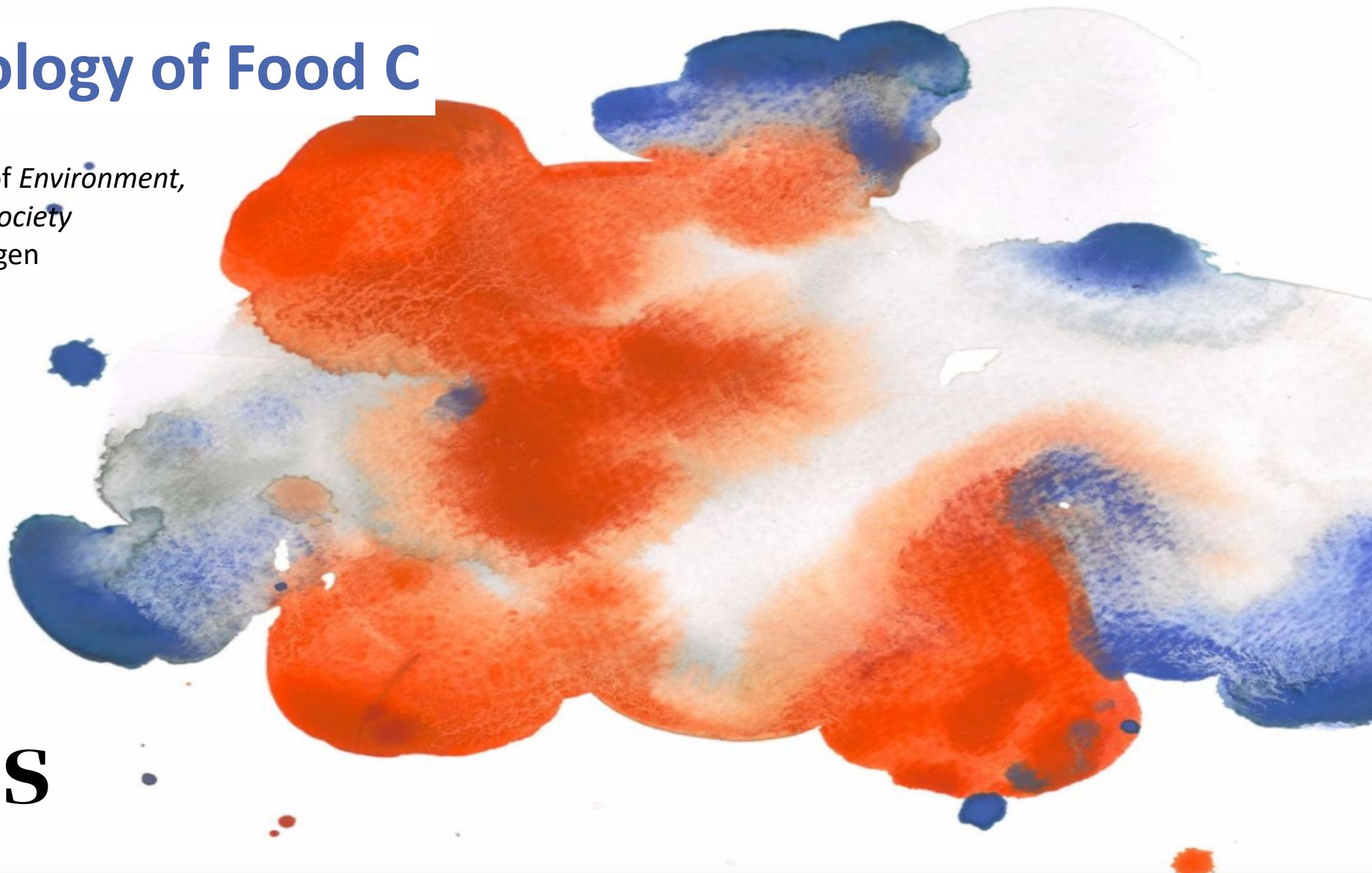


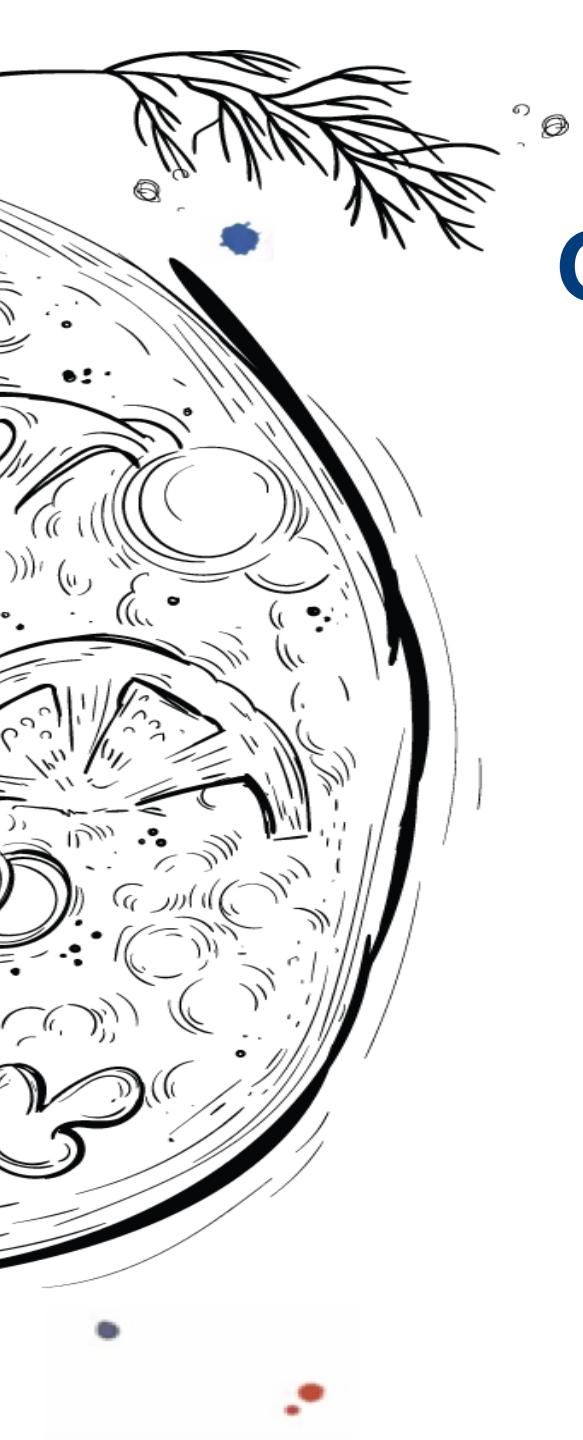
# Anthropology of Food C

Fall 2018

Department of *Environment,  
Politics, and Society*  
DIS, Copenhagen

**DIS**





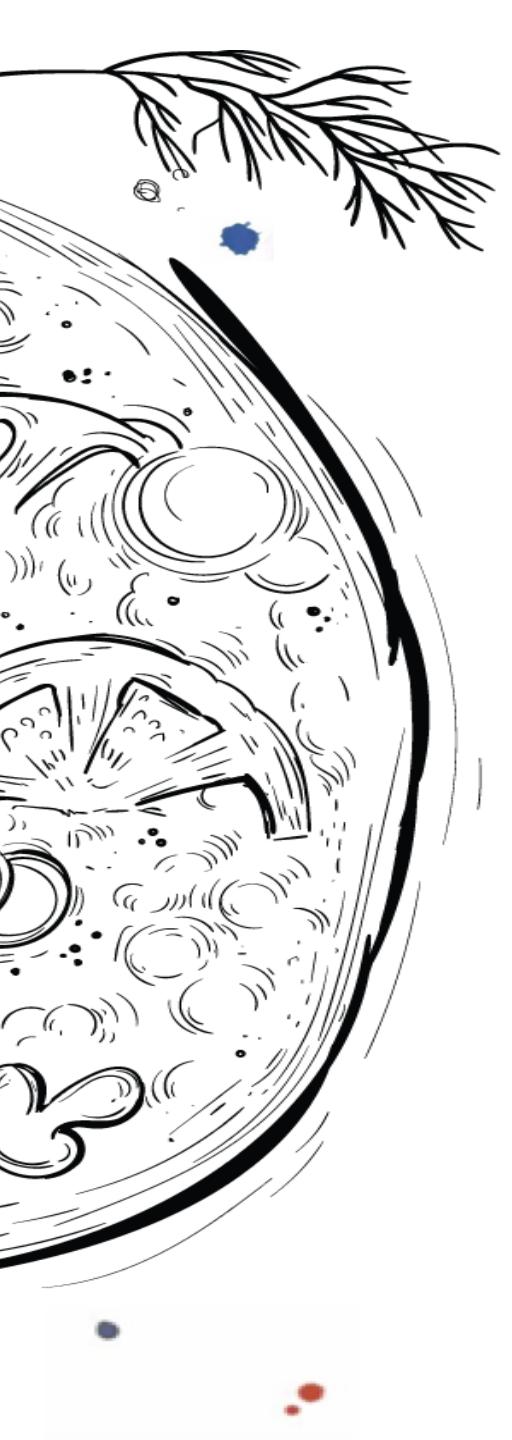
# Creating communities

*"What makes human, human and what makes the difference between humans".*

Appadurai

**Introduction**

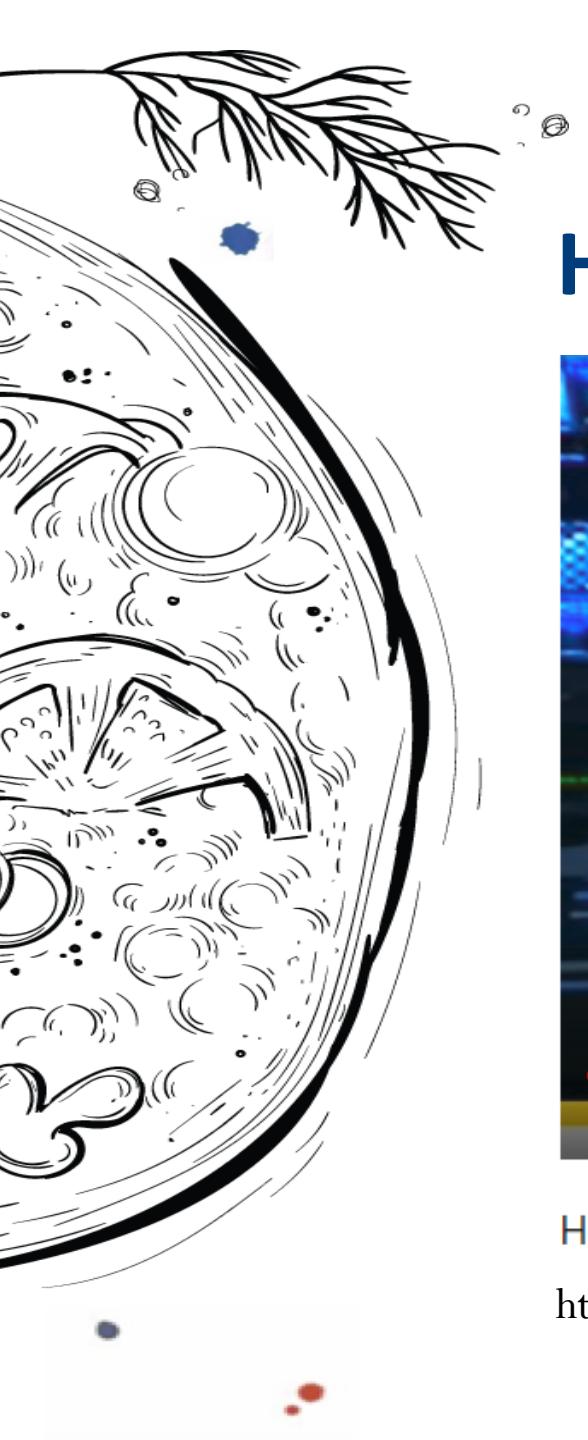
**Groups work with the two concepts, religion and nationality**



## Learning objectives

Understand ways of recreating the idea about nationalism through food (*what is eatable*)

Understand human behavior and need to have an regional identity

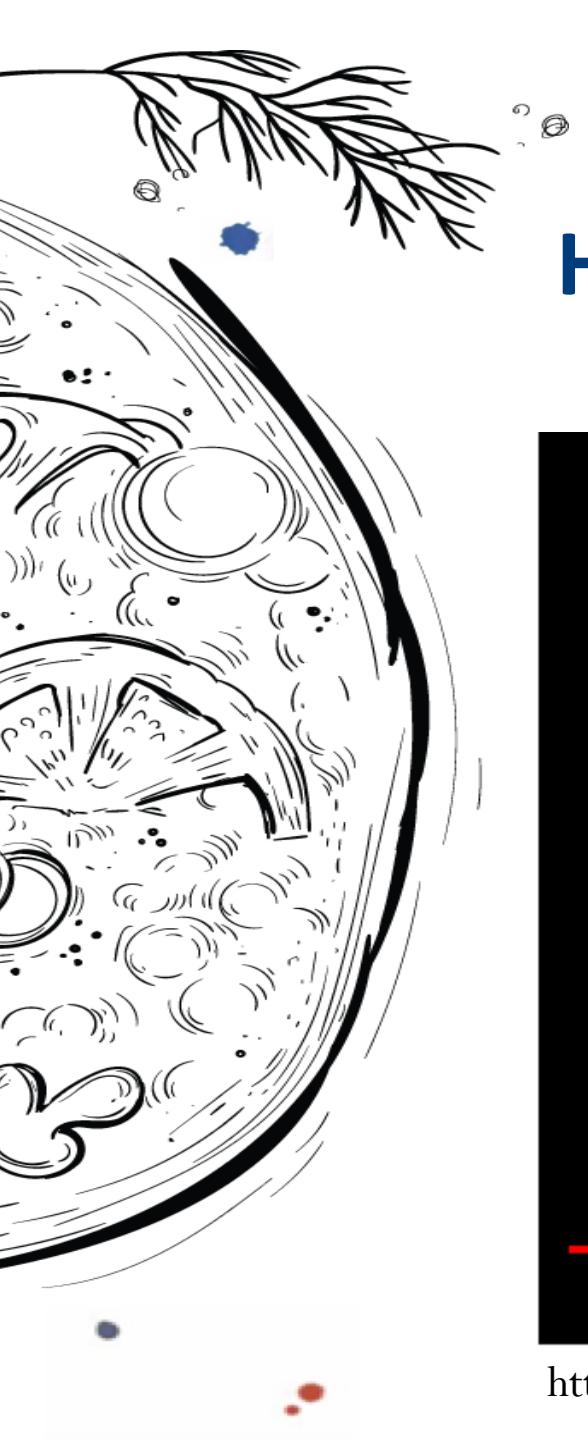


# Hummus War



Hummus Wars: Yotam Ottolenghi & Rachel Shabi Debate The Dip

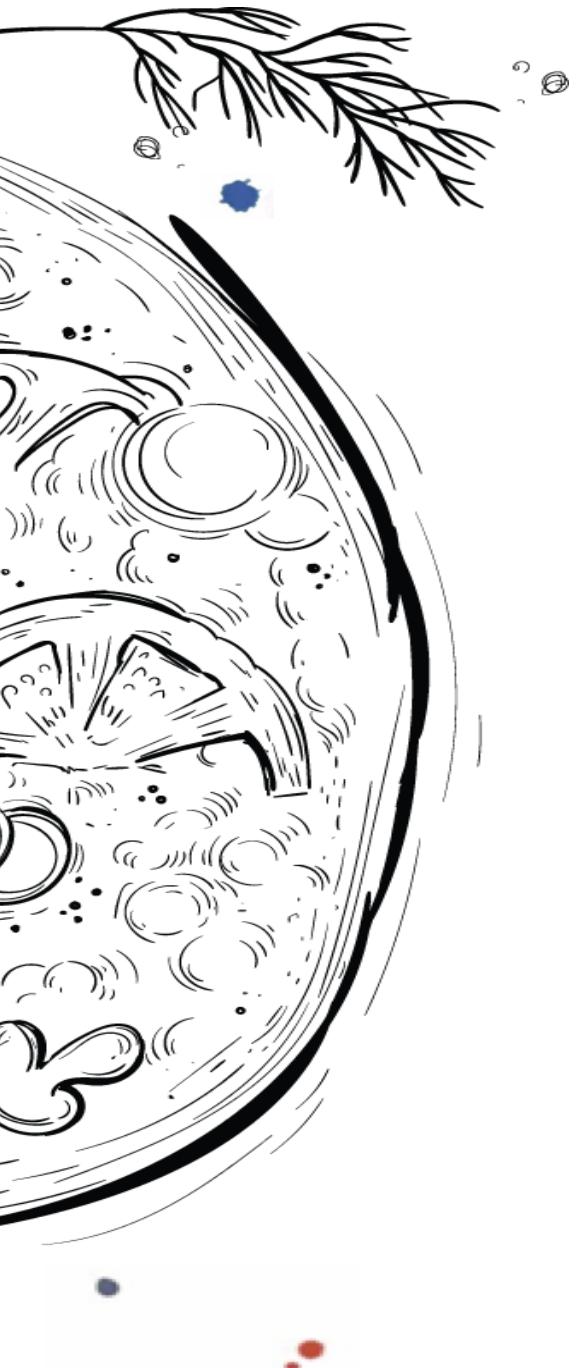
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocjrNkT\\_vV8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocjrNkT_vV8)



# Hummus War



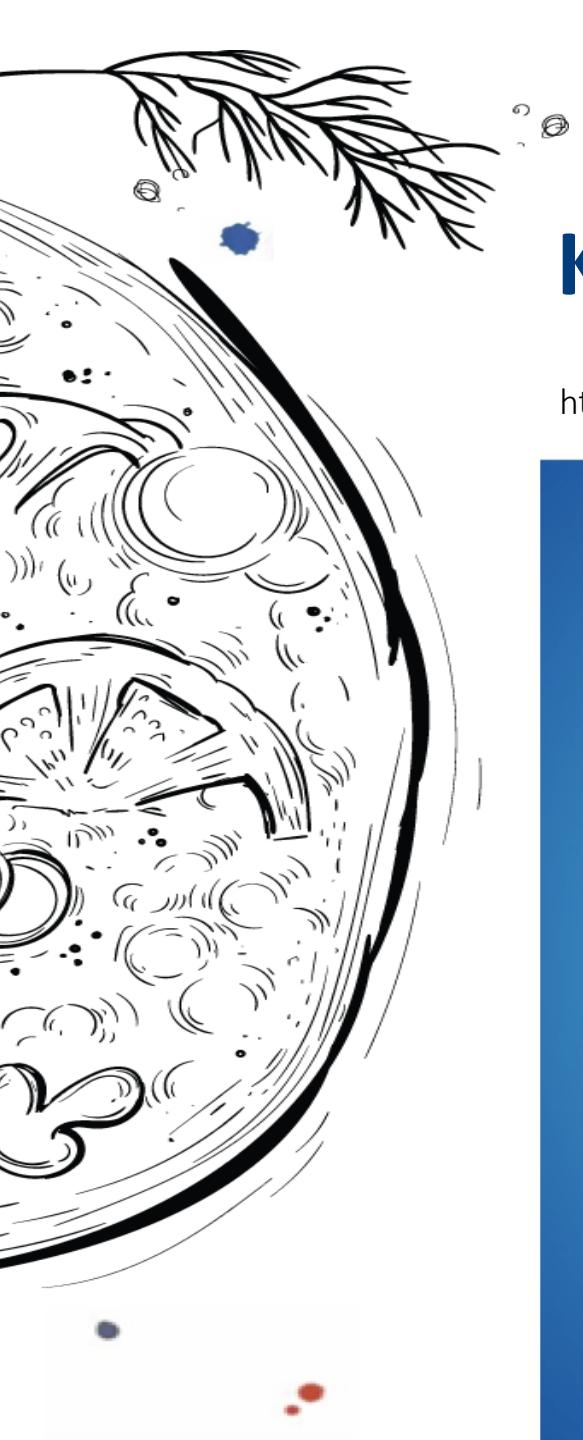
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jmUztVDhCs>



# Ari Ariel

The Hummus Wars



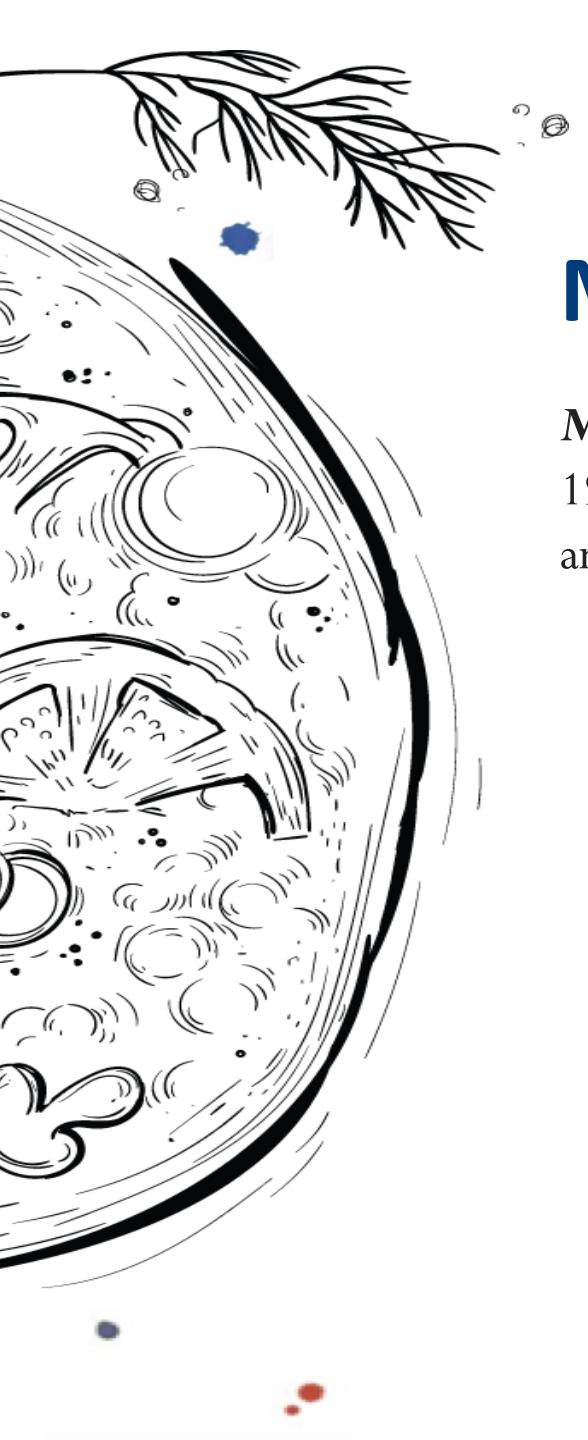


# Kosher, for eexample

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifKFC4jYqS8>



[getkosher.com](http://getkosher.com)  
ORDER YOUR FAVORITE



# Marvin Harris

**Marvin Harris** (August 18, 1927 – October 25, 2001) was an American anthropologist.



Students divide in the 2 reading groups

Group 1: Harris (Religion)

Group 2: Ariel (Nationalism)

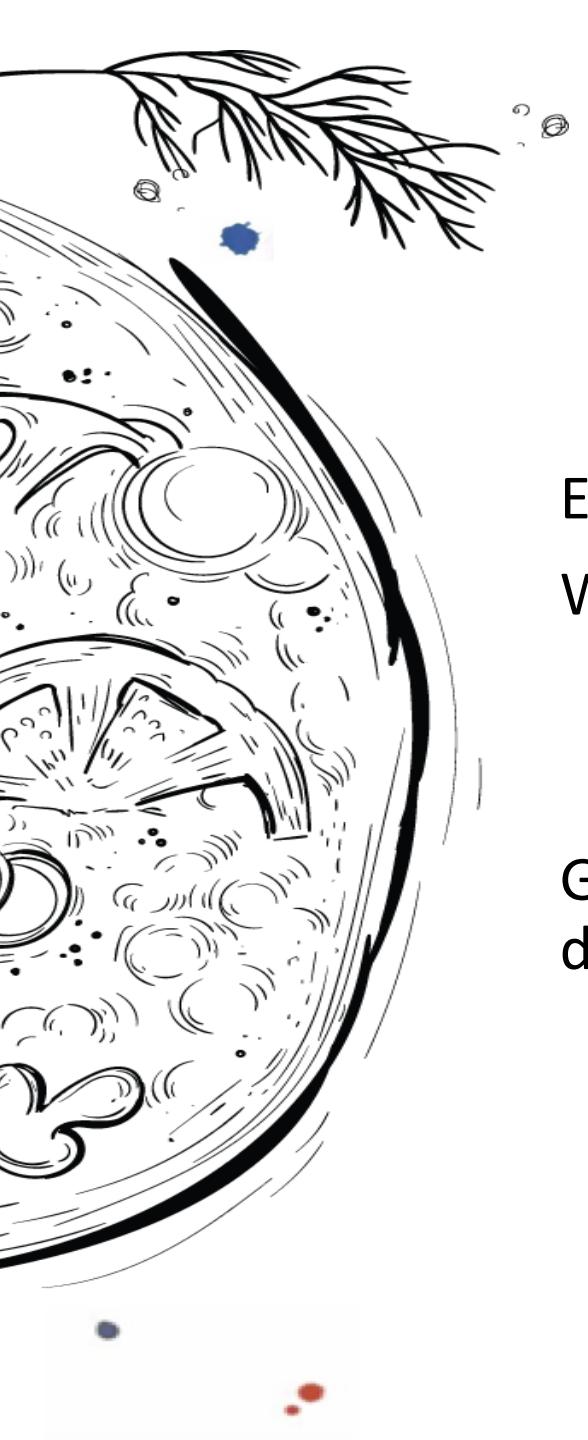


Discuss key messages and issues from the text which are relevant when studying food and identity

Discuss specific sections or concepts of today's text that you find particularly difficult and try to answer or comment of these together in the group

What are some of the arguments of todays reading

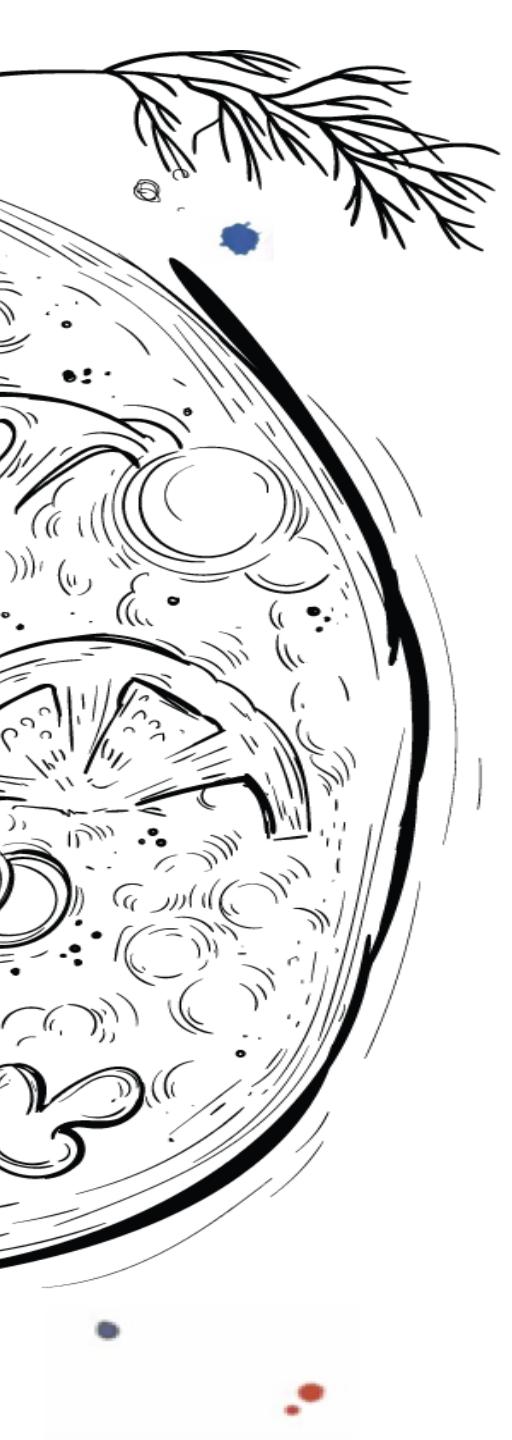




Each group gets a new reading about the same topic.

What have other anthropologist said about religion or nationalism ?

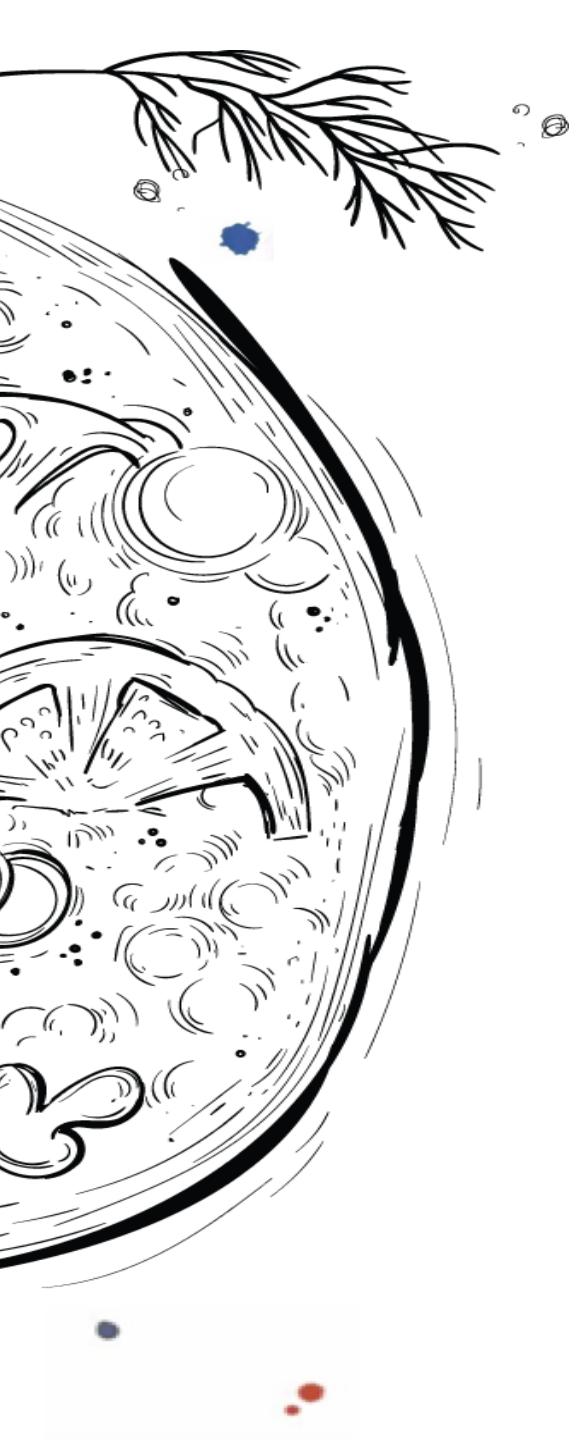
Goal: Students are expected to be able to present and compare different theories to peers



## 9 groups

Students presents how different researchers/anthropologists have studied food and identity. What are their key messages, arguments, relevant quotes?

How can these discussions about nationality, religion and belonging be used/applied in your own work or outside life?



# Mary Douglas



Mary Douglas (25 March 1921 – 16 May 2007) was a British anthropologist

# Mary Douglas

*"If the proposed interpretation of the forbidden animals is correct, the dietary laws would have been like signs, which at every turn inspired meditation on the oneness, **purity** and completeness of God".*

*Purity and Danger: An Analysis of Concepts of Pollution and Taboo, 1966.*

- Danger refer to things that cross boundaries, that are **out of place**
- Purity has nothing to do with clean, but with what is considered, **true, right, belonging**

*"Human beings understand the world around them by deviding it into binary categories"* **Right/Wrong**  
Mary Douglas, 1966

**MATTERS AND BEING  
INTHE RIGHT OR WRONG  
PLACE**



## *Right and wrong in relation to food*

- Douglas shows the ways in which norms regarding suitable dining partners reflect patterns of social relations and the ideas about "*different degrees of hierarchy, inclusion and exclusion, boundaries and transactions across the boundaries, like sex, the taking of food has a social component, as well as a biological one*".
- "taxonomic anomaly"

# Marvin Harris

- Food taboos from a materialistic critique
- Rational examples; bacteria, undercooked meat, , worms
- Cud-chewing, split-hoof makes less sense to Harris

## **Freidenreich writes about religion ...**

- as identity making function
- as a way create an image of Us and Them through, among other, food
- as something which creates, *Commensality-based regulations* (religion regulates food-related interactions)

He refers to,

- Lévi-Strauss - Food is not merely good to eat but "good to think",
- Benedict Anderson, Douglas, Fischler, etc.