

El Colegio Mexiquense, A.C., Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia-Xalapa, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa, Instituto de Estudios Históricos y Sociales de La Pampa, CONICET-Universidad Nacional de La Pampa.

Invite to the Permanent Seminar

From the subsoil to the table:

agro-industry and the construction of modern food systems in the 20th century

The Permanent Seminar “From Subsoil to Table: Agroindustry and the Construction of Modern Food Systems” is an interdisciplinary forum that aims to foster discussion, analysis, and reflection on the transformations in food production, processing, distribution, and consumption from the mid-19th century to the early 21st century. This seminar builds on the work conducted between May 2024 and June 2025, which brought together over twenty specialists. They explored the geographical, environmental, energy, technical, and cultural changes that have shaped contemporary food systems and consumer societies. The ongoing seminar will focus on one of the major contradictions of modernity: the apparent abundance provided by current food systems in contrast to the limited diversity often hidden by industrial processes.

To encourage ongoing discussion, we invite academics and graduate students to present their research, either completed or ongoing, in virtual or hybrid sessions scheduled from August 2026 to September 2027. The seminar will focus on thematic areas encompassing all processes involved in food production, transformation, and consumption, from the farm to the table. Proposals will be received, evaluated, accepted, and scheduled by the seminar coordinator.

Key dates and methodology:

- 1) Submission of proposals for presentations, March-May 2026
- 2) Proposals will be accepted for the presentation of books published within the last two years (by spring 2024).
- 3) Proposals for presentations should include the following information: the author's details, registration and contact details, the presentation title, and an abstract. The abstract must outline the objective, research questions, examples, and methodology, and should be no longer than one page. It is essential that the proposal is based on original and unpublished research. For book proposals, please include the author's name(s), title, an abstract, ISBN, and the year and place of publication.
- 4) Accepted proposals will receive notification by email no later than June 15, 2026.
- 5) The proposals will be evaluated by one or two reviewers whose academic backgrounds match the research proposal. A process similar to that used for book presentations will be implemented.
- 6) The sessions may be offered in a hybrid or virtual format using the Zoom platform of the Colegio Mexiquense, A.C
- 7) Simultaneous translation will be available during the presentation when it is delivered in English.

Email address for submitting proposals or requests for additional information
netzagtz@email.com; ngutierrez@cmq.edu.mx