“Food and Politics”
Community Conversations | January 24, 2013

Below are selected readings. For more books, visit the following sections in Knight Library: food history (GT2800s), GMOs (GT248), food politics (TX300s).

**Food History**

*A cultural history of food*
Paul Erdkamp; Massimo Montanari; Ken Albala; Beat A Kümin; Martin Bruegel; All authors

GT2850 .C8528 2012 v.1-6 (Knight Library)

A reference book in 6 volumes documenting food from ancient time to the present, focusing on food and its physical, spiritual, social, and cultural dimensions.

*The taste for civilization: food, politics, and civil society*
Janet A Flammang

GT2853.U5 F57 2009 (Knight Library)

Flammang looks at mealtime rituals of food preparation, serving, and dining as the foundation for a proper education on the value of civility, the importance of the common good, and what it means to be a good citizen.

**Genetically Modified (GM) Foods**

*Dinner at the new gene cafe: how genetic engineering is changing what we eat, how we live, and the global politics of food*
Bill Lambrecht

TP248.65.F66 L35 2001 (Knight Library)

In this book, Lambrecht documents the collision between a powerful but unproved technology and a resistance from people worried about the safety of GM foods.

*Don’t worry, it’s safe to eat: the true story of GM food, BSE, & Foot and Mouth*
Andrew Rowell

TP248.65.F66 R69 2003 (Science Library)

This book investigates bogus science, political interference and flawed policies that threaten our food supply. Covering cases such as BSE and foot and mouth, it also offers solutions to make science work in the public interest.

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Labeling genetically modified food: the philosophical and legal debate
Paul Weirich

TP248.65.F66 L33 2007 (Knight Library)

This book is a series of essays on different ways to label and how to enforce the labeling of GM foods.

Mendel in the kitchen: a scientist’s view of genetically modified foods
Nina V Fedoroff; Nancy Marie Brown

TP248.65.F66 F436 2004 (Knight Library)

The authors provide a look at both sides of the GM foods topic: from European restaurants reassuring concerned diners that no GM foods were used in the preparation of meals, to starving populations around the world eagerly awaiting the next harvest of scientifically improved crops.

Food & Politics

Food politics: how the food industry influences nutrition and health
Marion Nestle

TX360.U6 N47 2002 (Knight Library)

In this book, the author examines what she sees as the industry’s manipulation of America’s eating habits while enumerating many conflicts of interest among nutritional authorities.

Food politics: what everyone needs to know
Robert L Paarlberg

HD1415 .P12 2010 (Knight Library)

Examines the politics of food, discussing convenience foods, under-regulated commercial farms, backlash against environmentalists and consumer activists, agricultural failure in third world countries, and other related topics.

The politics of food
Marianne E Lien; Brigitte Nerlich; European Association of Social Anthropologists

TX359 .P64 2004 (Knight Library)

This book raises questions about how we relate to food in the 21st century. Through ethnographic case studies it reveals how food has come to serve a key role in political resistance and nation-building.

The politics of food: the global conflict between food security and food sovereignty
William D Schanbacher
Investing who the beneficiaries of current models of globalization and why millions of people around the world continue to live in poverty despite World Bank and IMF promises to solve the problem, this book looks at the role of food production, distribution, and consumption and how they all play into the aspects of hunger and malnutrition.

*Some descriptions from book jackets and adapted from other sources such as amazon.com and worldcat.org*