

# Blog/Essay 1

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# Assignment 1 Food Blog/Essay

- **Critical Food Reflection (Report, 500–750 words, 25%)**

This assignment asks students to critically reflect on an area of food from a personal, collective, or other perspective, drawing connections to the course readings.

Students must:

- Reference at least four chapters from the assigned readings.
- Engage critically with the texts, analyzing concepts rather than summarizing.
- Write in a report or autoethnographic style, ensuring insights are grounded in course material.
- Demonstrate how course concepts illuminate understanding of food systems, culture, or personal experience.

**Purpose: To foster critical engagement with readings and explore connections between theory and practice. Show me you completed and understand the readings and class material.**

# Assignment 1 Food Blog/Essay

## **Critical Food Reflection (Report, 500–750 words, 25%)**

- What food issues concern you most?
- How can we use food to think critically of our political, economic, environmental or social systems?
- How can food be a catalyst for the development of socially just, food sovereign communities?
- How does food contribute to current environmental crises?
- How can we co-create conditions of campus-community food sovereignty?

*The next slide includes suggested topics; however, you are not limited to these and may select another topic.*

# Possible Topics

**Food insecurity** – there are over 800 million people starving in the world today!

**Lack of food sovereignty** – peasants and farmers are being affected by trade agreements and food dumping!

**GMOs and privatization** – restricted access!

**Cost on farmers** – family farms are not sustainable!

**Reduction of biodiversity** – we are destroying nature!

**Unwanted genetics spreading onto non-GMO farms** – lawsuits!

**Loss of Indigenous farming methods** – on stolen land!

**Soil arability** – we are killing our soil!

**Pesticides kill pollinators** – fruits need bees!

**Creating dead zones in waterways** – we are polluting our water!

**Corporate concentration of agribusinesses** – former war companies are now food chemical companies!

**Food as a weapon of war** – people in Gaza are starving!

**Health** – our food contains toxins!

**Migrant farm labour in Canada** – farms exploit people!

**Carbon intensive practices** – agroecology and permaculture methods can sequester carbons!

**Structural racism, colonialism and patriarchy** – glaring systemic issues!

**Rising cost of seed and chemicals** – we don't need to buy seeds!

**Research funding being directed to GMOs instead of traditional breeding methods** – 'science' is not only about GMOs!

**Pest and weed resistance** to Bt crops and glyphosate!

There are many other food issues. Feel free to come up with your own topic if these are not interesting to write about.

Thanks!

Questions, Concerns, Comments?

