

# LAS/ANT 3930 Syllabus

## Contact Information

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### Instructor

Rick Stepp

### Phone Number

352-392-0299

### Email

[stepp@ufl.edu](mailto:stepp@ufl.edu)

### Office Hours

by appointment

### Credit Hours

3

For questions about course content, your grade, or other personal issues, use the Canvas Inbox mail tool. Expect a response within 24 hours.

## Course Description

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Food and Gastronomy in Latin America provides a grand tour of the region's fundamental and global contributions to agriculture, foodways, and gastronomy. The course will begin with the emergence of agriculture in Mesoamerica, Highland South America, and Lowland South America and explore how this development led to political complexification and the emergence of states and civilizations in Latin America.

Case studies on important plant and animal species domesticated in Latin America will be presented. These foods will then be explored through the lens of the Columbian Biological Exchange and the contributions of various peoples in Latin America to world gastronomy.

Foodways of different groups and regions will be examined in detail, along with case studies that draw on themes of indigeneity, colonialism, identity and foodways, cultural fusion and appropriation, and political ecology. The course will also look at the rise of high-end gastronomy in Latin America and global attention being paid to Latin American

chefs who draw from various cultural and heritage elements in Latin America in pursuit of gastronomy.

The course will draw on the following disciplines: anthropology, sociology, geography, history, political science, ecology, biology, botany, zoology, among others.

## **Course Requirements**

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### Required Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course.

### Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

### Minimum technology requirements

The University of Florida expects students entering an online program to acquire computer hardware and software appropriate to their degree program. Most computers are capable of meeting the following general requirements. A student's computer configuration should include:

- Webcam
- Microphone
- Broadband connection to the Internet and related equipment (Cable/DSL modem)
- Microsoft Office Suite installed (provided by the university)

Individual colleges may have additional requirements or recommendations, which students should review before starting their program.

### Minimum technical skills

To complete your tasks in this course, you will need a basic understanding of operating a computer and how to use word processing software.

### Materials/Supply Fees

There is no supply fee for this course.

### Zoom

Zoom is an easy to use video conferencing service available to all UF students, faculty, and staff that allows for meetings of up to 100 participants.

You can find resources and help using Zoom at <https://ufl.zoom.us> ([Links to an external site.](#))

## Course Objectives

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By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Identify regions of plant and animal domestication in Latin America.
- Explain the role of domestication and agriculture in the emergence of nation-states and political complexification.
- Recognize particular species used for foods in Latin America that are of global and/or regional importance.
- Analyze the contribution of foods from Latin America to history and the colonial process, and the present.
- Investigate the importance of the Columbian Biological Exchange.
- Recognize the role of human and cultural migration in creating foodways in particular regions of Latin America.
- Describe the rise of Latin American gastronomy in recent years.

## Course Policies

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Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at [catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/](http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/) ([Links to an external site.](#))

As this is an online class, you are responsible for observing all posted due dates and are encouraged to be self-directed and take responsibility for your learning.

## Grading Policy

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We will make every effort to have each assignment graded and posted within 7 days of the due date.

### Course Grading Policy

Type of Work	Percentage
Quizzes	20%
Discussions	30%
Assignments	20%

Type of Work	Percentage
Final Paper Topic	5%
Final Paper	25%

### Grading Scale

Grade	Percent	Points
A	100%-94%	200-188
A-	93%-90%	187-180
B+	89%-87%	179-174
B	86%-84%	173-168
B-	83%-80%	167-160
C+	79%-77%	159-154
C	76%-74%	153-148
C-	73%-70%	147-140
D+	69%-67%	139-134
D	66%-64%	133-128
D-	63%-61%	127-122
F	60%-0%	121-0

See the [current UF grading policies \(Links to an external site.\)](#) for more information.

## UF Policies

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### University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/> (Links to an external site.)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter presented to the instructor when requesting

accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

## University Policy on Academic Conduct

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code \(Links to an external site.\)](#) specifies the number of behaviors that violate this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

## Netiquette and Communication Courtesy

All class members are expected to follow common courtesy rules in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats.

## Getting Help

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### Technical Difficulties:

For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu> (Links to an external site.)
- (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues should be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You should e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

## Health and Wellness

- **U Matter, We Care:** If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [umatter.ufl.edu](http://umatter.ufl.edu) (Links to an external site.) to refer or report a concern, and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- **Counseling and Wellness Center:** Visit [counseling.ufl.edu](http://counseling.ufl.edu) (Links to an external site.) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

- **Student Health Care Center:** Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit [shcc.ufl.edu](http://shcc.ufl.edu) (Links to an external site.).
- **University Police Department:** Visit [police.ufl.edu](http://police.ufl.edu) (Links to an external site.) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care in Gainesville, call 352-733-0111, or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center](http://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center) (Links to an external site.).

## Academic and Student Support

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- **Career Connections Center:** 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services [career.ufl.edu/](http://career.ufl.edu/) (Links to an external site.).
- **Library Support:** Various ways to receive assistance for using the libraries or finding resources. [cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask](http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask) (Links to an external site.)
- **Teaching Center:** 352-392-2010 General study skills and tutoring: [teachingcenter.ufl.edu/](http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/) (Links to an external site.)
- **Writing Studio:** 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers: [writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/](http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/) (Links to an external site.)

## Course Evaluations

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Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback professionally and respectfully is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/> (Links to an external site.). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/> (Links to an external site.). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/> (Links to an external site.).

## Tips for Success

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Taking a course online can be a lot of fun! Here are some tips that will help you get the most of this course while taking full advantage of the online format:

- Schedule "class times" for yourself. It is important to do the coursework on time each week. You will receive a reduction in points for work that is turned in late!
- Read ALL of the material contained on this site. There is a lot of helpful information that can save you time and help you meet the course's objectives.
- Print out the Course Schedule located in the Course Syllabus and check things off as you go.

- Take full advantage of the online discussion boards. Ask for help or clarification of the material if you need it.
- Do not wait to ask questions! Waiting to ask a question might cause you to miss a due date.
- Do your work well before the due dates. Sometimes things happen. If your computer goes down when you are trying to submit an assignment, you'll need time to troubleshoot the problem.
- To be extra safe, back up your work to an external hard drive, thumb drive, or through a cloud service.

## Privacy and Accessibility Policies

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For information about the privacy policies of the tools used in this course, see the links below:

- Instructure (Canvas)
  - [Privacy Policy](#)
  - [Accessibility Links to an external site.](#)
- Sonic Foundry (Mediasite Streaming Video Player)
  - [Privacy Policy \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
  - [Accessibility \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- Zoom
  - [Privacy Policy \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
  - [Accessibility \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- YouTube (Google)
  - [Privacy Policy \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
  - [Accessibility \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- Microsoft
  - [Privacy Policy \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
  - [Accessibility \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

## COVID-19 Recorded Course Statement

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Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who cannot attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilized a profile image agree to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, allowing students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or

shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials are prohibited.