

Tufts University Department of Urban + Environmental Policy + Planning

UEP 0293-01 Food Justice: Critical Approaches in Policy and Planning

Tuesday 1.30-4.00pm in Brown House, 97 Talbot Ave

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My Blog, lots of ideas and links to other Blogs: <http://julianagyeman.com/>

My Twitter site: <http://twitter.com/#!/julianagyeman>

Office hours: Wednesday 9:00 am–5.00pm by appointment

Course Description

This class offers students different lenses, such as critical race theory to see how the intersectionality of race, class, gender, sexuality, ability and citizenship play out in the development of systemic structural and socio-spatial inequities and injustices in food systems. It develops an understanding and contextualization of the role of food justice activism within the broader narrative of the alternative food movement and offers emerging ideas about how policymakers and planners can take a role in increasing food justice beyond the more mainstream and ultimately contested notions of what is 'local' and 'sustainable.' The course will help participants chart their role(s) in advocating for 'just sustainability' as a defining factor in becoming food systems planners and policymakers.

Goals

Goal 1 - Understanding and Contextualizing the Role of Food Justice in the Alternative Food Movement

This class first seeks to build an understanding of food justice in the food system and in the food movement. This entails building the theoretical lenses that bring justice to the forefront of the dialogue. It is through these lenses that we will look at the role of the planner and policy maker in the food system.

Goal 2 - Understanding the Role(s) of the Planner in the Food System: International, National and 'Local' Contexts

The second goal of this course is to build a general understanding of the role of the planner and policy maker in the food system. To do this we will look at the strategies and dialogue, particularly within the APA, regarding the role that planners and policy makers can take in building a stronger food system. This includes dialogue around food policy councils, advocating for urban agriculture (re-)zoning, integrating healthy foods in public schools, including food systems in comprehensive plans and as part of a community economic development planning, supporting direct marketing schemes, etc. The established theoretical lenses will help inform our analysis of this dialogue and our introduction to food systems in planning and policy making.

Goal 3 - Understanding Potential Roles for the Planner in Planning for Food Justice

The third goal of this class involves combining our theoretical approaches and our growing knowledge of current strategies in food systems planning. Here students will have the chance to tease apart the role of policy and planning in an organization (The Food Project) and consider how social justice plays out in its work in policy and planning on the ground.

Course Book and Readings

The course book is:

Alkon, A and Agyeman, J (eds) (2011) [*Cultivating Food Justice : Race, Class and Sustainability*](#) (MIT Press). It is available from the campus bookstore.

The *Required Readings* in this syllabus are either in the course book, or are available as PDFs in the relevant class "Resources" folder on Trunk, in boxes that fit each class 1-12. Where the relevant reading is a web-based resource, simply click on the url in the syllabus. Clearly, to cover the ground of this syllabus will require that students complete the Required Readings before each class and come to class ready to discuss these readings.

Assessment

Active class participation is a crucial part of this seminar and makes 25% of your final grade. Remember however that we respect all opinions and positions and that we treat every class member and his/her opinions with grace and dignity.

Assignment 1 The Food Project Field Experience 50% (input from Food Project staff, and final presentations in Class 13 on December 3)

The Food Project's Dudley Greenhouse (<http://thefoodproject.org/dudley-greenhouse>) is the base for the proposed Field Experience. Students will have weekly opportunities for specific engagements in three required and one voluntary area:

1. An interview project with greenhouse participants of all ages to gather stories of their experience as urban growers.
2. In three small groups, assist Danielle Andrews, the Greenhouse Manager, in planning and implementing one of three events: Compost event (October), Thanksgiving Market (November), French Toast & Maple Syrup event (December).
3. Research and recruit a cadre of skilled gardeners to support local community members in the Dudley Triangle: a) in building skills to support their home garden plots, and, b) to teach in a series of classes between January and June on topics including starting seeds, dealing with pests, etc.
4. Optional Volunteer Opportunities: Small tasks are available on an ongoing basis in the Dudley Greenhouse. Also, UEP 0293-01 students and friends/colleagues are invited to a Serve & Grow morning on our farm in Lincoln on October 26th, 9:30 AM -12:00 Noon.

Assignment 2 Weekly journal 15%

Beginning after Class 1 (September 3) I'd like you to submit at the beginning of each following class, a 1 side 'thought piece' on a) your reflections on the prior week's readings and b) your own thoughts (challenges, conflicts, agreements, disagreements) about how you as an intending policy/planning professional relate to the prior week's readings and class discussion. For Class 3 (September 17) your journal will focus on 'The Food Project: Initial perceptions.'

Assignment 3 The 'aha' Chapter!

For any chapter in Alkon, A and Agyeman, J (eds) (2011) [*Cultivating Food Justice : Race, Class and Sustainability*](#) (MIT Press), write a 2 page, single space 'aha' piece on a) why the chapter has excited you and b) how it might inform your professional practice (I know you don't know what job you may be doing!). *Due Class 12 November 26*

Tentative schedule

Class 1. September 3 Temporal and Spatial Contexts of Food Systems and Movements

In this class we first review the course of 13 classes, then, in the second half of the class, we review the history and context of the food movement from mainstream to radical perspectives. This is intended to give you a brief reminder of where things stand as regards some of the key food justice issues.

Readings

Alkon and Agyeman. 2011. "*Introduction - The Food Movement as Polyculture.*" p. 1 *Cultivating Food Justice*

Holt Gimenez, Eric. 2011 "*Food Security, Food Justice or Food Sovereignty? Crises, Food Movements, and Regime Change.*" p.309 from *Cultivating Food Justice*

Allen, Patricia. 2008. "*Mining for Food Justice in the Food System: Perceptions, Practices and Possibilities.*" Vol 25 p. 157-161 *Agriculture and Human Values* (PDF)

Wekerle, Gerda. 2004. "*Food Justice Movements: Policy, Planning and Networks.*" *Journal of Planning Education and Research* Vol 23 pp 378-386 (PDF)

Class 2. September 10 Theoretical Lenses - Critical Race Theory, gender, feminism and White Spaces

This class introduces a variety of lenses from which we will approach food justice topics throughout the semester.

Guest speaker Alison Hope Alkon, Assistant Professor, University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA.

Readings

Omi, M., and H. Winant (1994) *Racial Formation in the United States: From the 1960s to the 1990s.* Ch4 Racial formation London: Routledge. (PDF)

Slocum, Rachel. 2006. "*Anti-Racist Practice and the Work of Community Food Organizations.*" *Antipode* Vol 38, Issue 2, pages 327–349, (PDF)

Shinew, K. J., Glover, T. D., and Parry, D. C. 2004 “*Leisure spaces as potential sites for interracial interaction: community gardens in urban areas.*” *Journal of Leisure Research* Vol 36 No 3 pp336–55. (PDF)

Guthman, Julie. 2011. “*If They Only Knew: The Unbearable Whiteness of Alternative Food.*” p. 263 *Cultivating Food Justice*

Norgaard, Kari Marie, Reed, Ron and Van Horn, Carolina. 2011. “*A Continuing Legacy: Institutional Racism, Hunger, and Nutritional Justice on the Klamath.*” p. 23 *Cultivating Food Justice*

Harper, Breeze A. 2011 “*Vegans of Color, Racialized Embodiment, and Problematics of the “Exotics.”*” p. 221 *Cultivating Food Justice*

Emily Matchar 2013 “*Is Michael Pollan a sexist pig?*”
http://www.salon.com/2013/04/28/is_michael_pollan_a_sexist_pig/

Guthman, Julie. 2008. “*Bringing Good Food to Others: Investigating the Subjects of Alternative Food Practice.*” *Cultural Geographies* Vol 15; pp431-447. (PDF)

Sbicca, Joshua. 2012. “*Growing Food Justice By Planting an Anti-Oppression Foundation: Opportunities and Obstacles for a Budding Social Movement.*” *Agriculture and Human Values* Vol 29, Issue 4, pp 455-466 (PDF)

Kobayashi, A., & Peake, L. (2004). *Racism out of place: Thoughts on whiteness and an antiracist geography in the new millennium.* *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, Vol 90 No 2, pp392-403. (PDF)

Pulido, Laura. 1996. “*A Critical Review of the Methodology of Environmental Racism Research.*” *Antipode*. Vol 28 No 2 pp142-159 (PDF)

Class 3. September 17 Field Visit: The Food Project.

Meet at The Food Project’s Boston office at [555 Dudley Street](#) in Dorchester, MA at 1.30pm. We will be given a tour, a presentation on the area’s demographics and the work of the Food Project. We will also be given a briefing on *Assignment 1 The Food Project Field Experience*.

Reading.

Familiarize yourself fully with The Food Project and make sure especially you take a look at the 'Research about the Food Project' <http://thefoodproject.org/research>

Class 4. September 24 The Foundation: American Planning and food

This class builds an understanding of the current context for food systems planning within the planning field. It situates food justice within the context of the American Planning Association. 2007. "*Policy Guide on Community and Regional Food Systems*," which has sections on 'Food Systems and Equity' and 'Native and Ethnic Food Cultures'

Carolyn Steel 2009 [How Food Shapes Our Cities](#) TedX

Pothukuchi and Kaufman. 2000. "*The Food System: A Stranger in the Planning Field.*" American Planning Association Journal Vol 66 No 2 pp113-124 (PDF)

Samina Raja, Branden Born and Jessica Kozloski Russell. 2008. "*A Planners Guide to Community and Regional Food Planning: Transforming Food Environmental, Facilitating Healthy Eating.*" American Planning Association (PDF)

Born, B and Purcell, M (2006) "*Avoiding the Local Trap Scale and Food Systems in Planning Research*" Journal of Planning Education and Research Vol 26 pp195-207 (PDF)

American Planning Association. 2007. "*Policy Guide on Community and Regional Food Systems.*" American Planning Association. (PDF)

Campbell, Marcia Caton. 2004. "*Building a Common Table: The Role for Planning in Community Food Systems.*" Journal of Planning Education and Research Vol 23 pp 341-355(PDF)

Pothukuchi, Kameshwari. 2009. "*Community and Regional Food Planning: Building Institutional Support in the United States.*" International Planning Studies. Vol14 No 4, pp349-367 (PDF)

Class 5. October 1 Current Policy and Planning Tools 1

This class offers a consideration of various tools at the planner and policy maker's disposal for addressing food systems issues. These include zoning (which our guest speaker will talk about), licensing, food policy councils, community food assessments,

food hubs/regional food infrastructure, health impact assessments, collaboration/community dialogue facilitation, networking, monitoring and evaluation, green infrastructure/inter-agency collaboration with landscape designers, etc

Guest speaker: Jennifer Rushlow, Staff Attorney, CLF Massachusetts

Jennifer will discuss urban agriculture regulation and planning in three major cities in New England (Boston, Burlington and New Haven), and show processes at different stages of development.

Boston Redevelopment Authority Urban Agriculture Rezoning Website, read the most recent version of Draft Article 89 (pertaining to commercial agriculture land uses in Boston):

<http://www.bostonredevelopmentauthority.org/planning/PlanningInitsIndividual.asp?action=ViewInit&InitID=152>

Burlington Food Council, Urban Agriculture Task Force Report to Burlington City Council: <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/14609070/UrbanAgTaskForceReport.pdf>

New Haven Food Policy Council, New Haven Food Action Plan:

http://www.cityofnewhaven.com/Government/pdfs/NHFAP_New05.pdf

Thibert, Joel. 2012. *"Making Local Planning Work for Urban Agriculture in the North American Context: A View from the Ground."* Journal of Planning Education and Research. Vol 32 No 3 pp349–357 (PDF)

Blay Palmer, A (2009) *"The Canadian Pioneer: The Genesis of Urban Food Policy in Toronto"* International Planning Studies, Vol 14 No 4, pp401-416 (PDF)

APA 2009) *"Food Policy Councils"* (Written by UEP alumna Christina DiLisio) (PDF)

Urban Vitality Group. ND *"Food Cartology: Rethinking Urban Spaces as People Spaces."* (PDF)

"Portland Food Carts: Twitter Me This: Taco Trucks and Cupcakes - Gentrification, Evolution or Something in Between?" 2010 APA (PDF)

Sobell, H and Agyeman J 2013 *"From Loncheras to Lobsta Love: Food Trucks, Cultural Identity and Social Justice."* <http://julianagyeman.com/2013/06/from-loncheras-to-lobsta-love-food-trucks-cultural-identity-and-social-justice/>

ChangeLab Solutions. 2012 *“Licensing and Zoning: Tools for Public Health”* (PDF)

Feldstein, Lisa, Jacobus, Rick and Burton, Hanna, 2007. *“Economic Development and Redevelopment: A Toolkit for Building Healthy, Vibrant Communities.”* Public Health Law and Policy. (PDF)

Class 6. October 8 Current Policy and Planning Tools 2 - City Food Strategies

This class looks at how some cities are currently addressing the food system through declarations, food action plans, food strategies and urban food policy plans. In what ways is a space for food-based policy making being created and what roles can planners take? Where are issues of equity either included or lacking in these public documents? What will be necessary to realize the goals stated in these documents? Agenda setting, micro-enterprise/economic development

Sonnino, Roberta. 2009. *“Feeding the City: Toward a New Research and Planning Agenda.”* International Planning Studies Vol 14 No 4, pp425-435 (PDF)

Cassidy, Arly and Patterson, Bowen. 2008. *“The Planner’s Guide to the Urban Food System.”* USC School of Policy, Planning and Development - Center for Sustainable Cities. (PDF)

Morgan, Kevin. 2009. *“Feeding the City: The Challenge of Urban Food Planning.”* International Planning Studies Vol. 14, No. 4, pp341–348 (PDF)

Marielle Dubbeling and Alain Santandreu. 2003. *“Urban Agriculture and Food Sovereignty.”* IDRC. No. 8. (PDF)

City of Seattle 2012 *“Food Action Plan”* (PDF)

Reynolds, 2009. *“Feeding a World City: The London Food Strategy.”* International Planning Studies Vol 14 No 4, pp417-424 (PDF)

Rocha, Cecilia and Lessa, Lara. 2009. *“Urban Governance for Food Security: The Alternative Food System in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.”* International Planning Studies Vol 14 No 4, pp389-400 (PDF)

City of Toronto Public Health (2010) *“Cultivating Food Connections: Toward a Healthy and Sustainable Food System for Toronto”* (PDF)

UEP Field Project Team 5 2010 *“Planning for Urban Agriculture in Somerville”* (PDF)

Class 7. October 22 Current Programming: Public Schools & Nutrition Assistance (SNAP, WIC), Health Impact Assessments?

What food justice issues are embedded in nutrition assistance programs, and how have these shifted over time? How prescriptive should public assistance programs be? Do we see a lack of cultural competencies embedded in the framework of these programs?

Guest Speaker: Jennifer Obadia, PhD, Adjunct Faculty, Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy

Vallianatos, Mark, Robert Gottlieb, and Margaret A. Haase 2004 "*Farm-to-School: Strategies for Urban Health, Combating Sprawl, and Establishing a Community Food Systems Approach.*" *Journal of Planning Education and Research* Vol 23 pp 414-23. (PDF)

Whiteman, E 2012 "*The Tension Around SNAP Restrictions: USDA's Mixed-Up Approach to Nutrition Policy*" NUTR 303 – Term Paper (Word doc).

Obadia, J and Porter, J 2013 "*Farmers Markets: Impact on fruit and vegetable consumption of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program clients*" The Boston Collaborative for Food and Fitness. (PDF)

Amuda, A 2011 Boston Farmer's Market incentive programs: Increasing access to fresh and local produce. Boston. The Food Project (PDF)

Class 8. October 29 Access & 'Food Deserts'

McClintock, Nathan 2011. "*From Industrial Garden to Food Desert: Demarcated Devaluation in the Flatlands of Oakland, California.*" p. 89 *Cultivating Food Justice*

Clifton, Kelly J. 2004. "*Mobility Strategies and Food Shopping for Low-Income Families: A Case Study.*" *Journal of Planning Education and Research* Vol 23 pp402-413 (PDF)

Alkon, Allison. 2008. "*Paradise or Pavement: The Social Constructions of the Environment in Two Urban Farmers Markets and Their Implications for Environmental Justice and Sustainability.*" *Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability* Vol. 13, No. 3, pp271-289. (PDF)

Samina Raja, Changing Ma and Pavan Yadav. 2008 *"Beyond Food Deserts: Measuring and Mapping Racial Disparities in Neighborhood Food Environments."* Journal of Planning Education and Research Vol 27:469-482 (PDF)

Amanda Whelan, Neil Wrigley, Daniel Warm and Elizabeth Cannings. 2002. *"Life in a Food Desert."* Urban Studies, Vol. 39, No. 11 pp2083-2100 (PDF)

PolicyLink 2013 *"Economic and Community Development Outcomes of Healthy Food Retail"* (PDF)

Sherriff, G (2009) *"Towards healthy local food: issues in achieving Just Sustainability"* Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability, Vol 14 No1, pp73-92 (PDF)

Feierabend, K (2012) *"Making the Connection: Community Health Centers & Healthy Food Access"* (UEP thesis PDF)

Class 9. November 5 Urban and Rural Transitions

How do urban and rural food insecurities and access issues play out? How are they similar and how are they different (and what does this mean when trying to plan for food justice)? Who is affected? How can planners take into account rural-urban relationships and value each, when working in food systems planning

Allison Hagey, Solana Rice and Rebecca Flournoy. 2012. *"Growing Urban Agriculture: Equitable Strategies and Policies for Improving Access to Healthy Food and Revitalizing Communities."* PolicyLink. (PDF)

McEntee, Jesse. 2011. *"Realizing Rural Food Justice: Divergent Locals in the Northeastern United States."* p. 239 Cultivating Food Justice (UEP alum)

Gilbert, Jess and Sharp, Gwen. 2002. *"The Loss and Persistence of Black-Owned Farms and Farmland: A Review of the Research Literature and Its implications."* Southern Rural Sociology, Vol 18 No 2 pp. 1-30 (PDF)

McCutcheon, Priscilla. 2011. *"Community Food Security By Us, For Us. The Nation of Islam and the Pan African Orthodox Church "* p. 177 Cultivating Food Justice

Class 10. November 12. Food Sovereignty in the North - Access to the Means of Production: Vacant Lot Takeovers and Community Control

What is the relationship or tension between A) communities taking control of their food system to create democratic and just production and access frameworks through things like land takeovers and guerrilla farming and B) the role of the cities, local governments, legal frameworks and private ownership in granting access to resources 'legitimately?' In what ways can the planner liaise between these groups, facilitating relationships that foster legal rights/ownership to land (ie: facilitate city policy change, legal representation for community groups etc.)

Nik Heynen, Hilda E. Kurtz and Amy Trauger. 2012. *"Food Justice, Hunger and the City."* Geography Compass Vol 6 pp 304–311 (PDF)

Daniel Block, Noel Chavez, Ericka Allen and Dinah Ramirez. 2011. *"Food Sovereignty, Urban Food Access and Food Activism: Contemplating the Connections Through Examples from Chicago."* Agriculture and Human Values Volume 29, Issue 2, pp 203-215 (PDF)

2011 *"Local Food and Community Self-Governance: An Ordinance to protect the Health and Integrity of the Local Food System in the Town of _____, _____ County, Maine."* (PDF)

Gibb, Natalie, and Whitman, Hannah. 2012. *"Parallel Alternatives: Chinese-Canadian farmers and the Metro Vancouver Local Food Movement."* Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability Vol 18 No1, pp1-19 (PDF)

Bedore, M (2010) *"Just Urban Food Systems: A New Direction for Food Access and Urban Social Justice"* Geography Compass Vol 4/9 pp1418–1432 (PDF)

Campaign to Take Back Vacant Land, 2011. *"Put Abandoned Land in Our Hands: A City-Community Partnership to Transform Blight Into Jobs, Homes and Parks"* (PDF)

Hassanein, Neva. 2003. *"Practicing Food Democracy: A Pragmatic Politics of Transformation."* Journal of Rural Studies 19 (2003) 77-86. (PDF)

Class 11. November 19. Food workers, Farmworkers, Migration and Gender

What can the planner or policy maker do to ensure justice and equity for farm and food workers, in a globalized marketplace? Advocate for labor halls? Facilitate discussions between unionizers and policy makers? How should the planner or policymaker speak on behalf of this population?

Minkoff-Zern, Peluso, Sowerwine and Getz. 2011. "Race and Regulation: Asian Immigrants in California Agriculture." p.65 Cultivating Food Justice

Brown and Getz. 2011. "Farmworker Food Insecurity and the Production of Hunger in California." p. 121 Cultivating Food Justice

Yen Liu, Yvonne and Dominique Apollon. 2011. "The Color of Food." Applied Research Center. (PDF)

Oliva, Jose. 2011. "The Restaurant Opportunities Center." Food Movements Unite! pp 173-186 (PDF)

Barndt, Deborah. 2001. "On the Move for Food: Three Women Behind the Tomato's Journey." Women's Studies Quarterly, Vol. 29, No. 1/2, Earthwork: Women and Environments (Spring - Summer, 2001), pp. 131-143 (PDF)

Class 12. November 26 Autotopography and Place Making

To what extent can agriculture be used by low income communities, people of color and immigrants to create authentic "place"?

Minkoff Zern. 2011. "Pushing the Boundaries of Indigeneity and Agricultural Knowledge: Oaxacan Immigrant Gardening in California." Agriculture and Human Values Volume 29, Issue 3, pp381-392 (PDF)

Agyeman, J (2011) "New agricultures, cultural diversity and foodways."
<http://julianagyeman.com/2011/10/new-agricultures-cultural-diversity-and-foodways/>

Vliente-Neighbours. 2012. "Mobility, Embodiment and Scales: Filipino Immigrant Perspectives on Local Food." Agriculture and Human Values Volume 29, Issue 4, pp 531-541 (PDF)

Saldivar-Tanaka, L. and M.E. Krasny (2004) 'Culturing community development, neighborhood open space, and civic agriculture: The case of Latino community gardens in New York City', Agriculture and Human Values, Vol. 21 No. 4 pp. 399- 412. (PDF)

Mares, Teresa M. and Devon G. Pena. "Environmental and Food Justice: Toward Local, Slow, and Deep Food Systems." p. 197 Cultivating Food Justice.

Class 13. December 3 Presentations of work for The Food Project

Resources.

Blogs

Nevin Cohen's *Urban Food Policy* <http://www.urbanfoodpolicy.com>

Devon G. Peña's *Environmental and Food Justice* <http://ejfood.blogspot.com>

Marion Nestle's *Food Politics* <http://www.foodpolitics.com>

Keith Good's *FarmPolicy.com* <http://farmpolicy.com>

Civil Eats <http://civileats.com>

Daniella Nierenberg (Tufts Alumna) and Ellen Gustafson's *Food Tank*

<http://foodtank.org>

The Boston Collaborative for Food and Fitness's (BCFF) *Boston Farmers Markets*

<http://bostonfarmersmarkets.org>

TEDx Talks

TED is a non-profit devoted to "ideas worth spreading", and you can find literally thousands of free--inspiring and awesome--talks from experts and innovators around the world. Food Tank (www.FoodTank.org) decided to highlight 24 TED talks specifically around food issues that they found compelling and worth sharing.

Please check out and watch as many of these as you can. And, most importantly, share this with 24 friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers who might be open to watching a few of these insightful talks and learning more about the food system.

1. Roger Thurow: [*The Hungry Farmer - My Moment of Great Disruption*](#)

Thurow, author of *The Last Hunger Season: A Year in an African Farm Community on the Brink of Change*, explains the profound "disease of the soul" that hunger represents, and how empowering smallholder farmers can bring long-term sustainable health and hope to the people of Africa.

2. Mark Bittman: [*What's Wrong with What We Eat*](#)

Bittman, a food writer for *The New York Times*, examines how individual actions--namely food choices--contribute to both the detriment of the climate and chronic diseases. He suggests that we eat meat in moderation because agriculture is responsible for more greenhouse gas pollution than transportation.

3. Anna Lappe: [*Marketing Food to Children*](#)

Lappe, author of *Diet for a Hot Planet: The Climate Crisis at the End of Your Fork and What You Can Do About It*, questions whether multibillion dollar corporations should be marketing unhealthy foods to impressionable children, especially considering the numerous food-related health issues that are increasingly common among young people.

4. Ellen Gustafson: [*Obesity + Hunger = 1 Global Food Issue*](#)

According to Food Tank co-founder Gustafson, the American food system has changed dramatically in the past 30 years; agriculture has been consolidated, new and cheap processed food have gained popularity, and U.S. agricultural aid abroad has decreased. These factors are major contributors to the current problem of one billion hungry and one billion overweight people on the planet.

5. Tristram Stuart: [*The Global Food Waste Scandal*](#)

Stuart laments how supermarkets, cafeterias, bakers, farmers, and other food producers are “literally hemorrhaging” food waste--the majority of which is fit for human consumption, but has been discarded because it is not aesthetically pleasing. He offers a radical solution: “freeganism,” a movement in which food that would normally be thrown away is eaten instead.

6. Brian Halweil: [*From New York to Africa: Why Food Is Saving the World*](#)

Halweil, publisher of Edible Manhattan, was on track to become a doctor until he realized that repairing the global food system could help to conserve people’s health and wellbeing more. Halweil believes that the local food movement is a truly powerful medicine.

7. Fred Kaufman: [*The Measure of All Things*](#)

Kaufman, from the City University of New York’s Graduate School of Journalism, heralds the rise of a “Great Greenwash.” He further questions whether Wal-Mart and other corporations participating in the Sustainability Index are living up to their claims.

8. LaDonna Redman: [*Food + Justice = Democracy*](#)

Redman, Senior Program Associate in Food and Justice at the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy and long-time food activist, examines how the root causes of violence and public health concerns experienced by her community are strongly connected to the local food system, and are best addressed by making changes in that system.

9. Jose Andres: [*Creativity in Cooking Can Solve Our Biggest Challenges*](#)

Chef Andres highlights the power of cooking. He demonstrates how we can tackle obesity and hunger using our inherent creativity. He urges everyone to turn simple ideas into big solutions--something we've been doing for centuries. Creativity and cooking are what he claims can give us hope for feeding the world.

10. Jamie Oliver's TED Prize Wish: [Teach Every Child About Food](#)

Celebrity chef Oliver has waged a revolution to combat the biggest killer in the U.S., diet-related disease, through food and cooking education. Using stories from his anti-obesity project in Huntington, WV, he shows how the power of information can defeat food ignorance and obesity.

11. Dan Barber: [How I Fell in Love with a Fish](#)

Barber tells a humorous love story starting with every chef's predicament: with the worldwide decline in fish populations, how are we going to keep fish on our menus? He is skeptical of the current trajectory of fish farms, and asks whether they are truly sustainable. But there is a solution – Barber tells of one farm in Spain utilizing a revolutionary, yet basic idea: ecological relationships.

12. Carolyn Steel: [How Food Shapes Our Cities](#)

Meat consumption and urbanism are rising hand-in-hand. Steel, an architect, explains how we got here by tracing how human settlements have fed themselves through time and, thus, shaped our cities. But in today's cities, our relationship with food is misshapen--it is disconnected. Steel suggests an alternative to urban design in which we use food as a tool to reconnect and interconnect.

13. Ann Cooper: [Lunch Lessons: Changing the Way We Feed Our Children](#)

Cooper, the "Renegade Lunch Lady," wants us to get angry about what kids eat at school. She wants kids to eat healthy, sustainable food; but first, we all need to care why this should happen. In this talk, she tries to rally us around changing the financing, facilities, human resources, marketing, and food in the school lunchroom.

14. Ron Finley: [A Guerrilla Gardener in South Central L.A.](#)

Finley plants vegetable gardens in South Central Los Angeles -- in abandoned lots, traffic medians, and along the curbs in order to offer some alternative to fast food in a community where "the drive-thrus are killing more people than the drive-bys." He explains how his community is desperate for nutritional food, and why he thinks urban gardening is the solution.

15. Tama Matsuoka Wong: [How I Did Less and Ate Better, Thanks to Weeds](#)

Wong describes the path she took to discover that weeds are not only nutrient-rich, environmentally sustainable foods, but can also be quite delicious. She abandoned her career as a corporate attorney to become a professional forager, eventually founding MeadowsandMore, an initiative that teaches people to take advantage of the food resources right in their backyards.

16. Stephen Ritz: [*Green Bronx Machine: Growing Our Way Into a New Economy*](#)

Most of Ritz's students live at or below the poverty line, and/or live with disabilities. But through his Green Bronx Machine project, he has turned their lives around. By teaching them the business of installing edible walls and green roofs, he has empowered his students to make a real difference in their own lives, in their communities, and beyond.

17. Angela Morelli: [*The Global Water Footprint of Humanity*](#)

Morelli, Italian information designer and World Economic Forum's 2012 Young Global Leader nominee, helps consumers visualize the enormous expenditures of water that occur daily in the food system using graphic design. In this talk, she explains the concept of the "water footprint" - something that is hugely affected by simple diet choices.

18. Birke Baehr: [*What's Wrong With Our Food System*](#)

Baehr, at just 11 years old at the time of this talk, presents the most glaring problems in our food system with the directness that, truly, only a child could do. He gives hope that future generations will really lead the charge in changing the food system: "Now a while back, I wanted to be an NFL football player. I decided that I'd rather be an organic farmer instead."

19. Graham Hill: [*Why I'm a Weekday Vegetarian*](#)

Despite his otherwise "hippie" upbringing, [Treehugger.com](#) founder Hill is not a vegetarian. In this short talk, he explains his choice to become a weekday vegetarian, instead, and outlines the many benefits of choosing such a lifestyle.

20. Joel Salatin: [*Thinking About Soil*](#)

Salatin, the "Lunatic Farmer," decries the modern farming practices that destroy necessary insects, create chemically engineered plants, and breed sick livestock, resulting in a "dead food system" based on a "mechanistic view of life." He calls for a return to organic, natural farming and processing practices.

21. Roger Doiron: [*A Subversive Plot*](#)

Gardening is a subversive activity. Food is a form of energy, but it's also a form of power." This sums up Doiron's persuasive argument as to why everyone should undertake the project of a home garden, and control their own access to fresh, hyperlocally grown produce.

22. Britta Riley: [*A Garden in My Apartment*](#)

Riley struck out to plant a garden in her tiny New York City apartment, and ended up developing an environmentally sustainable window garden - that yielded delicious results. Riley describes her method as "R&DIY - Research and Develop It Yourself."

23. Arthur Potts Dawson: [*A Vision for Sustainable Restaurants*](#)

Dawson has designed two environmentally sustainable London restaurants, Acorn House and Water House, that work toward eliminating waste entirely and using only clean energy. He explains how, by pursuing more projects such as these, the restaurant industry - "pretty much the most wasteful industry in the world" - can be reformed.

24. Ken Cook: [*Turning the Farm Bill into the Food Bill*](#)

Cook, President of the Environmental Working Group, explains how farm subsidies are being placed into the very wrong hands; specifically, those of farmers producing corn only for fuel. His talk is a call to change the federal incentive system that is directly threatening the food on our plates.