

**NUTR 400/500**

# **FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY:**



## **Understanding, Measuring, and Reimagining Nutrition Assistance in the U.S.**

*If you care about how food-related safety nets succeed—or fail—this seminar offers tools to understand today's landscape and imagine a better one.*

**CREDIT: 1**  
**Spring 2026**  
**Wednesdays**  
**1:30–2:20 p.m.**

### **INSTRUCTORS:**

Jennifer Otten & Marie Spiker

## **How is food and nutrition security defined, measured, and funded in the United States—and how do those choices shape real-world hunger and health?**

This seminar explores the nation's major nutrition assistance programs—SNAP, WIC, school meals, and the charitable food system. Learn how these programs work, who they reach, and why their impacts vary across states and communities.

Sessions explore what happens when these systems face pressure: political fights over what SNAP can buy, the sudden end of major national food security surveys, food banks stretched to the breaking point, and the fallout of the 2025 federal shutdown.

Co-led by Jennifer Otten and Marie Spiker, who lead the Washington State Food Security Survey series.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Email [ugnutr@uw.edu](mailto:ugnutr@uw.edu)



All UW students, faculty, and staff are welcome - Check MyPlan for location