

COURSE DETAIL

ANTHROPOLOGY OF FOOD

Country

Egypt

Host Institution

American University in Cairo

Program(s)

The American University in Cairo

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Anthropology

UCEAP Course Number

105

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

ANTHROPOLOGY OF FOOD

UCEAP Transcript Title

ANTHROPOLGY OF FOOD

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

Food is far more than sustenance; it is a lens through which we can understand culture, identity, power, and meaning. This course introduces students to the anthropology of food by examining how what we eat, how we eat, and who we eat with shape and are shaped by broader social, political, and economic forces. Drawing on ethnographic studies and classic anthropological theory, the course explores food as a marker of identity and kinship, as a medium for healing and belief, and as a site of moral debate, political struggle, and cultural memory. Through weekly themes, including food and identity, healing, material environments, belief systems, kinship, politics, knowledge, language, science, and conflict, students engage with a range of case studies, from koshary in Egypt to bread and nationalism, from veganism to GMOs, from honey in healing practices to food wars. Readings pair theoretical texts with ethnographic accounts, encouraging students to think critically about food in both global and local contexts.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

ANTH 3305

Host Institution Course Title

SELECTED TOPICS IN ARAB WORLD STUDIES: ANTHROPOLOGY OF FOOD

Host Institution Course Details

https://catalog.aucegypt.edu/preview_course.php?catoid=38&coid=90461&print=

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Sociology, Egyptology and Anthropology

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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