**Subject Overview**

This subject explores historical and contemporary perspectives on how cities are shaped by, and themselves shape, food and food production systems and feed – or fail to feed - urban populations in various geographical and historical contexts. Various methodological approaches and disciplinary perspectives are marshalled in this intellectual and cultural endeavour. Students will critically examine the relationship between the transformation in agricultural systems and demographic changes towards urbanisation in the last century, contrasting the historically unprecedented trend towards urbanisation since 1950 with earlier periods of human civilization in which the fortunes of cities have waxed and waned. Restaurants, food provisioning, waste and food production will be situated in the context of the diverse historical development of cities and contemporary urban conurbations. The subject will conclude with a critical investigation of contemporary approaches to the transformation of urban food and gastronomic cultures, specifically in relation to their implications for politics, economics, culture and ecology and for how we imagine the place of food in cities of the future.

**Learning Outcomes**

- Articulate the challenges of feeding modern cities and their importance to urban and regional planning and policy
- Analyse concepts of urbanisation and industrialisation in relation to the development of food systems in cities
- Discuss the relevance of a range of historical, socio-economic and political contexts as they relate to urban food systems
- Apply ethnographic methodologies to research food in urban contexts

**Assessments**

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<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sensory mapping and reflection submission</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group comparative analysis</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethnographic essay</td>
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**Graduate Attributes addressed in this subject**

- Ethical and social understanding
- Systematic and coherent body of knowledge
- Cognitive skills to *analyse and critique, synthesise and consolidate* knowledge
- Scholarly skills
- Interpersonal and Teamwork skills
- Communication skills