

# Food Politics and Sustainable Development

*The politics of eating  
and producing food*

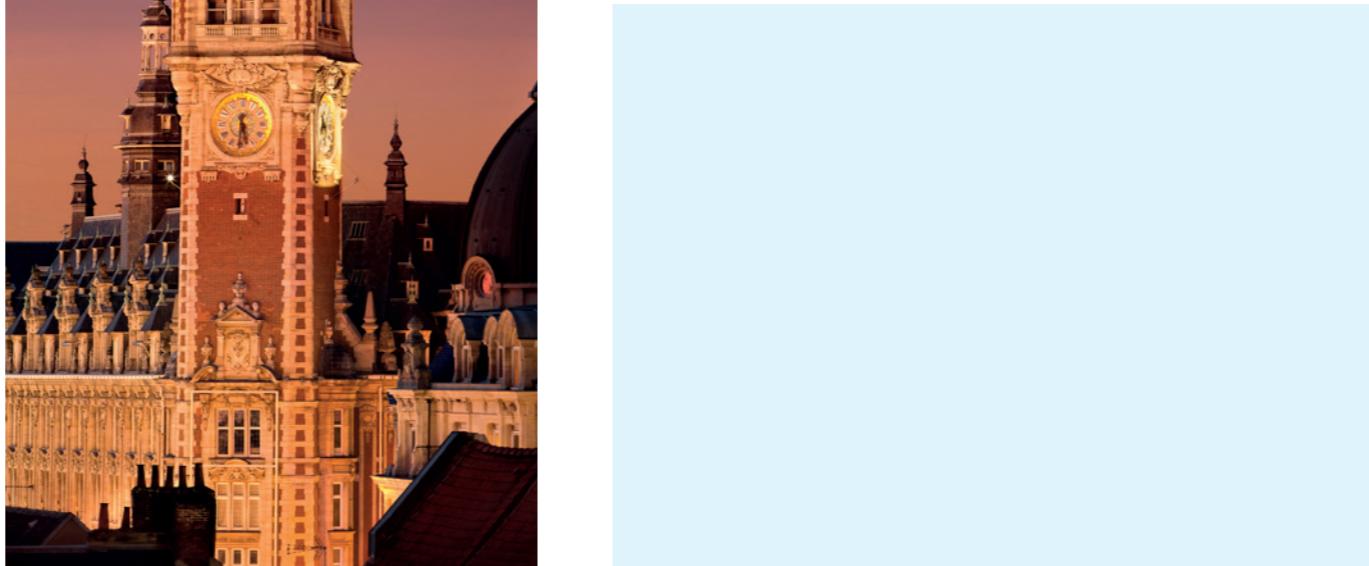
Food and agriculture are fields in which major global challenges arise. While the global food system is providing more food than ever before in human history, hunger and famine continue to plague the Global South. Conversely, obesity and malnutrition are emerging in various regions, especially Western industrial societies and emerging countries. In 2050, the world's population is projected to rise to 10 billion people; and they all need to eat. The various ecological and social problems of the today's food system represent additional challenges.

Questions related to the organisation and regulation of our agri-food system are complex and include the production, distribution, accessibility, and consumption of food, as well as issues related to poverty, public health, animal welfare, science and technology, and trade. What would a sustainable food system look like, and how can it be achieved?

The master's programme in Food Politics and Sustainable Development examines the ways in which public authorities (regional bodies, nation states, European institutions, UN agencies) and private actors (individuals, farming communities and organisations, transnational businesses, NGOs, etc.) shape and transform the agri-food system. While the production of food is initiated at local level, its distribution and consumption often have global implications. Understanding, analysing and acting upon these implications is key to sustainably govern and transform our food system in the future.

Because these questions require to cross political and technical knowledge, the master's programme in Food Politics and Sustainable Development is organised in close collaboration with practitioners. It includes a partnership with ISA Lille, the renowned agronomy institute of Lille Catholic University; numerous interventions from agri-food professionals; and field trips to regional farms, food-related policy events, key food fairs such as the Paris International Agricultural Show, and food markets such as the Rungis Market, the biggest wholesale food market in the world.

This programme will enable students to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to master and design complex and innovative food policy solutions, and to occupy key professional positions in public and private organisations.



## Semester 1

### Core courses

- Agriculture and Rural Politics
- European Food & Agricultural Policy

### Research courses

- Introduction to Research & Epistemology
- Political Science Research Methods
- +1 optional course
- +1 intensive language module
- +1 career development module

## Optional courses

In semester 1, 2 and 4, you will be able to further tailor your degree to your interests by choosing from a broad offer of optional courses, such as:

- International Relations
- Comparative Politics
- Global Economic Governance
- International Development
- Global History
- Digital Democracy
- Sovereignty and the State in International Relations
- Global Justice
- ...

## Semester 2\*

### Core courses

- Political Economy of Natural Resources
- Global Food Politics

### Research courses

- Statistics and the Political Sociology of Quantification
- Academic Writing Workshop
- +1 optional course
- +1 intensive language module
- +1 career development module

## Semester 3

### Core courses

- Food and Sustainable Development: A project course
- Food Controversies
- + master's dissertation
- +1 intensive language module

## Semester 4

### Core courses

- Food, Agriculture and the Environment
- Global Environmental Politics
- +2 optional courses
- +1 intensive language module
- +1 professional internship

ESPOL makes every effort to ensure that course information is accurate and up-to-date. However, courses, services and other matters may be subject to change

\* The second semester can also be completed in one of our 140 partner universities across the world.