

Food Computing

Special Seminar (Specseminārs)

Lecturer: Maija Kāle, B Sc in Entrepreneurship and Business Administration, SSE Riga; Master of Arts in Social Sciences, University of Freiburg and Kwa-Zulu Natal University

Apply by writing to: majja.kale@lu.lv

Time and Space: Online in MS Teams every Monday 6pm-9pm (EET), starting from 20th February, 2023

Working language: English

Requirements for passing the course: attended at least 50% of classes, presented 2 articles and prepared and pitch a business idea.

Overview

Companies are innovating every aspect of how food gets consumed—from kitchen robots and self-ordering kiosks to alt protein and waste-saving AI—to help restaurants and consumers alike adapt to post-pandemic dining habits and preferences (read more [here](#).)

Also, in academia we see rise of new research disciplines focused on food research, such as food computing that is an interdisciplinary field, which in a broad sense encompasses food-related studies performed via computer science. In order to understand the rationale behind various food related issues, food computing has grasped the opportunities opened through web revolution: social networks, mobile networks, and internet of things (IoT), which allow their users to easily share food images, recipes, cooking videos, or record food diaries, creating large-scale food datasets (see more [here](#)).

What drives the increased interest in food in business and research communities? Food choice and food consumption play an important role in public health. Obesity, type 2 diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases are just a few of the health problems acquired due to the nutritional specifics of contemporary consumers. In addition to that loss of biodiversity and climate change poses new challenges on so called planetary health.

This course aims to inspire students to investigate cross-sectoral research areas such as food, recognize opportunities and challenges that interdisciplinary research poses, as well as to exercise their mind in business related thinking in the area of food, human and planet's health.

Following newest food computing research communities and seeing their work, we will discuss the latest trends in research and science related to food, and strengthen international network of students and researchers working with this topic.

Students will receive a list of articles that are foundational for food computing area, as well as during our meetings that will be held online, students will hear about the newest in food entrepreneurship area that intensively uses computing methods, big data and provides various ideas for algorithms.