

Animals, Environment, Food and Justice



Instructor: Kathryn Gillespie | M/W 12:30-2:20 | Writing Credit | Spring 2016 | CHID 250D

How do we understand the ethical and political dimensions of the food system for animals, humans, and the environment? How does animal agriculture operate as a dominant institution fraught with complex interspecies social relations? What are the impacts of animal agriculture on humans, animals, and the environment and what movements for social justice are working to mitigate these impacts? This course explores issues of justice for humans, animals, and the environment in animal agriculture primarily in the United States. The second part of the course contextualizes how agricultural and food policies are shaped. Next, we consider climate change and the environmental impacts of industrial 'livestock' production. We will spend time synthesizing all that we have learned to envision alternate paths forward (for food production, consumption, and policy), that take seriously the plight of humans, animals and the environment.