

Delicious Inquiry

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

This semester is all about thinking and asking questions about food. Not only will we be doing that ourselves, we will be exploring how others ask and answer questions, particularly paying attention to what questions they ask, how they answer those questions, and how their positionality affects their inquiry process.

To this end, you will be selecting your own Delicious Inquiries (DIs) to explore, and by the end of the semester, we will have a discussion forum full of interesting food-related inquiries.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Throughout the semester, you will be writing **three 500-600 word posts** on the class Delicious Inquiry (DI) discussion forum about food inquiry outside our class. You must post DIs from three different categories, choosing between **1) Reading, 2) Listening, 3) Watching (Informative), 4) Watching (Entertaining), and 5) Experiences.**

Only one person can write about any specific DI. For example, only one person can post about the documentary *Jiro Dreams of Sushi*, but people can write about two different *Chef's Table* episodes.

You will address the following questions about the ideas and format of the DI you engaged with:

1. What is the subject of this DI? What form does it take (podcast? Netflix 30 minute episode? Article?)?
2. What questions does this DI ask and answer? Remember: often inquiry questions are unstated! Think about the two types of inquiry questions: surface and deep. What surface and deep questions are addressed in this DI?
3. Who is asking the questions? Do a bit of research. What is their positionality, from what you can tell? Why is this person asking the questions? What perspectives are included, and what might be left out?
4. How is the inquirer answering the questions? What sources do they use, and how? Why do they use the sources they use?
5. What connections does this DI have to larger social, cultural, economic, political questions? In what ways?
6. What did you learn from this DI? What are the takeaways of this DI? What does it bring to our class table?

Make sure you **directly reference** the DI itself, providing **specific evidence** from the DI to support your analysis.

I've compiled a [list of suggestions](#); I will keep adding to it as I find new options. You can go off list! Just as long as whatever you read or engage with is about food and asking questions. If you are unsure if something you found would work for this assignment, please send me an email or ask during Office Hours.

WHERE AND HOW DO WE POST IT?

You will be posting in the [Delicious Inquiry discussion forum](#), though I would suggest drafting these posts in a word processing document so that 1) you can check your word count, and 2) you have back-up in case something happens to the discussion forum post.

When you post, **put the publication name, title of the episode/article, and what category it's from in the thread Subject line.** Examples:

Taste the Nation, "Don't Mind if I Dosa" (3)

Bon Appetit, "When Did Recipe Writing Get So...Whitewashed?" (1)

Spilled Milk, "Pickled Onions" (2)

A reminder: you can only do one post in any one category, and only one of you can post about a particular piece of media or experience. However, episodes count as different pieces of media in the same category, just like articles from the same writer.

For example, so you can only post about one *Gastropod* podcast episode, but your classmate can also post about a *Gastropod* episode; it just needs to be a DIFFERENT episode. And you would need to do your remaining two posts on DIs that are not podcasts, since you already posted something from the **Listening** category.

Also, you cannot use something we have already watched or read in class.

So, that means you need to know what each other has posted. You can scan through the current posts, or you can use the search bar on the top right of the Discussion Forum. If you post about something someone else has already posted on, you'll have to do it again or lose some points on the assignment.

WHEN IS IT DUE?

You can do these posts at any point during the semester, as long as **one is done by Tuesday, March 16 at 9:30 AM** (See Calendar). The other **two are due on Wednesday, April 28 Friday, April 30**, but I highly recommend not waiting until then! Remember, it's first come, first served, and **if you post the same thing as someone else, you have to do it over!**

All three posts are collectively worth 15% of your grade; so each post is worth 5% of your final grade.