 69-116.

McMichael, P (2013) Chapter 1 and 2: *Food Regimes and Agrarian Questions*. Agrarian Change and Peasant Studies Series, Practical Action. Fernwood Publishing. Pages 21-61.

**Friday 24 March**

10.15-12.00   
Discussion seminar  
Discussion of the meaning and content of global food systems and food security.

Venue: **Prima**

13.15-15.00

Discussion seminar  
Discussion of the meaning and content of global food systems and food security.

Discussants: Örjan Bartholdson and Dil Khatri

Venue: **Prima**

**Monday 27 March**

10.15-12.00   
Markets and the commodification of agriculture

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **K**

Required reading

Clapp, Jennifer (2016) Chapter 2: The Rise of a Global Industrial Food Market. *Food*. Polity Books (2nd edition). Cambridge: Polity Press. Pages 26-60.

Kusakabe, Kyoko, Chanthoumphone, Chatahavisth. 2021. Transition from Subsistence Agriculture to Rubber Plantations in Northern Laos: Analysis of Household Livelihood Strategies by Ethnicity and Gender. *SAGE Open*. Pages 1-13.

DOI: 10.1177/21582440211011463

13.15-15.00  
Global Food Chains: From production to consumption: wheat, rice, coffee, tea etc

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **K**

Required reading

Topik, Steven, A. Wells. 2012. Chapter 3: Commodity Chains. *Global Markets Transformed 1870-1945.* The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press. Pages 113-177

**Tuesday 28 March**

10.15-12.00

International markets and local effects

Lecturer: Ulf Jonsson  
Distinguished Professor in Economic History. Specialized in the Global Food System.

Venue: **Dvalin**

Required reading

Du Bois, Christine M. 2018. Chapter 1-3. *The Story of Soy*. London. Reaktion Books. Pages 7-69.

13.15-15.00

The expansion of soy in Latin America

Lecturer: Matilda Baraibar Norberg  
Researcher in economic history. Has recently written a book about soy’s role in the global food system.

Venue: **Dvalin**

Required reading

Du Bois, Christine M. 2018. Chapter 4-6 *The Story of Soy*. London. Reaktion Books. Pages 70-152.

**Thursday 30 March**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **O2**

**Theme 2: The institutional and bureaucratic context of food production**

**Monday 3 April**

10.15-12.00:   
Rural institutions: the state vs. the private sector

Lecturer: Kjell Hansen

Venue: **On Zoom**

Required reading

Clapp, Jennifer. 2016. Chapter 3: Agricultural Trade Liberalization. Chapter 4: Transnational corporations. *Food*. Cambridge. Polity Books (2nd edition). Pages 61-132

McMichael, Philip 2013: Chapter 3: The Corporate Food Regime. Pages 41-61.

Pain, Adam & Hansen Kjell (2019). Chapter 6. *Rural Development*. London: Routledge. Pages 163-194.

13.15-15.00

The case of Nepal: agriculture and its institutional embeddedness

Lecturer: Dil Khatri

Venue: **Framtiden**

Required reading

**Thursday 6 April**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **O2**

**Tuesday 11 April**

10.15-12.00  
Global institutional frameworks: WB, IMF, WTO, EU, etc. How international agreements frame food systems

Lecturer: Kjell Hansen

Venue**: On Zoom**

Required reading

Bernstein, H., 2006. ‘Is There an Agrarian Question in the 21st Century?’ *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, 26 (4): 449–60.

Clapp, Jennifer 2016: Chapter 5 and 6: *Food* Cambridge: Polity Press. Pages 133-200

Pain, Adam & Hansen Kjell (2019). Chapter 7. *Rural Development*. London: Routledge. Pages 195-226

13.15-15.00

Agro-ecology in Chile and its institutional context   
Cristian on agro-ecology in Chile

Lecturer: Cristian Alarcón  
Researcher at SLU. Has researched on agro-ecology and fish production.

Venue: **Framtiden**

Required reading

**Thursday 13 April**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **O2**

**Theme 3: The social and cultural contexts and processes of agriculture**

**Monday 17 April**

10.15-12.00  
The social and cultural context of food insecurity: the case of Brazil.

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Framtiden**

Required reading

Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. 1992. Chapter 1: O Nordeste: Sweetness and Death. Chapter 2: One hundred years without water. Chapter 4: The madness of hunger. *Death without Weeping. The Violence of Everyday Life in Brazil*. Berkeley. University of California Press. Pages 31-97, 128-166

13.15-15.00  
Rural livelihoods and political systems. Mobility and migration.

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Framtiden**

Required reading

Gould, William T. S. 2009. Chapter 6: Migration and Development. *Population and Development.* London: Routledge. Page 154 - 190

Sunam, Ramesh. 2017. In Search of Pathways out of Poverty: Mapping the Role of International Labour Migration, Agriculture and Rural Labour. *Journal of Agrarian Change*. Vol. 17 (1): 67–80

**Tuesday 18 April**

10.15-12.00  
Ukraine: the former breadbasket of Europe

Lecturer: Brian Kuns   
Senior lecturer at SLU. Specialized in the agricultural history of Eastern Europe.

Venue: **A241,** in the building **Biocentrum**

Required reading:

Clapp, Jennifer. 2022. Concentration and crises: exploring the deep roots of vulnerability in the global industrial food system. *The Journal of Peasant Studies*. Pages 1-25.  
https://doi.org/10.1080/03066150.2022.2129013

Mamonova, Natalia. 2023. Food sovereignty and solidarity initiatives in rural Ukraine during the war. *The Journal of Peasant Studies*. Vol. 50(1): 47-66

13.15-15.00:   
The problematic global water situation and international efforts to improve this situation.

Lecturer: Bo Libert  
Expert on global water security. Has worked as expert and consultant for the UN and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.

Venue: **A241,** in the building **Biocentrum**

**Thursday 20 April**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **O2**

**Monday 24 April**10.15-12.00

The effects of migration on food production in rural Nepal

Lecturer: Dil Khatri

Venue: **K**

Required reading:

13.15-15.00

Migration: The case of Peru

Lecturer: Kristina Marquardt

Venue: **K**

Required reading:

**Tuesday 25 April**

10.15-12.00

Smallholder landscapes - land use practices and dynamics of change. The case of Nepal.

Lecturer: Kristina Marquardt

Venue: **Framtiden, the MVM building**

Required reading

Marquardt K, Pain A and Khatri D B (2020). Re-reading Nepalese landscapes: labour, water, farming patches and trees. *Forests, Trees and Livelihoods*: 29:4. 238-259.   
DOI:10.1080/14728028.2020.1814875

Rigg, Jonathan, Albert Salamanca, Eric Thompson. 2016. The puzzle of East and Southeast Asia's persistent smallholder.*Journal of. Rural Studies*. 43, pp. 118-133

Thompson M and Warburton M (1985). Uncertainty on a Himalayan Scale. *Mountain Research and Development*, Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 115-135.   
https://www.jstor.org/stable/3673250

**Thursday 27 April**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **O2**

**Theme 4: Flex crops and smallholder agricultural systems**

**Tuesday 2 May**

10.15-12.00  
The boom of flex crops.

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **K**

Required reading

Borras et al. 2014. Towards Understanding the Politics of Flex Crops and Commodities. *Transnational Institute (TNI) Agrarian Justice Program*.

Borras et al. 2016. The rise of flex crops and commodities: implications for research. *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, 43(1): 1-24

Du Bois, Christine M. 2018. Chapter 7 and 8. *The Story of Soy*. London. Reaktion Books. Pages 153-215.

13.15-15.00

Smallholder farming systems – contentions and combinations of subsistence and cash crops. The case of San Martín Peru. understanding farming systems.

Lecturer: Kristina Marquardt

Venue: **K**

Required reading

Marquardt K, Pain A, Bartholdson Ö and L Romero Rengifo (2019). Forest dynamics in the Peruvian Amazon – understanding processes of change. *Small-scale Forestry*. 18(1), pp 81-104. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11842-018-9408-3

**Thursday 4 May**

10.15-12.00

13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **O2**

**Theme 5. Globalization, ethics and local resistance**

**Monday 8 May**

10.15-12.00

Food in a globalized world

Lecturer: Kjell Hansen

Venue: **On Zoom**

Required reading

Benson, Peter & Fischer, Edward F. 2007. *Broccoli and Desire*. Antipode. Pages 1-21

Tsing, Anna. 2012. Unruly Edges: Mushrooms as Companion Species for Donna Haraway. *Environmental Humanities*. Vol.1: 141-154

13.15-15.00  
Popular resistance and change. Social movements and NGOs

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **K**

Required reading

Davis, Mike. Late Victorian Holocausts. El Niño Famines and the Making of the Third World. *Chapter 6.* *Millenarian Revolutions*. London. Verso. 177-210.

Hall, Derek. 2013. Chapter 6: Social movements. *Land*. Cambridge. Polity Books. Pages 139-166.

Hilhorst, Dorothea Chapter 1: Introduction: The politics of NGO-ing. Chapter 2: Damning the dams: Social movements and NGOs The Real World of NGOs: discourses, diversity and development. London. ZED Books. Pages 1-50.

Lechner, Frank, J., Boli, John (2005) Chapter 7: Transforming World Culture: The anti-globalization movement as cultural critique. *World Culture. Origins and Consequences*. Oxford. Blackwell Publishing. Pages 153-172

**Tuesday 9 May**

10.15-12.00

Transnational agricultural resistance in a globalized world: The case of the landless movement (MST) in Brazil

Lecturer: Bosse Johansson and landless representative from MST  
Bosse has worked with MST and indigenous organizations in Brazil since 2000.

Venue: **Framtiden, the MVM-building**

Required reading:

Karriem, Abdurazack. (2013) Space, Ecology, and Politics in the Praxis of the Brazilian Landless Movement. *Gramsci, Space, Nature, Politi*cs (eds. Ekers, Michael, Hart, Gillian, Kipfer, Stefan, Loftus, Alex). London. Wiley-Blackwell. Pages 142-160.

**Thursday 11 May**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Presentation of life-story exercise:  
2-3 weeks  
To reflect on households strategies  
Nepal and Peru as cases

Venue: **O2**

**Monday 15 May**

10.15-12.00

The role of certifications: The case of coffee and cocoa

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Framtiden**

Required reading:

Ibanez, Marcela, Blackman, Allen. 2016. Is Eco-Certification a Win-Win Situation for Developing Country Agriculture? Organic Coffee Certification in Colombia. *World Development*. Vol. 82: 14-27

Moberg, Mark. 2014. Certification and Neoliberal Governance: Moral Economies of Fair Trade in the Eastern Caribbean. *American Anthropologist*. Vol. 116 (1): 8–22

Pradyot Ranjan Jenaa, Bezawit Beyene Chichaibelub, Till Stellmachera , Ulrike Grotea. 2012. The impact of coffee certification on small-scale producers’ livelihoods: a case study from the Jimma Zone, Ethiopia *Agricultural Economics*. Vol. 43: 429–440

Trentmann, Frank. (2008) Chapter 14: Before Fair Trade Empire, Free Trade and the moral economies of food in the modern world. *Food and Globalization. Consumption, Markets and Politics in the Modern World* (ed. Nützenadel, Alexander, Trentmann, Frank). Oxford. Berg. Pages: 253-276

van Rijn, Fedes , Waarts, Yuca, Gilhuis, Henk, Ingram, Verina. 2018. The Impacts of Cocoa Sustainability Initiatives in West Africa. *Sustainability*. Vol. 10: 1-20. doi:10.3390/su10114249

13.15-15.00

How to work with certifications and social and environmental sustainability

Lecturer: Kristina Bjurling  
Sustainability manager on the wholesale corporation Axfood. Has founded the NGOs SwedWatch and Fair Action.

Venue: **Framtiden**

Required reading:  
Perrini, Francesco, Castaldo, Sandro, Misani, Nicola, Tencati, Antonio. 2010. The Impact of Corporate Social Responsibility Associations on Trust in Organic Products Marketed by Mainstream Retailers: a Study of Italian Consumers. *Business Strategy and the Environment*. Vol 19: 512–526

**Thursday 16 May**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **O2**

**Theme 6: Food and fish production and consumption**

**Monday 22 May**

10.15-12.00.  
The ethnography of pork production

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **K**

Required reading

Blanchette, Alex. Introduction and Part 1. 2020. *Porkopolis. American Animality, Standardized Life & the Factory Farm*. Durham. Duke University Press. Pages 1 – 72.

13.15-15.00  
Tracing global seafood commodity chains from producers in Thailand to markets

Lecturer: Alin Kadfak  
Researcher at SLU. She researches on labour rights within the fishing industry.

Venue: **K**

Required reading

Marschke, Melissa, Vandergeest, Peter, Havice, Elizabeth, Kadfak, Alin, Duker, Peter, Isopescu, Ilinca, MacDonnell, Mallor. 2020. COVID-19, instability and migrant fish workers in Asia. *Maritime Studies*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s40152-020-00205-y

**Tuesday 23 May**

10.15-12.00  
Fish cultivation in Chile

Lecturer: Cristian Alarcon  
Researcher at SLU. Has researched on agro-ecology and fish production.

Venue: **On Zoom**

Required reading:

13.15-15.00.  
Herding cattle in the mid-West: The ethnography of a cowgirl.

Lecturer: Andrea Petitt  
Andrea does research in human-animal relations, gender, agriculture and equestrian cultures. Has worked as cowgirl in both the US and Canada. Currently researches in Nepal.

Venue: **On Zoom**

Required reading

**Thursday 25 May**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **O2**

**Monday 29 May**

13.00-15.00   
The climate effects of meat production and the struggle for sustainability

Lecturer: Elin Röös  
Senior Lecturer, SLU. Researches on sustainable food production and consumption and their impact on the environment.

Venue: **Framtiden**

Required reading

# Röös, Elin, et al. 2018. Defining a land boundary for sustainable livestock consumption. *Global Change Biology*. No. 24: 4185-4194 <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gcb.14321>

**Thursday 1 June**  
10.15-12.00  
13.15-15.00  
Summing up of the course  
Discussants: Örjan Bartholdson and Kristina Marquardt

Venue: **O2**

**Week 22 Home exam  
Deadline Sunday 4 June, 23.59 pm**