Food and Culture

CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF A FOOD BLOG/ESSAY

Cultural Significance of a Food Blog/Essay (600-1000 words):

The blog must critically analyze the cultural relevance of the food item they prepare, exploring cultural practices, beliefs, attitudes, and the networks and institutions involved in its production, distribution, and consumption. Students will provide a recipe for the dish they prepare and reflect on the significance of the food within specific cultural contexts. sources.

The blog must be written in a clear, concise, and engaging manner, addressing an appropriate audience with a basic understanding of food systems and cultural studies. Although the format is a blog, the content must be based on research rather than personal opinion. To achieve an A grade, the blog must include references to at least four course readings. Students with production skills may choose to create a video or podcast instead of a blog; however, this alternative must be approved by Professor Erik beforehand.

Students will be encouraged to prepare the food item they discuss in the blog at the Taste Around the World: Food Festival on the last class.



Choose a Food Item

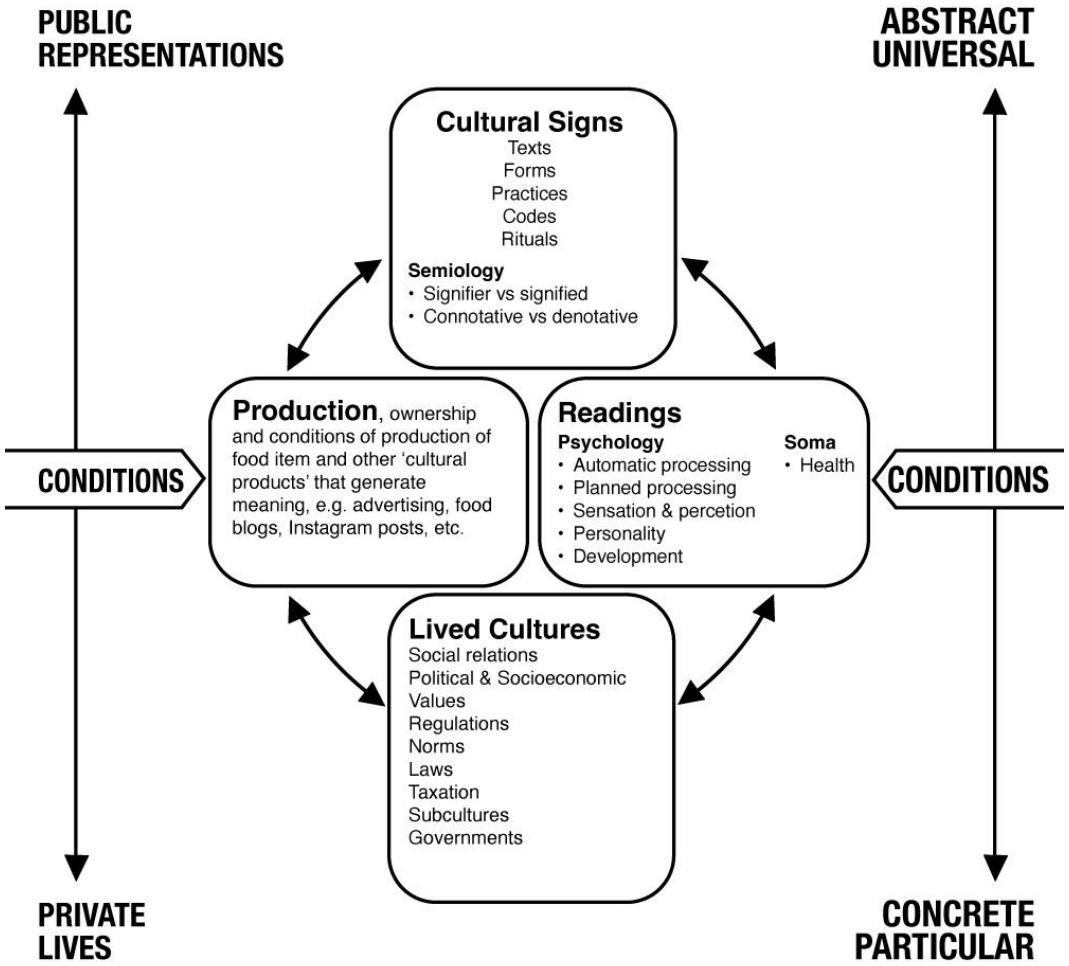
IT COULD BE A WHOLE FOOD OR AN INGREDIENT.

Cultural Significance of Food Assignment

Main Question: What is the cultural significance of your food item?

Food culture refers to the practices, attitudes, and beliefs as well as the networks and institutions surrounding the production, distribution, and consumption of food.

It encompasses the concepts of foodways, cuisine, and food system and includes the fundamental understandings a group has about food, historical and current conditions shaping that group's relationship to food, and the ways in which the group uses food to express identity, community, values, status, power, artistry and creativity. It also includes a groups' definitions of what items can be food, what is tasty, healthy, and socially appropriate for specific subgroups or individuals and when, how, why, and with whom those items can or should be consumed.


PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS
ABSTRACT UNIVERSAL
Cultural Signs
Texts
Forms
Practices
Codes
Rituals
Semiology
• Signifier vs signified
• Connotative vs denotative
CONDITIONS
Production, ownership and conditions of production of food item and other 'cultural products' that generate meaning, e.g. advertising, food blogs, Instagram posts, etc.
Readings
Psychology
• Automatic processing
• Planned processing
• Sensation & percetion
• Personality
• Development
Soma
• Health
CONDITIONS
Lived Cultures
Social relations
Political & Socioeconomic
Values
Regulations
Norms
Laws
Taxation
Subcultures
Governments
PRIVATE LIVES
CONCRETE PARTICULAR

Suggested Structure

Hook/Introduction

Main argument

Support

Evidence

Address counter-evidence

Hook/Conclusion

Rubric

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Example of Blog Post