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

Spring semester 2024

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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.

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

We recommend you to use the internet food platform TABLE as a complement to the lectures and literature of the course. TABLE is a food systems platform that sets out the evidence, assumptions and values that people bring to debates and discussions about resilient and sustainable food futures. It explores the data, the biases and the beliefs behind those debates in order to support better dialogue, decision making and action. ‘[Feed’, a food systems podcast](https://tabledebates.org/podcast) talks to passionate experts who hold different beliefs about what a “good” food system in the future should look like. Below the specific lectures there are information about TABLE podcast discussions that are focus on related themes to the lectures.

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

**Thursday 21 March**

09.15 - 10.00  
Presentation and registration

Course convener: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **A241, the building ‘Biocentrum’**

10.15-12.00

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

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **A241, the building ‘Biocentrum’**

Required reading

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.

TABLE: Podcast: [Ken Giller on the Food Security Conundrum](https://tabledebates.org/podcast-episode1)

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

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Framtiden, the building MVM**

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.

TABLE: Podcast: [Philip McMichael on the Corporate food regime](https://tabledebates.org/podcast/episode37)

**Friday 22 March**

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

Venue: **Ratatosk. VHC hus 5**

13.15-15.00

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

Discussants: Örjan Bartholdson and Kristina Marquardt

Venue: **Ratatosk. VHC hus 5**

**Monday 25 March**

10.15-12.00   
Markets and the commodification of agriculture

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Framtiden, the building MVM**

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

TABLE: Podcast: [Jennifer Clapp on Commodifying food](https://tabledebates.org/podcast-episode5)

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

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Framtiden, the building MVM**

Required reading

Topik, Steven, A. Wells. 2012. Chapter 3: Commodity Chains. *Global Markets Transformed 1870-1945.* The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press. Pages 113-165

**Tuesday 26 March**

10.15-12.00

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: **The lecture will be held on Zoom**

Required reading

Baraibar Norberg, Matilda, Deutch, Lisa. 2023. Chapter 1. *The Soy Beans through World History. Lessons for Sustainable Agro Food Systems*. London. Routledge.

Recommended reading

Baraibar Norberg, Matilda, Deutch, Lisa. 2023. Chapter 5. *The Soy Beans through World History. Lessons for Sustainable Agro Food Systems*. London. Routledge.

TABLE Explainer: [Soy: Food, feed and land use change](https://www.tabledebates.org/building-blocks/soy-food-feed-and-land-use-change)

**Wednesday 27 March**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **The seminar will be held on Zoom**

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

**Tuesday 2 April**

10.15-12.00:   
Global institutional frameworks: How international agreements frame food systems

Lecturer: Matilda Baraibar

Venue**: A241, the building ‘Biocentrum’**

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

Coffee with sugar: the colonial and postcolonial history of two interrelated commodities

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **The venue will be announced soon**

Required reading

Topik, Steven. 2009. Coffee as a Social Drug. In *Cultural Critique*. No. 71: 81-106 https://www.jstor.org/stable/25475502

TABLE: Podcast: [Blain Snipstal on Battling plantation agriculture today](https://tabledebates.org/podcast/episode32)

**Wednesday 3 April**

10.15-12.00

Rural institutions: the state vs. the private sector

Lecturer: Dil Khatri

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.

Recommended reading

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

**Thursday 4 April**

10.15-12.00

Discussion seminar

Venue: **A241, the building ‘Biocentrum’**

13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **Ratatosk. VHC hus 5**

**Monday 8 April**

10.15-12.00

War, Ukrainian agriculture, and the ramifications in and outside of Ukraine

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

Venue: **Lecture room N, the building ‘Undervisningshuset’**

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

Managing water in rainfed agriculture

Lecturer: Jennie Barron

Professor of agricultural water management at SLU.

Venue: **Framtiden, the building MVM**

Required reading

Will be announced soon.

**Thursday 11 April**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **Ratatosk. VHC hus 5**

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

**Monday 15 April**

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

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **A241, the building ‘Biocentrum’**

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: **A241, the building ‘Biocentrum’**

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

TABLE: Podcast: [Felipe Roa-Clavijo on Feeding the village, nation, or world](https://tabledebates.org/podcast/episode13)

Essay: [Feeding the nation, the village, or the world](https://tabledebates.org/blog/essay-feeding-nation-village-or-world)

**Tuesday 16 April**

10.15-12.00

The history and economic and social consequences of wet-rice cultivation

Lecturer: Janken Myrdal  
Professor emeritus of agrarian and rural history at SLU

Venue: **To be announced soon.**

Required reading

To be announced soon.

**Thursday 18 April**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
Discussion seminar

Venue: **Ratatosk. VHC hus 5**

**Monday 22 April**10.15-12.00

Migration: The case of Peru

Lecturer: Kristina Marquardt

Venue: **Framtiden, the building MVM**

Required reading:

Menton, Mary, Cronkleton, Peter. 2019. Migration and forests in the Peruvian Amazon: A review. Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR). *Working Paper 251*. DOI: 10.17528/cifor/007305

13.15-15.00

The effects of migration on food production in rural Nepal

Lecturer: Dil Khatri

Venue**: Lecture room S. Ulls hus E-blocket**

Required reading:

Adhikari, J., Shrestha, M. and Paudel, D. 2021. Nepal’s growing dependency on food imports: A threat to national sovereignty and ways forward. Nepal. *Public Policy Review*. Vol 1: 68-86

Khatri, D., K. Shrestha, H. Ojha, G. Paudel, N. Paudel & A. Pain. 2016. Reframing community forest governance for food security in Nepal. *Environmental Conservation***:** pages 1-9.

Pandey, R. 2021. Male out-migration from the Himalaya: implications in gender roles and household food (in)security in the Kaligandaki Basin, Nepal. *Migration and Development*,*10*(3): 313-341. https://doi.org/10.1080/21632324.2019.1634313

Sunam, R., & Adhikari, J. 2016. How does Transnational Labour Migration Shape Food Security and Food Sovereignty? Evidence from Nepal. Anthropological Forum, 26(3): 248-261. https://doi.org/10.1080/00664677.2016.1197819

Sunam, R.K. & McCarthy, J.F. 2016. Reconsidering the links between poverty, international labour migration, and agrarian change: critical insights from Nepal. *The Journal of Peasant Studies,*43(1): 39-63.

**Tuesday 23 April**

10.15-12.00

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

Lecturer: Kristina Marquardt

Venue:

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

13.15-15.00

In and out of the plantation: the story of tea

Lecturer: Bengt G. Karlsson  
Professor in social anthropology at Stockholm University

Venue: **Will be announced later**

Required reading  
Karlsson, Bengt G. 2022. The Imperial Weight of Tea. On the Politics of Plants, Politics and Science. In *Geoforum*. Vol. 130: 105-114

**Thursday 25 April**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00

Introduction of the interview analysis assignment. Case studies of small-scale farming in Nepal and Peru.

Venue: **Ratatosk. VHC hus 5**

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

**Monday 29 April**

10.15-12.00  
The boom of flex crops.

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Lecture room S. Ulls hus E-blocket**

Required reading

Borras et al. 2014. Towards Understanding the Politics of Flex Crops and Commodities. *Transnational Institute (TNI) Agrarian Justice Program*. Pages 1-16

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

Baraibar Norberg, Matilda, Deutch, Lisa. 2023. Chapter 5. *The Soy Beans through World History. Lessons for Sustainable Agro Food Systems*. London. Routledge.

TABLE: Podcast: [Klara Fischer on Why technology is not scale-neutral](https://tabledebates.org/podcast-episode11)

Explainer: [What is agroecology](https://tabledebates.org/building-blocks/agroecology); Explainer: [What is food sovereignty](https://tabledebates.org/building-blocks/food-sovereignty)

13.15-15.00

Analyzing smallholder farming systems – contentions and combinations of subsistence and cash crops. The case of San Martín in Peru.

Lecturer: Kristina Marquardt

Venue: **Framtiden, the building MVM**

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 2 May**

10.15-12.00

13.15-15.00

Continuation of the interview analysis assignment

Venue: **Ratatosk. VHC hus 5**

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

**Monday 6 May**

10.15-12.00

Popular resistance and change. Social movements and NGOs

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: **Lecture room S. Ulls hus E-blocket**

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

13.15-15.00

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

Lecturer: Lennart Kjörling, author and filmmaker  
Bosse has written extensively about MST and also made a film about the movement.

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.

TABLE: Podcast: [Blain Snipstal on Battling plantation agriculture today](https://tabledebates.org/podcast/episode32)

**Tuesday 7 May**

10.15-12.00

Fish cultivation in Chile

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

Venue: **To be announced later**

Required reading:

Holm P., et al. 2018. The North Atlantic Fish Revolution (ca. AD 1500). *Quaternary Research* Vol. 108: 92–106

Phyne John. A Comparative Political Economy of Rural Capitalism. Salmon Aquaculture in Norway, Chile and Ireland. *Acta Sociologica*. Vol 53(2): 160–180

**Tuesday 7 May**

13.15-15.00

Nutrition in an evolving contaxt

Lecturer: Linley Chiwona Karltun  
Associate Professor at SLU. Has researched on nutrition and food security in Africa, spanning products from cassava and beans to insects.

Venue: **To be announced later**

Required reading:

**Wednesday 8 May**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00  
10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00

Continuation of the interview analysis assignment

Venue: **To be announced later.**

**Monday 13 May**

10.15-12.00

The role of certifications: The case of coffee and cocoa

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

Venue: : **Lecture room S. Ulls hus E-blocket**

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, the MVM-building**

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

**Tuesday 14 May**

10.15-12.00

Can traceability systems improve environmental sustainability and decent work in fisheries? Exploring Thailand and Vietnam seafood values chains

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

Venue: **To be announced later.**

Required reading

Kadfak A., & Widengård, M. (2022). From fish to fishworker traceability in Thai fisheries reform. *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*, 25148486221104992.

 Bailey, M., Bush, S. R., Miller, A., & Kochen, M. (2016). The role of traceability in transforming seafood governance in the global South. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability, 18*, 25-32

**Thursday 16 May**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00

Presentation of the interview analysis assignment

Venue: **Ratatosk. VHC hus 5**

**Theme 6: Meat production and consumption**

**Monday 20 May**

10.15-12.00

The ethnography of pork production

Lecturer: Örjan Bartholdson

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

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.  
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: **Will be held on Zoom.**

Required reading  
Pettit, Andrea. 2022. Conceptualizing the multispecies triad: Toward a multispecies Intersectionality. In *Feminist Anthropology*. DOI: 10.1002/fea2.12099

Petitt , Andrea and Hovorka, Alice J. 2020. Women and Cattle “Becoming-With” in Botswana. In *Humanimalia* 12(1): 1-22

**Thursday 23 May**

10.15-12.00, 13.15-15.00

Discussion seminar

Venue: **Ratatosk. VHC hus 5**

**Monday 27 May**

10.15-12.00   
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, the MVM-building**

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 30 May**  
10.15-12.00  
13.15-15.00  
Summing up of the course  
Discussants: Örjan Bartholdson and Kristina Marquardt

Venue: **The seminar will be held on Zoom**

**Week 22 Home exam  
Deadline Sunday 2 June, 23.59 pm**