

Food

Fast Food Nation (chapters)

Mintz "Sweetness and Power"

Courtwright: *Forces of Habit* (ch. 1)

(rec) Appadurai "Social Life of Things"

For section:

Please do the reading. Then pick one significant argument that one of the authors is making. State the argument. Then state how the argument is made, what evidence is used? Do you find the argument persuasive? If not, what would it take to convince you? In any case, come up with at least two other sorts of evidence that could be used to support the argument. Pay particular attention to assumptions that are built into the argument and into the evidence. We will discuss what is meant by "assumptions" in class, but for now just go for it. This needn't take more than a paragraph, but you will discuss it and hand it in in section.

For lecture:

You don't have to hand it in, but do spend some time thinking about what a healthy diet is. Do you follow one, why or why not? How do you know what a healthy diet is? That is, how exactly did you learn that there is such a thing as a healthy diet? when and where? What do you know about how such things are decided, by whom?

Extra Credit: Schlosser, p. 241, discusses "America's obesity epidemic", "280,000 Americans die every year". Can you discover how this was determined? Was it an estimate? Was there a study? Email this to me if you figure it out or even have a good lead.