

# WHAT IS FOOD?

## WRITING EXERCISE

- What is one thing you want to learn in this class?
- What is one food you love to eat?
- Have you ever been a part of a food production process?

# DEFINITIONS

## Necessary conditions

what is *required* for something to be the case.

## Sufficient conditions

what is *enough* for something to be the case.

## Definition

the necessary and sufficient conditions for the application of a term or concept. A proper definition should specify all and only the defined objects.

# FOOD & NUTRIENTS

## Nutrient

a component or element of a food stuff that an organism needs in order to develop and/or survive

# FOOD & ENERGY

## Calorie

The amount of energy needed to raise the temperature of 1 kilogram of water 1 degree Celsius

# "FOOD" DEFINED?

## Food

Any substance or stuff that provides calories and/or nutrients

# NATURAL KINDS

## Natural Kind

a kind, term, or sortal concept (e.g. cat, dog, mammal) that corresponds to a grouping that reflects the structure of the natural world rather than the interests, actions, or practices of human beings

# SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION

## Generic social construction

Something is a social construction in the generic sense just in case it is an intended or unintended product of a social practice.



# CAUSAL VS. CONSTITUTIVE

## Causal construction

Something is causally constructed iff social factors play a causal role in bringing it into existence or, to some substantial extent, in its being the way it is.

## Constitutive construction

Something is constitutively constructed iff in defining it we must make reference to social factors.

