

## Course structure

### Food ethics (LV0115)

7,5 (5 + 2,5) ECTS Autumn 2020

within the Master's programme: Sustainable Food Systems, SLU

Course period: Sept 30 to Oct 30<sup>th</sup>

Date	Meeting IRT with the following teacher	<i>Seminar/lecture (IRT= italics)</i>	Students' preparation & assignments, e.g. writing, watching and reflecting	Literature to be read <i>until</i> each zoom session
Sept 30		<b>Course start</b>	Read course instructions and check access to literature. Then - start reading!	
Oct 1			Upload a short presentation of yourself and your own 'food ethics issue' in Canvas	
Oct 2: 9-12	HR	<i>Intro to the course and to food ethics</i>		Hub Zwart, 2000
		<b>PART 1</b> <b>Theme I: Normative ethical theories</b>		
Oct 5			Read literature in Theme I : ethical theories	
Oct 6: 9-12	OT	<i>Lecture: Intro to normative ethical theories</i>		Gjerris et al, 2013: <i>Intro, Chapter 1-4</i>
Oct 7: 9-10	OT	<i>Chat time</i>	Chat open for questions (no passcode required)	Link: <a href="https://slu-se.zoom.us/j/63574598338">https://slu-se.zoom.us/j/63574598338</a>
Oct 7			Web lectures: normative ethical theories  Discussion in web-groups	Gjerris et al: <i>Chapter 5-8</i>

Oct 8: 9-12	OT	<i>Discussion on normative ethical theories</i>	Write individual assignment in ethical theories	Gjerris et al: <i>Chapter 9-11</i>
Oct 9			Finalise and hand in individual assignment on Theme I in Canvas	
		<b>Theme II: Production and Distribution</b>		
Oct 12			Web lecture: Actors, Distribution and Production  Discussion in web-groups + hand in minutes on Canvas	Sandler: <i>Chapter 1-2</i>
Oct 13			Web lecture: Meat consumption  Discussion in web-groups + hand in minutes on Canvas	Sandler: <i>Chapter 1-2</i>
Oct 14: 8.30-9.30	HR	<i>Chat time</i>	Chat open for questions (no passcode required)	Link: <a href="https://slu-se.zoom.us/j/63574598338">https://slu-se.zoom.us/j/63574598338</a>
Oct 15: 9-12	HR	<i>Seminar on ethical issues in Production and Distribution</i>		Swartz 2019  Schulze, Spiller & Risius 2019
Oct 16			Web-group discussion on Theme II+ hand in minutes on Canvas	
		<b>Theme III: Consumption and Waste</b>		
Oct 19: 9-10	PS	<i>Chat time</i>	Chat open for questions (no passcode required)	Link: <a href="https://slu-se.zoom.us/j/63574598338">https://slu-se.zoom.us/j/63574598338</a>
Oct 19			Web lecture: Consumption  Discussion in web-groups + hand in minutes on Canvas	Sandler: <i>Chapter 3,5-6</i>  Mepham
Oct 20			Discussion in web-groups + hand in minutes on Canvas	Gjerris & Gaiani 2014
Oct 20: 9-12	HR	<b><i>Intro to PART 2</i></b>  <i>Instructions for writing an essay</i>		Your theme should be chosen <i>before</i> this seminar!

Oct 21: 9-12	PS	<i>Seminar on ethical issues in Consumption and Waste</i>		De Tavernier
Oct 21			Web-group discussion on Theme III + hand in minutes on Canvas	
Oct 22		Part of <i>PART 2</i>	Students present <i>synopsis and chosen literature</i> to each other in small groups + individually hand in suggested synopsis + list of literature on Canvas afterwards	
		<b>Theme IV: GM plants and GM animals</b>		
Oct 23: 9-12	HR	<i>Lecture on ethical issues regarding GM animals</i>		Sandler: <i>Chapter 4</i> Eriksson et al 2017
Oct 23			Discussion in web-groups + hand in minutes on Canvas	
Oct 26: 9-12	PS	<i>Lecture on ethical issues regarding GM food (plants)</i>		Sandler: <i>Chapter 4</i> Mallison et al 2018
Oct 26			Discussion in web-groups + hand in minutes on Canvas	
Oct 27: 15-16	PS	<i>Chat time</i>	Chat open for questions (no passcode required)	Link: <a href="https://slu-se.zoom.us/j/63574598338">https://slu-se.zoom.us/j/63574598338</a>
Oct 27		Part of <i>PART 2</i>		Submission of title, revised synopsis, literature list and abstract no later than 13.00  Feedback from teacher within 24 hours.
Oct 27-29		Part of <i>PART 2</i>	Students present <i>discussion and conclusions</i> to each other in small groups.	
Oct 30		Part of <i>PART 2</i>		Submission of final version of essay

**Course structure:**

The course has 2 parts, which are slightly overlapping in time:

Part 1: Ethical aspects of food, lectures and seminars (Sept 30<sup>th</sup> - Oct 26<sup>th</sup>)

Part 2: Ethical aspects of food, individual written assignment (Oct 20 - 30<sup>th</sup>)

Within Part 1 there are 4 themes, each one including material (e.g. web lectures, scientific papers) for your own preparation, at least one seminar or lecture in Zoom and a online group discussion after which the minutes of each group's discussion are to be handed in on Canvas.

NB: Part 2 is the time for writing an individual essay in food ethics. It is a short and intensive writing period, so in order to facilitate your choice of theme, it is introduced before Part 1 has ended.

**Practicalities:**

The schedule shows the entire course process and steps to be taken by each student. Please read it carefully and make sure you grasp the structure and pace of the course!

Time slots are given for seminars and lecture when you meet a teacher (HR, PS or OT) and each other via Zoom. Other course elements are only assigned a date, i.e. the day you are supposed to fulfill exactly this task. Please note that it differs whether they shall be done individually or in a group. Important note: Please make sure you follow the course day by day by planning your time to be able to fulfil each task and prepare each seminar or lecture by reading the related and required literature. *The course builds on your active engagement during seminars and preparatory reading of the literature!* By doing so, you contribute to creating an interactive and creative learning environment where we all learn from each other's perspectives!

**Teachers:**

**HR:** Helena Röcklinsberg, Associate Prof in ethics, Senior lecturer in animal ethics, Dept. of Animal Environment and Health, Course leader

[Helena.Rocklinsberg@slu.se](mailto:Helena.Rocklinsberg@slu.se)

**PS:** Per Sandin, Associate Prof in philosophy, Senior Lecturer in Bioethics and Environmental Ethics, Dept of Crop Production Ecology  
[Per.Sandin@slu.se](mailto:Per.Sandin@slu.se)

**OT:** Olle Torpman, Phil Dr in Environmental ethics, Dept. of Animal Environment and Health  
[Olle.Torpman@slu.se](mailto:Olle.Torpman@slu.se)

**Course Assistant:**

Svea Jørgensen, Leg Veterinarian, Dept. of Animal Environment and Health  
[Svea.Jorgensen@slu.se](mailto:Svea.Jorgensen@slu.se)

**Grading:**

Part 1: pass/fail

Part 2: 3/4/5

## Literature

### Books:

Gjerris M, Nielsen MEJ and Sandøe P. 2013. *The good, the right and the fair. An introduction to ethics* College publ. pp. 192. (Not available as e-book).

Sandler, Ronald L. 2015. *Food ethics. The Basics*. Routledge, pp.201. <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/9780203694404>

### Scientific papers:

De Tavernier, J. 2012. Food Citizenship: Is There a Duty for Responsible Consumption? *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics*; 25: 895-907. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10806-011-9366-7>

Eriksson, Jonas, Rydhmer, Röcklinsberg 2017. Invited review: Breeding and ethical perspectives on genetically modified and genome edited cattle. *Journal of Dairy Science*, 101 (1): 1-17, 2017. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0022030217309505>

Gjerris M., Gaiani S. 2014. Food Waste and Consumer Ethics. In: Thompson P.B., Kaplan D.M. (eds) *Encyclopedia of Food and Agricultural Ethics*. Springer, Dordrecht. [https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007/978-94-024-1179-9\\_99](https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007/978-94-024-1179-9_99)

Mallison et al 2018. Why rational argument fails the genetic modification (GM) debate *Food Security* (2018) 10:1145–1161 <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs12571-018-0832-1>

Mepham, B. 2000. A Framework for the Ethical Analysis of Novel Foods: The Ethical Matrix. *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics* (12), 165-176. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1023/A%3A1009542714497>

Schulze, M., Spiller, A & Risius, A. 2019. Food Retailers as Mediating Gatekeepers between Farmers and Consumers in the Supply Chain of Animal Welfare Meat - Studying Retailers' Motives in Marketing Pasture-Based Beef. *Food Ethics* 3,41-52. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s41055-019-00040-w>

Swartz, H. 2019. The Ethics of Labeling Food Safety Risks. *Food Ethics* 2, 127-137. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s41055-019-00035-7>

Zwart, H. 2000. A short history of food ethics. *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics* 12: 113–126. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1023/A%3A1009530412679>

Further papers might be added closer to or during the course.