

Canadian Food Studies

La Revue canadienne des
études sur l'alimentation

Editorial

News from *Canadian Food Studies* / *La Revue canadienne des études sur l'alimentation*

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Over the course of 2025, the *Canadian Food Studies* / *La Revue canadienne des études sur l'alimentation* (CFS/RCÉA) Management Team has been working on two important projects: a new podcast, *Digesting Food Studies* / *Concentré d'études sur l'alimentation*

(DFS/CÉSA), that draws on journal articles and issues, and a new Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy aimed at addressing the effects of this transformational technology and offering guidance on its use throughout the editorial process.

Introducing the CFS/RCÉA podcast!

Launched in September, 2025, [*Digesting Food Studies* / *Concentré d'études sur l'alimentation*](#) is a podcast series that extends the reach of CFS/RCÉA, bringing our authors' great work into the ears (and hearts and stomachs) of new and existing audiences. Each episode features three segments, all focussed on a specific article or themed section from the journal's archives. Starting things off, David Szanto and Alexia Moyer (the journal's

co-Managing Editors) talk about a cultural object or historical text that is related to the article or theme in question. This segment—titled the “Amuse Bouche”—brings in a food humanities perspective, which then leads into David's conversation with the episode's featured author(s) or editor(s). “Chewing on Research” unpacks the article or issue in a high-level way, showing how key concepts in Food Studies can be understood in

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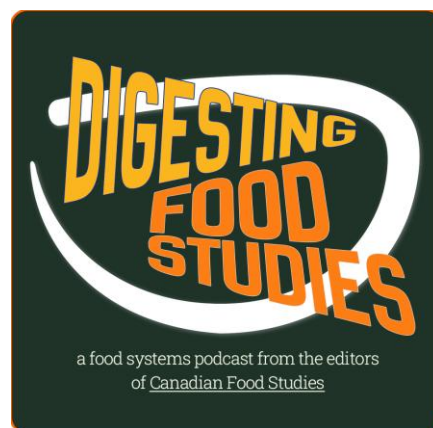
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classrooms, boardrooms, or dining rooms. A final segment, the “After Taste,” features a Food Studies graduate or undergrad student responding to the article in their own words—a further interpretation (and example) of how to use journal content in different spaces and to diverse ends.

As wide-ranging as the journal itself, the first season of 20 episodes covers themes from food justice to sustainability to intercultural identity, from the technologies of agriculture to the relationships embedded in Indigenous foodways. A variety of formats are highlighted—research articles, artworks, audio-visual works, and perspectives. Two of the author conversations are presented in French—with English transcript translations provided—and authors and

readers come from across the breadth of Canada and Indigenous Territories. As a tool for teaching, a guide for new researchers, or inspiration for practitioners and activists, DFS/CÉSA aims to bridge the gap between academese and everyday eating, while also reaching new readers and authors, broadening the impact of our community’s work.

Funding for the podcast is provided in part by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Lakehead University, and the Canadian Association for Food Studies. Listeners can access the episodes at foodstudies.info/podcast or through their favourite podcasting platforms.



AI Policy

Generative AI entered the world of academic publishing at a rapid pace over the last two or three years. While tools such as ChatGPT and Copilot are fairly new, their impacts on thinking, writing, editing, and publishing are already fundamental and undeniable, as well as unclear. In this context, all actors within the sector are grappling to find the best way to deal with a rapidly evolving technology, adopting postures ranging from an enthusiastic embrace to a

quiet refusal. It is a complex field, invested in by a diversity of entities including: private actors who have financial interests in pushing for a more intensive use of AI in academic publishing, and who promise that the use of AI can ease the whole process; governments and funding agencies who tend to adopt a careful posture while promoting the use and sometimes development of AI; and smaller, non-profit actors such as

CFS/RCÉA, who seek to find their way through the complex AI landscape, often with few resources.

Reflections on the impact of AI in general and ChatGPT in particular emanate from the editorial committees of journals. These include both large and small publications, from a wide variety of disciplines such as medicine (e.g. Dupps, 2023; Wenn and Wang, 2023), accounting (Gendron et al., 2022; 2024; Ghio, 2024), education (Atkinson, 2025), energy research (Grimaldi & Ehrler, 2023), information science and technology (Lund & al., 2023), and now Food Studies. Some commentaries point towards the advantages of AI, mostly in terms of efficient knowledge production and writing, the capacity to effectively translate among languages, and the potential to streamline the publishing process as a whole. Discourses related to the risks of AI tend to be more diverse and nuanced, and are closely tied to the specificities of each discipline. Plagiarism and factual inaccuracies in AI-generated text are one concern. The risks of cultural and political biases that distort the ideas generated have also been noted. More critical voices also point out the fundamentally negative impacts on publishing, like the mechanization of processes that were originally more organic, such as the selection of reviewers (Gendron et al., 2024). Other voices note the decline in human involvement at all stages of publication (Gendron et al., 2022), as well as effects on the integrity of knowledge production. There are also significant worries tied to

the major environmental impact of AI—electricity and coolant usage—its political instrumentalization, issues of copyright and authorship, and inequalities in its access and use, just to name a few.

If there is one thing that everybody agrees on, it is that the landscape is evolving quickly in terms of the available technology, the way it is used by different groups, and the policy adopted by universities and other institutions. It is within this context that the CFS/RCÉA Management Team, in consultation with the Editorial Collective and the CAFS Board of Directors, have put in place a policy on the use of AI for the journal. The policy applies both to submissions for publication and to peer-reviewer reports. Efforts were made to remain open to the benefits of using AI tools—improving article structure and writing style, for example—largely in acknowledgement of the wide range of usages already in place. At the same time, the policy is intended to maintain the centrality of human criticality, relationality, and intersubjectivity, while mitigating the evident problems that generative AI embeds—cultural and political biases, invented references, and falsehoods, among others.

The policy, [which can be read on the CFS/RCÉA website](#), includes a requirement to complete a [disclosure statement](#) if AI tools are used in the creation of a given submission or review. We wish to remain flexible and as our collective relationship to AI changes, we will also adapt the policy as necessary.

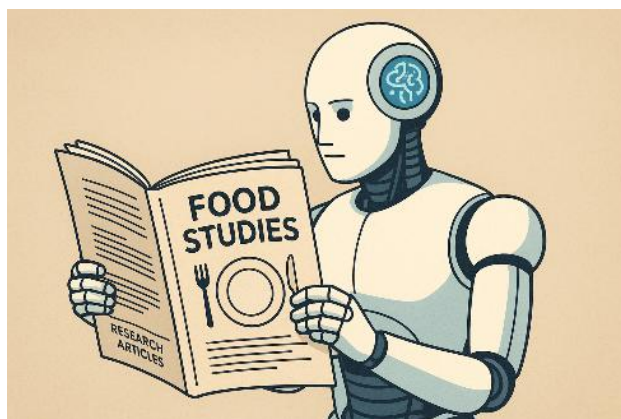


Image: Developed by ChatGPT.
Prompt: create an image of artificial intelligence running an academic journal about food studies called CFS/RCÉA

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