

**Topics in Thematic and Comparative History**

Term 5 Summer 2023 UVic DeCrimHistory  
May 15, 2023 – June 30, 2023

3. Be able to identify key turning points and the role of power and empire in nineteenth-century Scottish history and their impact on food sovereignty and food practices of the Gaelic-speaking people.
4. Be able to identify and analyze the impacts of food dispossession (The Clearances) on Highland and Islands culture, economy, and environment.
5. Be able to identify, describe, and analyze gendered food practices of the colonial west Highland and Islands and their relationships with land, material culture, and power.
6. Be able to describe and compare transnational colonial food systems of the time period, by briefly examining neighboring northern European countries.
7. Learn how to analyze a range of primary source documents and artifacts, for example, recipes, cookery books, Irish records, and travelers' narratives.
8. Practice research and critical thinking skills while formulating strong, evidence-based arguments to persuade others, in both written and researched forms.

These intended learning outcomes are explored in class and assessed through assignments.

### **ASSESSMENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

This is a brief overview of the assignments for this course. We will discuss these further in class.

### **WEEKLY READING REFLECTIONS- choose 5 of 6 dates**



contributing positively to  
discussions and group work.  
Arrive at class being prepared  
to discuss the





**COURSE SCHEDULE**

Dates	Topics & Readings	Assignments
<b>WEEK 1</b> <b>Module 1</b> May 16	<b>Course Overview</b> <b>Siting Scotland, the Coastal West Highlands and Islands</b> <b>and the Gaelic Achd</b>  Ch. 5 Harvey, Kathryn. "Three Centuries of Scottish Cookery" (p. 21-35) in Cybil C. Prescott and Muree S. Thomson, eds.	

<p><b>Module 4</b> May 25</p>	<p><b>Food in Rural Life: Summer Shielling and Dairy Production: 1770-1830</b></p> <p><b>READ the first or second option listed below :</b> Ch. 7 “The Shielling” (pp. 124-36) in Feeney, Alexander. Edinburgh: John Donald, 1976.</p> <p><b>OR:</b></p> <p>Ch. 4 “Dairying” (pp. 55-67) in Cheape, John. Aberdeen: Aberdeen University Press, 2002.</p> <p><b>OPTIONAL:</b> Read the option you did not choose above.</p>	<p>Week 2 Reading Reflection: May 29</p> <p>Examining Assignment May 28-30</p>
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**WEEK 3**  
**Module 5**  
May 30

<p><b>Module 8</b> June 8</p>	<p><b>Famine</b></p> <p><b>READ one of the two options. Either read:</b></p> <p>Ch 3 “The Year the Potatoes Went Awry” (pp. 71-107) in Huftner, James. <i>The Potato</i>. Edinburgh: Birlinn Ltd, 2019.</p> <p><b>Or read:</b></p> <p>Dodgshon, Robert A. “Cooking with Risk: Subsistence Crises in the Scottish Highlands and Islands, 1600-1800,” <i>Journal of American Studies</i> 15, no. 1 (2004): 1–25.</p> <p><b>OPTIONAL:</b> <b>READ</b> the one you did not choose above.</p>	<p>Week 4 Reading Reflection: June 12</p>
<p><b>WEEK 5</b> <b>Module 9</b> June 13</p>	<p><b>Crofting, Food, and the Napier Commission: 1850 - 1890</b></p> <p>Ch. 8 “The Highland Land War 1: Beginnings, 1881-1883” (pp. 131-145) in Huftner, James. <i>The Potato</i>. Edinburgh: Birlinn, 1976.</p> <p>“Crofting” section (pp. 89-98) in Abrams, Lyndee. <i>Highland Crofting</i>. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2013.</p>	
<p><b>Module 10</b> June 15</p>	<p><b>Scotland and Food Practices in Northern Europe: 19th century</b></p> <p><b>READ the first or second option listed below :</b></p> <p>Morrison, Cori. “Milk as Pymon for Farm Labour: The Dairy Economy of a Swedish Estate, 1874-1913.” <i>Journal of American Studies</i> 56, no. 2 (2008): 167–188.</p> <p><b>OR:</b></p> <p>Jacks, Gordon. “The Significance of Unimproved Prais.” <i>Journal of American Studies</i> 13, no. 2 (2001): 1–17.</p> <p><b>OPTIONAL:</b> read the one you did not choose above.</p>	<p>Week 5 Reading Reflection: June 19</p>
<p><b>WEEK 6</b> <b>Module 11</b> June 20</p>	<p><b>Food and the Scottish home: 1890-1914</b> <b>Holiday and Celebration Traditions</b></p> <p>Ch. 2 “From Scullery to Conservatory: Everyday Life in the Scottish Home” (pp. 48-75) by Lyndee Abrams and Linda Fleming in Abrams, Lyndee, and Colum G. Brown. <i>The Scottish Home</i>. Edinburgh: Birlinn, 2019.</p>	



**Mod le 12**

