THE GSL COOKBOOK

Edited by David J. Braunegg

This cookbook contains recipes prepared for the GSL (Graduate Student Lunch) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Artificial Intelligence Laboratory.

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First Edition
Preface

This book is intended to help GSL (Graduate Student Lunch) volunteers prepare a GSL. The GSL recipes in this book have been used successfully at past GSL. These recipes can be used directly or be simply considered guidelines for the quantities of food needed to feed 75 hungry graduate students.

I have tried to leave the recipes in the original words of the authors. Changes were only made for the sake of clarity and consistency.

When I have been able to attribute a GSL recipe to one person, that person’s name is listed. If more than one person hosted a GSL that did not rely on a single recipe, all the people involved are listed.

In order to encourage the tradition of interesting GSL meals, this cookbook was compiled. The section entitled *GSL Recipes* contains recipes which were actually used in past GSL’s along with occasional hints for what might have been done differently. The *HELP Recipes* section contains recipes originally from the Help database on OZ. Finally, the *Other Lab Recipes* section contains a few favorite recipes from lab members willing to share them with us. Additions to this book from future GSL’s as well as favorite recipes of graduate students, faculty, and staff are welcome.

This cookbook is dedicated to those proud GSL volunteers who, over the years, have kept MIT’s Computer Science graduate students well-fed (at least for one meal out of the week). A special thanks goes to the GSL coordinators past and present, as well as the administration officials who find the money for this grand event.

DJB
Cambridge, Massachusetts
August 15, 1988
Acknowledgments

I would like to acknowledge Professor Patrick H. Winston, director of the MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, for his support of the Graduate Student Lunch program over the years. Patrick Winston and the AI Lab are also thanked for the resources used to prepare this cookbook.

I would also like to acknowledge the help and dedication of the GSL coordinators and volunteers past, present, and to come. Without them, we would all be a bit thinner.
# Table of Contents

Preface .................................................. i  
Acknowledgments ........................................ ii  
GSL History ............................................. 1  
GSL Recipes ............................................. 19  
  Dun Dun Mein (Dun Dun Noodles) ............... 20  
  Chili ................................................. 21  
  Jambalaya ........................................... 23  
  Gingersnaps ........................................ 25  
  Tacos, Burritos, and Enchiladas ............... 26  
  Carnivorous and Vegetarian Chili ............. 28  
  Chicken Soup with Matzo Balls ................. 30  
  Lamb and Barley Soup .............................. 31  
  Lentil Stew ......................................... 32  
  Poached Chicken Breast with Thai Peanut Sauce and Noodles  
  Franks and Beans ................................... 36  
  Chef’s Salad ....................................... 37  
  Chicago Chili and Vegetable Soup ............. 38  
  South Indian Cuisine ............................... 39  
HELP Recipes .......................................... 41  
  Help Banana ....................................... 42  
  Help Cheesecake .................................... 43  
  Help Peking-Ravioli ............................... 44  
Other Lab Recipes .................................... 47  
  Brownies .......................................... 48  
  Georgia Ice Cream ................................ 49  
  Jan’s Blonde Brownies ............................. 50  
  Javanese Spiced Pork .............................. 51
GSL History
The GSL is part of an arrangement between MIT’s Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (AI Lab) and Laboratory for Computer Science (LCS). LCS pays for the weekly Faculty and Research Staff luncheon (Faculty Feed) and the AI Lab in turn pays for the weekly Graduate Student Lunch (GSL). The Faculty Feed serves as an excuse for the faculty to gather and plot evil deeds against the grad students, such as orals, area exams, and the like. The GSL provides the grad students with the opportunity to get together to commiserate their sad fate and to plot revenge.

Actually, the GSL is intended to promote interaction between graduate students in the various areas of computer science (Course VI, Area II) who might not otherwise have any contact. Therefore, contrary to popular belief, technical discussions are not forbidden at GSL’s, but are actually encouraged. Early on, a typical GSL consisted of simple sandwich materials, and a free-for-all would ensue immediately upon arrival of the food. Typically, a grad student arriving at 12:01 PM would have a tasty lunch of a hand sandwich (a piece of bread held in the hand) and a few potato chip crumbs. After a budget increase, sufficient food was available so that a more civilized approach could be enforced—a food line (queue for you Anglophiles) was introduced. Recent years saw more budget increases and the quality and quantity of food provided at the GSL’s has improved.

Table 1 contains a list of past GSL coordinators, as can best be recalled by Walter Hamscher. [Please send me any corrections or additions. — Ed.]

A tradition of humorous GSL announcements has developed over the years. Some of these announcements were pure whimsy, while others were based on actual seminar announcements. Of late, it has become quite an honor to have one’s seminar parodied in a GSL announcement. Some of the more memorable GSL announcements (and a few replies) are collected on the following pages.
GSL History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
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<td>F 80</td>
<td>Daniel Weise ?</td>
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<td>S 81</td>
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<td>Kären Wieckert</td>
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<td>S 83</td>
<td>Peter Andreae ?</td>
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<tr>
<td>F 83</td>
<td>Walter Hamscher</td>
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<td>S 84</td>
<td>Walter Hamscher</td>
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<td>F 84</td>
<td>Walter Hamscher</td>
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<td>S 85</td>
<td>Walter Hamscher (hack announcements start in earnest)</td>
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<tr>
<td>F 85</td>
<td>Walter Hamscher</td>
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<td>S 86</td>
<td>Walter Hamscher</td>
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<td>F 86</td>
<td>Elisha Sacks</td>
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<td>S 87</td>
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<td>F 87</td>
<td>Bonnie Dorr and David Braunegg</td>
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<td>S 88</td>
<td>Bonnie Dorr and David Braunegg</td>
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<td>F 88</td>
<td>David Braunegg</td>
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<td>S 89</td>
<td>David Braunegg</td>
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Table 1. GSL coordinators over the years.

>From walter Thu Mar  1 10:00:31 1984
To: *mac@mc
Subject: GRADUATE STUDENT LUNCH
Cc: bboard.mail

Computer Aided Conceptual Art (CACA)
Eternally Evolving Seminar Series
presents

YOKO: A Random Haiku Generator

Interns gobble oblist hash | We will be discussing YOKO and the
Cluster at operations | related issues of computer modeling
Hidden rep: convert! | of artists, modeling computer artists,
Chip resolve to bits | computer artists' models, computer
Bus cycle inference engine | models of artists' models of computers,
Exposing grey codes | artist's cognitive models of computers,

3
GSL History

Take-grant tinker bucks
Pass oblist message package
Federal express

| artists' models of computer artists,
| modelling of computer artists' cognitive
| models and artist's models of cognition.

Hosts: Claudia Smith and Crisse Ciro

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
Computer Aided Conceptual Art
Evolving Seminar Series presents

SMALLTALK-52 AND THE WHEELER SEND

Recently discovered documents reveal that J.M. Wheeler designed the first version of Smalltalk in 1952. It was intended to run on the University of Cambridge’s EDSAC Computer. The initial implementation, however, required the entire 512-word memory and was deemed infeasible. Wheeler, who is credited with the invention of bootstrap code, subroutine calls, assemblers, linkers, loaders, and all-night hacking, can now be properly credited with inventing message passing, object oriented programming, window systems, and impractical languages.

This fascinating historical discussion will be hosted by Steve Berlin and will be preceded by Lunch.

Next week: Lady Lovelace’s Encryption Algorithm
ANNALS OF COMPUTER SCIENCE SEMINAR SERIES

Presents

LADY LOVELACE'S ENCRYPTION ALGORITHM

Wkh iluvw frpsxwhu surjudpphu zdv d qlqhwhhqwk0fhqwxuqreohzrpdq/
Odgl Dxjxvwd Dgd Oryhodfh/ gdxjxvwhu ri wkh srhw Orug Elurq.
Dv d whhqdjhu/ Dxjxvwd glvsod|hg dvwrq1vklqj surzhv lq pdwhpdlfv.
Zkhq vkh zdv hljkwhhq dxjxvwd iluvw vdz Fkduohv Ededjhv dqdolwlfdo
hqjlqh/ d fdoxfodwlqj pdfklqh wkdw zdv wkh iruhuxqghu ri wkh prghq
frpsxwhu. Lq hljkwhhq iurw0wzr/ vkh wudqvodwhg d sdshu rq wkh
hqjlqh iurp Iuhsfk wr Hjolvk/ dgglqj khu rqz yroxplqrxv qrwhv. Lq
vxevhtxhqw zulwlqjv vkh ghvfuieh wkh frqfrswv.
GSL History

Date: Thu 26 Apr 84 17:32:46-EST
From: MONTALVO Subject: Video tape from Brown University
To: *bboardcc: MONTALVO
I can say something about the video tape that STRAZ is showing on Mon. from Brown University. I went to the presentation given here by Andy Van Dam. He is a well known figure in computer graphics and he together with Jim Foley from GW Univ. have written the only (correct me if I’m wrong) book on interactive computer graphics and one of the very few textbooks on computer graphics. The talk was on the illustration of hard, computer science concepts using computer graphics, specifically animation graphics. It was also on how they actually used this system to teach comp. sci. at Brown. I highly recommend the talk.

If you want to know more you can ask me.

Fanya
-------

>From root Thu Apr 26 19:40:03 1984
ReSent-date: Thu 26 Apr 84 19:37:44-EST
ReSent-From: Bernard M. Gunther <SE.BMG%MIT-EECS%MIT-MC.ARPA>
ReSent-To: *bboard@MIT-MC

OVERCROWDING: THE BLACK HOLE OF COURSE VI

Forum for all Course VI students including newly declared froshlings.

Featuring a panel of Course VI faculty and administrators.

Date: May 3rd, 1984
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: 34-101

Bring flames, beefs, tar, and feathers: AUDIENCE DISCUSSION WILL FOLLOW.
Fanya,

I can say something about the GSL that TAR and ELISHA are doing on Friday (see message below). I went to a GSL last week. Tom and Elisha are well known figures in LCS and are doing the only (correct me if I'm wrong) GSL this week. I highly recommend the food.

If you want to know more you can copy HTVAX:/projects/gsl.txt.

Walter

--------

From walter@mit-htvax Thu Apr 19 12:40:02 1984
Date: 25 Apr 1984 12:34:36-EST
From: walter@mit-htvax
To: *mac@mc
Subject: GSL

OVEREATING: THE BLACK HOLE OF GRADUATE COURSE VI

Forum for all Course VI Area II graduate students.

Featuring a flock of vultures in a feeding frenzy:
You have to be there to see it!

Date: May 27th, 1984
Time: 12:00 Noon
Place: AI Lab Playroom

Tom Russ and Elisha Sacks will moderate.
The MIT Playroom Eating Club presents

SCARFING for beginners
and a professional workshop in
GLUTTONY

Workshop | Time     | Prerequisite
---------|----------|------------------
Beginning | 12:01-12:10 | No previous experience (No food either).
Professional | 11:55-12:01 | Beginning workshop or familiarity w/ basic hogging

Join us in the AI Lab Playroom (the big room 3 floors directly above the LCS Student Lounge) at 12 noon on Friday, March 23rd for ten minutes of intense pigging out. See you there!

This week's trough will be filled by Bonnie Dorr and Dave Braunegg. If you want to volunteer to provide food for this weekly event, please get in touch with Walter in NE43-825 (office) or NE43-825 (home).
PLAUSIBLE HAIRSTYLE GENERATION:
THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF EURISCO, PART I

Blackstone Le Mot

As AI programs have been reported more widely in the popular media, they have been called upon to perform tasks that have heretofore gone unnoticed by AI researchers. Proper hair care is one of these tasks. In this talk I will discuss the application of EURISKO to developing healthy hair and attractive styling. Remarkably enough, the program itself has modified itself to represent characteristics of the domain, by developing hair in its control structure and a significant bald spot in its documentation. But it loooooks maaahvelous!
PLAUSIBLE POSITION GENERATION:
THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF EURISKO, PART II

Blackstone Le Mot

This talk was to be the second in a series describing the application of EURISKO, a discovery program, to non-traditional domains. In this case the domain was position generation, in which the program is given some knowledge of geometry, anatomy, and the first 37 pages of the Kama Sutra. The talk is canceled, however, because the slides have not yet been cleared with Dean McBay and the Ad Hoc Committee. Hence we instead skip to the third and final talk in this series:

TARGET SELECTION:
THE LAST ADVENTURE OF EURISKO, PART III

Traditional strategic thinking, i.e. from Clausewitz to the present day, emphasizes the need to bring maximum destructive force to bear on the enemy's armed forces and industrial centers to ensure a swift end to hostilities. Present day weapons systems have been characterized as "eggshells armed with hammers," suggesting that in the event of hostilities, targets must be swiftly chosen, in time-frames requiring automated response, to avoid the loss of precious megatonnage. In this experiment we used EURISKO to choose targets in simulated nuclear exchanges, with extremely exciting results.
In connection with the Last Adventures of EURISKO, I once observed to Lenat that it wouldn't actually be a major step for Eurisko to simulate something like the final scene of the movie "War Games". It would be learning properties of game trees by experimenting with simulations of individual games. One property inferred might be the "positive-sum", "zero-sum", "negative-sum" character of games. If you had programmed it to consider game-playing as a selectable activity among several, contributing to an overall utility function, then discovering that a game was not only negative-sum, but wouldn't even let an individual break even, could allow Eurisko to formulate a rule against playing that game. So the movie wasn't that far off base, eh? There might be one or two remaining technical problems, of course ...

Ben
Hello,

I saw a notice by you in Ken Laws AI Digest about a EURISKO seminar. Are there any notes on the seminars? I assume I may never see the interesting work related to the Kama Sutra positions, but hopefully the first and third seminars might be available.

Is EURISKO available to try experiments?

THANKS,
<name>
<address>
<telephone number>
<net address>

To: <name withheld to protect the gullible>
Subject: Re: EURISKO SEMINAR

Umm, well... I'm going to treat this as a serious request, though I know there's a possibility you're just hacking me...

Those messages are joke announcements for Graduate Student Lunch, a weekly institution in the MIT AI Lab/Lab for Computer Science, and there is no (CACA) seminar series, nor is there a working version of Eurisko around here. I only send the announcements to '*mac@mc', which is a building-local mailing list, but somebody (Ken Laws?) always seems to forward the things all across the Arpanet. Causing some confusion, I gather.

If you're truly interested in using Eurisko to generate
GSL History

hairstyles or select targets, get in touch with Doug Lenat himself. I believe that's DLenat@XEROX.ARPA.

Sorry...
Walter Hamscher

Date: 2 Mar 1985 1050-PST
From: <name withheld to protect the gullible>
Subject: Re: EURISKO SEMINAR
To: hamscher@MIT-HTVAX

In response to your message sent Fri, 1 Mar 85 12:48:32 est

Thanks for the reply; my request was HOPE not Hack.

I did pick up the notice via Ken Laws AI messages.

So far I have not had any luck in finding a copy of EURISKO.
I will try Doug Lenat again. I thought he was at MCC.

Thanks again,
<name>
The classical approach to decision analysis in medicine has been based on constructing decision trees, giving numerical weights to outcomes, and banging away at the keys of an ordinary 16-key calculator to choose between appropriate therapies. Some of the weaknesses in this approach can be avoided by using a QUALITATIVE CALCULATOR (c) from Ronco.

Envision yourself with a QUALITATIVE CALCULATOR (c) -- A QUALITATIVE CALCULATOR especially designed for Naive Physicists. Comes with [+], [-], and [0] keys, plus a Clear key and a DeClear key. Was $20.99, marked down to [+]. But wait -- There's more! Qual before [0] tonight and get a free State Map for your locality. Operators are standing by! Don't miss this landmark value!

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

The following (serious) announcement comes courtesy of Prof. Randy Davis:

In a time when near-term applications of AI have received considerable attention and reward, it is encouraging to announce the first award of the Philip A. Cooper Fellowship, designed to recognize important progress on fundamental
research in AI. The Fellowship has been made available through the generosity of Philip A. Cooper (SM '84), as a result of his feeling that commercial enterprises have a responsibility to support basic research, the exploration of important advances on fundamental problems, ideas whose significance lies in the insight they provide rather than potential near-term application.

The Award this year is being made jointly to ... 

Come to the GSL this week and find out, when the presentation is made.

+++++++++++++++++++++++.. . . . .. ++++++++++++++++++++++.+++ .

The following (also serious) announcement comes from me:

Many, many thanks to everyone who helped with GSL this year. Thanks to Patrick Winston for footing the bill and Spaulding & Slye for cleaning up afterwards. Thanks to Bonnie Dorr and Dave Braunegg for coaxing volunteers and filling in during emergencies. Thanks to ADS@oz, BECKERLE@xx, BG@xx, CHIEN@xx, CRISSE@oz, DMS@oz, DTC@oz, ELAN@mc, ELISHA@mc, GASP@mc, GERSTEN@oz, HJH@ht, HLV@oz, KAP@oz, KASH@oz, KT@xx, LUCASSEN@xx, MARTY@oz, MEC@oz, MHS@mc, MICHAELG@oz, MPW@mc, NSING@oz, RAG@mc, REID@oz, SANDIWAY@oz, STAMOS@xx, SUNDAR@oz, TAR@mc, TUTTLE@xx, WELD@oz, WILLIAMS@oz, and anybody else I've unintentionally forgotten, for doing all the good work. Thanks to you, it's edible!

The next GSL will be on Friday, September 13th. See ya there!

Date: Fri, 17 May 85 09:16:17 EST
From: Benjamin Kuipers <BEN@MIT-MC>
Subject: QUALITATIVE CALCULATOR (c)
To: hamscher@MIT-HTVAX
Cc: BEN@MIT-MC

Please send me a new Qualitative Calculator (c) by return mail!
GSL History

I've been waiting for years for it to go on sale. I use my old one all the time, but it broke (the DeClear key sticks), and I haven't known how to replace it.

I enclose the advertised price, plus shipping and handling: 

\[ [+ \] + [+ \] = [+ \].

I wait eagerly for my new Qualitative Calculator.

Yours,

T.T.

Date: Sun, 19 May 85 08:06 PDT
From: dekleer.pa@Xerox.ARPA
Subject: REVOLTING SEMINAR FRIDAY AT NOON
To: hamscher@mit-htvax@mit-mc.ARPA

re. QUALITATIVE CALCULATORS IN CLINICAL DECISION MAKING

It looks like you are spending all your time writing these witty abstracts. When are you going to do your PhD?

;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;

That last message, by the way, was the one that finally got me out of the GSL business.
GSL Recipes
Dun Dun Mein (Dun Dun Noodles)
Ken Traub and assorted others
GSL on numerous occasions

(From The Chinese Restaurant Cookbook, by Barbara Myers)

NOODLES

\frac{1}{4} \text{ lb Fresh or Frozen Noodles (or 3 ounces dried)}
1 \text{ tsp Sesame Oil}

Cook the noodles in unsalted boiling water until just tender. Drain and rinse with cold water until cool, then dribble the sesame oil over them to keep them from sticking together.

SEASONING SAUCE

1 \text{ Tbs Sesame Paste}
1 \text{ Tbs Chicken Broth}
2 \text{ tsp Peanut Oil}
1 \text{ tsp Chili Oil}
1\frac{1}{2} \text{ tsp Dark Soy Sauce}
1 \text{ tsp Vinegar}
1\frac{1}{2} \text{ tsp Sugar}
1 \text{ clove Garlic, Finely Chopped}

Combine seasoning sauce ingredients in the order given. The sauce is easier to prepare if the broth is hot, but the sauce should be chilled to room temperature before serving.

1 \text{ Scallion (green part)}

Cut scallion into \frac{1}{4}-inch rings. Place the sauce in the bottom of a bowl, cover with the noodles, and top with scallions. Serve at room temperature or colder. Yield: one serving.

(The original recipe for the sauce also called for MSG and Szechuan Preserved Vegetable. I think the former unnecessary, and the latter not worth the trouble. Peanut butter may be substituted for the sesame paste: the result is somewhat mellower, but not appreciably different in taste. Middle eastern sesame paste (Tahini) does not make an acceptable substitute for Chinese Sesame Paste.)
This amount of materials made about 25 quarts of chili con carne plus about 6 quarts of vegetarian chili. This was almost exactly right to feed a GSL (with more than the usual 60 person turnout) with only small amounts left over. Remember that the total volume of your pots should be somewhat more than this, perhaps 40 quarts, so you don’t end up filling the pots to the brims and/or having to put overflow into additional pots.

- 7 (1 lb?) bags dried chili beans and/or kidney beans
- 12 lbs meat
- 3 28oz cans whole peeled tomatoes
- 4 28oz cans crushed tomatoes
- 10 12oz cans tomato paste (Do NOT get less than this much. You might get a couple more cans to be on the safe side.)
- 6 really big onions
- 3 bulbs garlic
- 8 green peppers
- \(\approx 24\) fresh chili peppers (the mild ones, not jalapeños; this amount could be increased)
- 1 container cayenne powder
- 2 big (1 1/4 oz) containers oregano (of which 1 1/3 were used)
- 2 containers cumin (completely used up; slightly more could have been used)
- 2-4 cups flour
- small amount of corn oil (for cooking onions for veggie pot)

We took three hours to cook the chili, of which it was an hour before the beans were added and could start to cook. This was just sufficient to get them cooked sufficiently: slightly more time might be desirable.

Soak the beans overnight in massive amounts of water. Before soaking, pick them over for rocks and suchlike and rinse them. [Make sure you soak the beans long enough. We had a marginal GSL chili (not this one) where the beans had not soaked long enough. The beans were still hard at 5 that afternoon. — Ed.]

Slice the onions, relatively coarsely.
Chili

Brown the meat, then lightly cook the onions in the meat (don’t need to brown them). For the veggie pot, cook the onions in a little corn oil.

Add the beans together with enough water to just cover them. You might use some of the water they were soaking in. Bring the water to a boil.

⇒ Try to keep all pots boiling, but not violently, from now on. As the mixture is thickened, this may require re-adjustment of the temperature. Stir frequently, both to mix and to reduce the inevitable amount that burns onto the bottom of the pot.

Chop chili peppers into small slivers and add. It is wise to make one pot hotter than the other for variety. Also go easy on the hot peppers in the vegetarian pot, as the meat fat takes up some of the hot oil in the other ones.

Add the oregano.

Chop/crush the garlic as fine as possible and add it.

⇒ The oregano, the garlic, and the chili peppers should be added early, as they need to cook in.

The main thing you are doing now is waiting while the beans cook. During this time, (1) cut up the green peppers coarsely and add them, (2) add the cumin, and (3) add all the tomato ingredients.

About 30 minutes before serving, mix up flour and water into a thick slurry and stir it into the chili. Do this in batches of at most 1/2 cup of flour at a time. The point of this is to thicken the chili and it is optional.

Add cayenne pepper to adjust the hotness. Adjust cumin or oregano if necessary.

Serve with grated cheese (we used perhaps 10 pounds?), saltine crackers, and corn chips.
Jambalaya
Tom Cormen
GSL 11/13/87

Jambalaya is a kitchen sink type of dish, so all amounts are very vague. You just put in as much of each amount as you think you can stand. What’s important is the procedure.

Before cooking the jambo, you should prepare the following ingredients:

- lots of chopped onion
- lots of minced garlic
- chopped scallions
- chopped green peppers
- chopped red peppers and/or pimientos
- chopped jalapeños
- olives
- chickens, boiled then shredded or still in pieces
- pork or ham, cooked and cubed
- sausage, fried and sliced
- shrimp, which is easier to eat if already shelled
- live raw mussels and/or clams

Now you’re ready to cook the jambo. Get the biggest pot you can find. A thick bottom helps avoid burning, although burning on the bottom helps add a smoky flavor that some people seem to like.

Put cooking oil in the bottom of the pot and turn the heat to med-hi. Add the onion, garlic, scallions, peppers, pimientos, jalapeños, and olives, then sauté for a few minutes. Add the remaining ingredients from above.

Now you’re ready to add and cook the rice. Use white rice, which means you want a ratio of 2 liquids to 1 rice. Add rice and liquid, say 1 cup of rice and 2 cups of liquid at a time, until the pot is full enough that there’s plenty of food, but not so full that the jambo will boil over once it’s brought to a boil. For the first 2–4 cups of liquid, use canned crushed tomatoes. For the remainder, use water. Now bring it to a boil, either stirring to avoid burning or not stirring to localize burning on the bottom. If you stir and it still burns, you’ll spread the burned, smoky flavor throughout. Again, a thick-bottomed pot is recommended. Once it boils, reduce the heat to low, stirring as the
Jambalaya

rice cooks. Add black pepper and tabasco sauce as it cooks. Once the rice is cooked, the jambo is done.

Note: Make sure that the rice boils before you reduce the heat. I once made jambo with the pot so full that I was afraid to let the rice boil for fear of the ensuing mayhem. The only mayhem that resulted was that the jambo never cooked, and for weeks and months afterward, disappointed party guests asked me if the jambalaya was ready yet.
Makes 3 dozen

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{2}{3} & \text{ cup vegetable oil} \\
1 & \text{ cup sugar} \\
1 & \text{ egg} \\
\frac{1}{4} & \text{ cup molasses} \\
2 & \text{ cups flour} \\
2 & \text{ tsp baking soda} \\
2 & \text{ Tbs ginger} \\
1\frac{1}{2} & \text{ tsp cinnamon} \\
\frac{1}{2} & \text{ tsp salt}
\end{align*}
\]

Oven temperature 375 degrees

Preheat oven. In a bowl combine oil, sugar, and egg. Mixing well, add molasses and stir again. Add dry ingredients. Mold dough into small (1in diam.) balls and then roll them around on a plate of sugar. Flatten them slightly and arrange 2 inches apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 10 minutes. Do not overcook.

Note: The original recipe called for 1 tablespoon of ginger, but I double the amount because I REALLY like ginger. Also, I usually use one tablespoon each of powdered ginger and finely chopped fresh ginger root. If you do this, make sure it's very finely chopped.
There was really no recipe, just a bunch of taco ingredients: tomatoes, lettuce, shredded cheese, taco sauce, onions, etc. We made taco-seasoned meat (ground beef) as well as some refried beans. If you need exact recipes for the meat and beans, talk to Cliff Stein [see below — Ed.], but it was mostly throw-the-stuff-in-the-pot-and-taste-it-periodically-style of cooking. Finally, we bought taco shells, tortillas, and ice cream.

[From Cliff Stein] I can give you a little more detail on the refried beans.

APPROXIMATE RECIPE:

8 lb beans (pinto, red kidney, white kidney)
4 cloves garlic
4 onions
tomato sauce (Mexican, not Italian)
salsa
corn meal
jalapeño peppers

SPICES:
cumin
red pepper
black pepper
paprika
chili powder
oregano

Sauté the garlic and onions (chopped) in oil for about 5 minutes. Add the beans, tomato sauce, salsa, and jalapeño peppers. It should be the consistency of thick soup. Add spices to taste, use lots of cumin. Bring to boil and lower flame. Let simmer for about 30 minutes, stirring occasionally, and adding spice as necessary. Towards the end, add corn meal to thicken. You will probably need about a half cup. Just add it in and stir, add more if it is not thick enough.
Tacos, Burritos, and Enchiladas

The meat can be done similarly. First pan fry the meat and drain the fat. Add package(s) of taco spices and/or the spices above and then follow the recipe above sans beans.

Serve with taco shells, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, and cheddar cheese.

NOTES:
Most canned refried beans found in stores contain lard. These are NOT vegetarian.

We should have made more beans.
If you use fresh beans (we used canned) soak and cook them according to directions. (They need to soak for a long time, so plan in advance.)
Carnivorous and Vegetarian Chili

James Park, Javed Aslam, Rob Schapire, and Jon Riecke

GSL 2/12/88

(1) CARNIVOROUS CHILI (makes about 30 quarts)

15 pounds ground beef (you could probably get by with less)
5 pounds ground pork
15 cans kidney beans (1 can = 16 oz.)
15 cans whole tomatoes
6 cans corn
1½ bags onions
1½ bulbs garlic
1 green pepper

chili powder
cumin
cayenne pepper	
tobasco sauce
jalepeño peppers

Brown the meat with the onions and garlic, toss everything else in, and simmer until done.

(2) VEGETARIAN CHILI (makes about 10 quarts)
(adapted from the recipe in the Moosewood Cookbook by Mollie Katzen)

2 cups raw bulgar wheat
5 cans kidney beans
5 cans whole tomatoes
2 cans corn
½ bag onions
½ bulb garlic
1 celery
1 green pepper

the same spices as in other recipe
Carnivorous and Vegetarian Chili

Cook the bulgar, sauté the onions and garlic, add everything else, and simmer until done.

We made up both batches of chili the night before (it seems to taste better if you age it a little).

We served the chili with about 15 quarts of rice, plus tortilla chips and salsa, with soda and fruit juices (roughly 15 liters) to drink and ice cream sandwiches for dessert.

Since only about 50–60 people showed up (there was a snowstorm that day), we had leftovers. The amount probably would have been just about right for a more normal 80-person GSL.

We spent just about all of our budget of $145.
Recipe for chicken soup with Matzo balls.

MATZO BALLS

To make the matzo balls, buy a package of Manischevitz matzo balls and follow the directions. Add the prepared balls to the soup when it is almost done.

CHICKEN SOUP

Boil three chickens in about 18 cups of water for 1 hour, with a bunch of dill, two bay leaves, and liberal amounts of salt and pepper. You will probably need to split the soup up into at least two pots.

Remove the chicken and bay leaves. Let the chicken cool, then remove the meat from the skin and bones, and return it to the soup. Add assorted vegetables. For example, you might add 1 pound of carrots, two stalks of broccoli, six stalks of celery, five onions, three turnips, and 1/2 lb of mushrooms. Simmer for about 20 minutes, add the matzo balls, then heat up.

This recipe will take at least two and a half hours, and will feed about 20.

SHORTBREAD

This is good for feeding many people because it is easy to make in large quantities. Mix 12 cups flour, 8 cups sugar, and 4 cups butter. It is best to do this in at least two batches, or it will be hard to mix thoroughly. Spread the mixture on the bottom of a cookie sheet, reserving about 1/4 of the mixture. Then spread jam across the dough, and sprinkle the remainder of the dough over the jam. Bake in a preheated oven at 425 degrees for about 25 minutes. It shouldn't be too soft when you remove it. Cool, then cut into squares. This makes about 120 squares of shortbread.
Lamb and Barley Soup
Laura Bagnall
GSL 2/19/88

2 (5) lamb shanks
1 (2 1/3) cup pearl barley
1 (2 3/4) cup green split peas
2 (5) onions, chopped
2 (5) cloves garlic, peeled and crushed
1 (3) green pepper, cored, seeded & chopped fine
3 1/2 (9) qts water or vegetable broth
1 (2 1/2) Tbs salt
1/4 (3/4) tsp pepper

Put all ingredients into a soup pot. Cover, bring to a boil, then simmer gently for 2 hours. Cut meat from lamb shanks and return meat to kettle. Adjust seasonings to taste. Serve with crusty bread.

Notes: I am giving the recipe in the original quantities with the quantities that I used in parentheses. I made 2-1/2 times the original amount. This filled about two-thirds of a 16-quart pot, and with two other soups there was a lot left over. With two other soups, I would double the recipe and probably fit it in a 10-quart pot. With one other soup, stick with 2-1/2 or 3 times the recipe, and if it was the only soup quadruple the recipe and use 2 or 3 pots. I also allowed somewhat more than 2 hours for simmering. Coming in at 9am and putting the peas, barley and water on the burners immediately while chopping the onions, etc., resulted in the soup being ready by noon. It takes a LONG time to get that much water to boil.

Lamb shanks are the part of a lamb from the knee to the ankle. Because they're mostly bone, they're only good for soup and are very inexpensive. However, they can be hard to find at the neighborhood supermarket. I suggest getting them at Savenor's, a small market/butcher shop near the corner of Beacon St. and Kirkland St. They sell every kind of meat that you can possibly imagine. However, you might want to call up a few days ahead of time to make sure that they'll have it when you come in.

This is a CHEAP recipe. I spent $11 on the lamb and $4 for everything else.
Honestly, there is no recipe for the lentil stew. But here is how I’ll make it the next time I try. (I can’t speak for last time, since I may have forgotten some ingredients since then or added new ones.)

Gather lots ’o roots – sweet potatoes, potatoes, onions, carrots, garlic, and so on. Cut them into bite size chunks, say 2–3 cm³. The details don’t matter, since everything will fall apart in the stew. Use 250–500ml lentils in a 3–4 litre pot filled about half way with water. Cook them until you can gnaw through them without breaking your teeth, but not until you actually enjoy doing so. Then dump in everything else and cook until it’s nice and mooshy. Add water as needed to prevent the stew from solidifying. When there is nothing hard left, through in a half stick of butter. I’m a garlic fan, so I recommend 3–4 large cloves.

While cooking, season with copious dashes of black pepper, cumin, maybe a little basil or fresh parsley, and anything else that smells interesting. Serve with plain yogurt or parmesan cheese, heavy, dark bread, and dark beer. Follow with fresh, crisp salad or fruit to clean the palate. Serves 7–9 battalions.

PS: You can add 50–100ml tomato paste to the water to form a base.
Poached Chicken Breast with Thai Peanut Sauce and Noodles

Cindy Phillips

GSL 3/4/88

We used 12 times this recipe. This is the “real” recipe. We, of course did not use as much chicken or garnishes. I’ll explain below what we really did.

POACHED CHICKEN BREAST WITH THAI PEANUT SAUCE AND NOODLES:

\[ \begin{align*}
&\frac{3}{4} \text{ cup crunchy peanut butter*} \\
&\frac{3}{4} \text{ cup coconut milk} \\
&2 \text{ Tbs soy sauce} \\
&\frac{1}{4} \text{ cup freshly squeezed lemon juice} \\
&2 \text{ Tbs brown sugar} \\
&4 \text{ cloves garlic, pressed or minced} \\
&\text{Salt} \\
&\text{Cayenne pepper} \\
&\frac{1}{4} \text{ cup chicken broth or stock} \\
&\frac{1}{4} \text{ cup whipping cream} \\
&1 \text{ pound mein (Chinese noodle) or other thin pasta} \\
&2 \text{ Tbs peanut oil} \\
&6–8 \text{ scallions, thinly sliced} \\
&3 \text{ whole chicken breasts, skinned, boned, halved, and poached**} \\
&1 \text{ pound snow peas, trimmed, cut into very thin julienne, blanched until crisp-tender, then cooled in ice water and drained**} \\
&\text{chopped unsalted dry-roasted peanuts (garnish)**} \\
&\text{lightly toasted sesame seeds (garnish)**}
\end{align*} \]

1. Combine peanut butter, coconut milk, soy sauce, lemon juice, brown sugar, garlic, and salt and pepper to taste in a small saucepan over low heat. Stirring constantly, cook until smooth and thickened. Place this mixture in a blender or food processor and puree briefly. Add chicken broth and

*The peanut butter should not be the standard commercial kind with added sugar and salt. Bread and Circus sells peanut butter in bulk. You just grind as many peanuts as you want.

**Not used, or quantity modified.
Poached Chicken Breast with Thai Peanut Sauce and Noodles

cream; blend until smooth. Pour into a bowl, cover, and set aside. (This mixture can be made several hours ahead and refrigerated).

2. Cook noodles in 4 quarts boiling water until very al dente. Drain and rinse in cold water, then drain again. Place in a large bowl, toss with peanut oil, and cool to room temperature, occasionally stirring the pasta to coat thoroughly.

3. Just before serving, place pasta on individual plates. Spoon peanut sauce over the pasta and sprinkle with scallions. Slice poached chicken breast halves on the diagonal and reassemble one breast on top of each pasta serving. Surround pasta with snow peas to resemble a nest. Sprinkle pasta with peanuts and sesame seeds. You can garnish with coriander sprigs.

Serves 6 as a main course.

Note 1: We didn’t use any salt, because the soy sauce is salty.

Note 2: “Thickened” does not mean “thick.” You’ll notice the change in consistency.

Note 3: To make your own coconut milk, grate fresh coconut into a bowl and cover with boiling water. Let stand for 30 minutes before straining through cheesecloth; squeeze cloth to extract all the milk. (For GSL, you will NOT want to do that). You can get canned coconut milk at an indian food store (also at Yoshinoya on Prospect St., Cambridge near Central Square). You can make a reasonable substitute by dissolving 1/3 cup of canned cream of coconut (e.g., get at Stop and Shop) in 5/4 cups hot water.

Note 4: To toast sesame seeds, place them in a small heavy frying pan over moderate heat. Stir until seeds are golden. Remove from the heat and pour onto a plate to cool.

Note 5: For the GSL that we did, we did not use snow peas or use the peanuts or sesame seed garnish (we only used the scallions). In particular the snow peas are expensive and a lot of work, although they would have been nice. Also, we used 30 pounds of unboned chicken breasts. We boned, skinned, and poached them, then cut them up and mixed them directly into the noodles.

Note 6: Quantity: We made 6 recipes of hot sauce and 6 of mild. Since each recipe makes a little more than a gallon, we stored them into gallon (or 2 x half-gallon) containers and mixed the rest together to make a medium hot. We found that most people preferred hot (about 2/3 the requests) or medium (only 6 asked for mild). We actually made the mild a bit spicy too. Remember the noodles will absorb a lot of heat, so don’t be afraid to add a lot of pepper. We had plenty of sauce, but could have used more noodles and chicken. (Note: We
Poached Chicken Breast with Thai Peanut Sauce and Noodles

had some noodles without chicken for the vegetarians and only a handful of people wanted it that way.) The weather was bad so we had a slightly smaller turnout than normal. About 2/3 of the people got seconds, but not as many people got seconds as wanted them.

Note 7: Materials: you can get coconut milk at the Indian food store on the street between Magazine St. and River St. in Cambridge, also at Yoshinoya on Prospect St. We got the noodles at Yoshinoya also because no one had a car. They are VERY expensive at Yoshinoya and I really recommend driving somewhere to get them if you can. Lo mein is a good style of noodle. We actually used ramen noodles.

Note 8: Serving: We served the bowls of noodles (premixed with meat) and then poured the sauce over. It makes for a more even mix (otherwise the sauce can separate some). We had extra hot peppers to go with the scallions and a number of people wanted them.

Note 9: Beverages: We got 7 gallons of soda and 3 gallons of juice. After lunch all the juice was gone but a good amount of soda was left. Maybe a more even mix of soda/juice is better.

Note 10: Preparation: We made the sauce the night before (I did it at home because the kitchens here are not that well equipped). We also started the boning of the chicken the night before. On the morning of GSL, we cooked the noodles, cooked the chicken, and chopped the scallions. We started at 9am and just finished at noon. It takes about 20-30 minutes to poach the chicken. Although the noodles cook fast, it takes over half an hour to get the big pots of water boiling and we had to replace the water between each batch (too hard to save).

Note 11: You can substitute some kind of vegetable stock for the chicken broth if you want something very vegetarian. The quantity is so miniscule, however, that I'm not sure it's worth it.
This is what we should have bought (it is close to what we did buy):

**DRINKS:** (all soda)
- 6 two liter bottles Coke
- 3 two liter bottles orange soda
- 4 two liter bottles Sprite

**FOOD:**

170–180 Hot Dogs
- 3 Gallons Baked Beans
- 4 bags chips
- 4 cans sauerkraut
- 2 48oz jars pickles
- 1 32oz jar pickles

**SALAD:**
- 4 heads lettuce
- 2 lbs red pepper
- 3 bags carrots
- 5 jars dressing
Chef’s Salad
Steven Eppinger, Karl Ulrich, Andy Christian, Mike Caine
GSL 3/18/88

Yes, our plan is still on the whiteboard right in front of me. Here are the quantities, adjusted for leftovers and shortages.

CHEF SALAD for 70:

12 heads lettuce
20 tomatoes
2 lbs peppers
3 lbs cukes
2 lbs carrots
4 lbs broccoli
1 lb alfalfa sprouts
1 lb radishes
1 lb red onions
5 lbs turkey breast
5 lbs ham
3 lbs swiss cheese
4 lbs cheddar cheese
13 loaves french bread
1 box croutons
15 bottles dressings
1 lb margarine (tub)
5 half-gallons apple juice
3 half-gallons Coke Classic
2 half-gallons Sprite
1 half-gallons Diet Coke

Don’t forget cutting boards, knives, peelers, bowls, and serving utensils.
Chicago Chili and Vegetable Soup  
Dave Feldmeier, Eman Hashem, Thu Nguyen, Tim Shepard, and Lixia Zhang  
GSL 4/22/88

Lunch consisted of:

4 gallons chili from Andy's Chili Cart (@ $14/gallon)  
(This ran out, but I think everyone got at least a first serving.)

3 gallons vegetable soup from Andy's Chili Cart (@ $9/gallon)  
(This also ran out, but everyone seemed to have enough chili and soup.)

6 lbs spaghetti (to sit under chili)  
(This ran out before the chili—maybe another pound or two.)

10 loaves bread from the Star Market bakery  
(We had half a loaf left—you have to slice it yourself, but it’s worth it.)

1 lb butter  
(This was OK—probably 1 1/2 pounds would have been better.)

5 gal juice

5 2-liter soda  
(Not much left of these either.)

7 12oz boxes cookies  
(A box or two of these were left over.)

The chili and soup from Andy’s were pretty good. He needs at least a day notice and a few days is better. Maybe more chili and less soup would have been better, but the 7 gallons total is about right.

Total cost: $121.15
South Indian Cuisine
Suresh Jagannathan, Sundar Narasimhan, David Braunegg
GSL 5/13/88

Lunch was a genuine South Indian (vegetarian) meal consisting of Sambar, Rassam, Raita, and other dishes. No recipe is given here. Either you are South Indian and you know how to prepare these dishes, or you are not and you don't stand a chance.
HELP Recipes

The Help Recipes come from the Help database on OZ. The origins of most of these are lost in the mists of time.
Help Banana

(Banana Nut Bread)

3 bananas
1 cup sugar
½ cup vegetable oil
2 cups flour
2 eggs
½ tsp vanilla extract
1 tsp baking soda
½ tsp baking powder
½ tsp salt
3 Tbs milk
4 oz nuts of your choice

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Mash bananas to a pulp. Mix in sugar and oil. Sift together flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt and slowly add to previous mixture. Add eggs, vanilla, and milk and beat until smooth. Fold in nuts of your choice (walnuts and/or pecans are usually good).

Line bread pan with wax paper and pour in the above mixture. Place in oven and bake until golden brown (for 1 hr–1 hr 20 min—this varies with the oven). Use long wooden pick or fork to test center. If pick comes out clean, it's done. Cool on rack for 10–15 min before storing or serving.
Help Cheesecake
(Daniel's Chocolate Cheesecake)
(From NYT Food Magazine)
Daniel Weise

CRUST:

1. 9 1/2 in Spring form pan
2. 8 1/2 oz pkg Nabisco Famous Chocolate Wafers
3. 1 stick melted butter
4. 1/2 tsp cinnamon

To make the crust crumble chocolate wafers and mix with butter and cinnamon. Press into the spring form pan. (It's important that it's spring form, otherwise you'll never get it out of the pan.) Daniel says this is like playing with mud, so have fun.

FILLING:

1. 3 Tbs butter
2. 12 oz Semi Sweet Bakers chocolate.
   (Daniel uses 8 oz sweet and 4 oz. unsweetened)
3. 24 oz Philadelphia Brand cream cheese
4. 4 eggs
5. 3 Tbs sifted cocoa
6. 2 tsp vanilla
7. 1 1/2 cups heavy cream
8. 1 cup sugar

First, melt together the butter and Bakers chocolate and let cool slightly. Then throw this and everything else in your Cuisinart, zap till creamy (about 1/2 a minute), and you're done. If you don't have a Cuisinart beat eggs and mix cream with the cream cheese before you mix everything together. This will make it easier. Pour the filling into the crust. (Don't worry if the filling is very thick.) (Note: This will fill a 6 cup cuisinart to nearly overflowing so be careful or use an 8 cup model.)

Bake in a 300 degree oven for 30 mins. Then turn off your oven and let it sit inside for another 30 mins with the door ajar. Take it out and let it cool. Then refrigerate overnight. This overnight refrigeration is crucial.
Help Peking-Ravioli
(Chef Chu’s Potstickers Recipe)
Christopher A. Kent

[This recipe found its way to the OZ HELP files by way of the Bandykin mailing list. — Ed.]

The folks on the West Coast call them pot stickers, because they stick to the pot when you pan-fry them. They are utterly wonderful. They’re also not very hard to make! Here’s a recipe that I have had a lot of luck with:

CHEF CHU’S POTSTICKERS RECIPE
(From Chef Chu’s Distinctive Cuisine of China, p. 185)

“Here’s a typical Northern Chinese pastry that’s well-known and prepared throughout the world. Though eaten as a snack in China, I find that most Americans serve potstickers as an appetizer.”

Makes: about 2 dozen  Cooking time: 15 minutes  Prep time: 35 minutes

DOUGH INGREDIENTS

2 cups all-purpose flour
½ cup water

FILLING

½ lb ground pork
½ small head Chinese (Napa) cabbage, cored and chopped
1 green onion, coarsely chopped
2 thumb-sized slices fresh ginger, minced
2 water chestnuts, chopped
1 tsp salt
½ tsp sugar
Pinch white pepper
1 tsp sesame oil

FOR COOKING

5 Tbs vegetable oil
1 cup water
SAUCE

Hot chili oil
Red rice vinegar
Soy Sauce

In a bowl, combine flour and water, mixing to form a ball. Remove to a floured board and knead with palm of hand for about 3 minutes. Shape into a ball, cover with damp towel, and let stand for about 10 minutes.

To make filling, combine FILLING ingredients well and refrigerate until ready to use.

To shape and assemble, knead dough for about 3 minutes. Roll into a cylinder that is about 1 inch in diameter. Cut off ends, then cut into about 24 pieces, each 3/4-inch wide. With cut side up, press dough down with palm to flatten. Roll out with a rolling pin to make pancakes about 2-1/2 inches in diameter.

Spoon 1 tablespoon filling into center of each pancake. Fold dough over to make half circle and pleat edges firmly together.

To pan-fry, heat cast-iron or other heavy-bottom skillet over moderate heat. Add 3 tablespoons oil swirling to coat bottom. When oil is hot, place potstickers, seam side up, in skillet and agitate (shake) for 30 seconds. Pour in water, cover, and gently boil over moderate heat for 7 to 8 minutes. When out and water start to sizzle, add remaining 2 tablespoons oil. Tip skillet to distribute oil evenly; watch carefully (uncovered) to prevent sticking. When bottoms are brown, remove from heat and carefully lift out potstickers with spatula.

To serve, turn potstickers over (dark side up) and arrange on serving platter. Combine chili oil, vinegar, and soy sauce in proportions to suit your taste and offer sauce for dipping.

- Notes -
1. You can freeze uncooked potstickers for later use, but remember to squeeze out the water from cabbage during preparation (in a colander or cheese-cloth). Freeze potstickers separately on cookie sheets until firm, then put them in plastic bags.
2. When rolling out the pancakes, leave the centers slightly thicker than the edges. A thicker center will hold up better during the browning.
3. If you prefer, steam potstickers for about 12 minutes over boiling water instead of pan-frying.
Help Peking-Ravioli

-cak's comments-

These are really not hard to make and come out quite nicely! Following the dough recipe above leads to a fairly dry and floury dough; this makes it hard to roll out and pleat. Feel free to add a little more water.

There is no way that a tablespoon of filling fits into a 2-1/2 inch pancake; four inches is more like it. This makes the pancakes quite thin, but that's what you want, anyway.

The first time I cooked these, I was really surprised by the reaction when I added the water to the oil; it sizzles quite a bit. This is, of course, to be expected, but I didn’t realize it until after I had been startled by it.

I haven’t been able to get my potstickers to come out uniformly brown with a thick brown area on the bottom, the way Cho’s does, but I’m getting there. I tend to fry both sides a bit before adding the water; this helps. Beware of too much heat; the bottom will bubble and crack. This doesn’t taste any different, but doesn’t look as nice. I find that several minutes usually elapse after adding the last oil; the recipe reads as if you might have to remove the things almost immediately.

If you don’t cook the whole batch at once, try to store the potstickers so that they don’t touch; the dough tends to stick to itself, so the potstickers may tear as you remove them.

I didn’t have much luck with the suggested sauce recipe; I usually take a hot chili pepper and cut it up into white vinegar (I haven’t bought the red rice vinegar yet—that might be better). This approximates the sauce I’m used to.
Other Lab Recipes
Brownies

Cody Curtis

David—This is the recipe I promised you. But you must know that this is only the second best brownie recipe in the world. The ultimate brownie recipe is in the possession of a red-haired medical student (doctor by now, I suppose) from Cincinnati whose name I’ve forgotten but who made incredibly, impossibly good brownies from a family recipe that he promised to give me when we moved to Boston—but—he didn’t. So there you are.

BROWNIES

2 cups sugar
4 eggs
1 cup cocoa
3/4 cup melted butter
1 cup flour
1/2 tsp salt
3/4 cup chopped nuts (optional)

Mix together above ingredients and pour into greased and floured 9" by 13" pan. Bake 20–30 minutes at 350 degrees.

FROSTING

1 1/2 cups sugar
6 Tbs milk
6 Tbs melted butter
3/4 cup chocolate chips (semi-sweet)

Bring the above ingredients (except the chocolate chips) to a boil and let boil 1 minute. Remove from heat and stir in the chocolate chips. May seem thin at first, but will set up in short order. Let brownies cool before frosting.

NOTE: These are especially good if you underbake them and then serve them warm (unfrosted) with ice cream.
Georgia Ice Cream
(Black-Eyed Beans)
Tom Reinhardt

1 lb bag dried black-eyed beans
1 Spanish onion, cut into eighths
1 bunch carrots, cut into 1-inch pieces
1 bunch celery, cut into 1-inch pieces
3-4 large-sized potatoes, cut into 1-inch cubes
1 lb ham, cubed (smoked ham is even better)
olive oil
salt
black pepper
rice

Sort all extraneous material from the beans and soak them overnight. When ready to cook, drain the beans. [I usually use the water instead of draining the beans, unless the water tastes bitter. Lots of good nutrients in that thar water! — Ed.]

When the beans are ready, get a very large pot and in it sauté the onions in the olive oil until they are translucent. Add the carrots and celery and cook a while. Add the potatoes and cook a while more. Add the ham and, you guessed it, cook a while. Add salt and pepper to taste. Finally, add the beans and enough water to cover the whole mess. Bring the mixture to a boil and then turn it down to simmer. Cover and let cook.

The idea now is to cook the mixture long enough so that the beans get soft and the potatoes cook into the mixture to thicken it. [After an hour or so I usually use a potato masher in the pot to smash things up to thicken the mixture. This is faster than cooking it long enough to thicken on its own. — Ed.]

Serve over rice.

This makes a heck of a lot of food, so freeze some for later or feed a lot of people.

[I have seen a similar recipe from Bermuda, called “Hoppin’ John.” The major difference is that the rice is cooked in with the beans instead of separately. — Ed.]

[I have seen in various cookbooks that black-eyed beans are a good source of selenium. Just in case any of you feel that you are lacking in this vital mineral. — Ed.]
Jan's Blonde Brownies

David Braunegg

I got this recipe from my sister Jan several years ago. It was the first dessert-type recipe that I acquired and is one of the easiest to make that I have. My mother never got the hang of this recipe—she would always bake the brownies beyond the point of chewiness until they were cake-like inside. The great advantage of this recipe is that it is very simple, yet the result is great!

1 package of yellow cake mix
1/4 cup water
2 eggs
1/4 cup margarine (softened)
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 package chocolate chips

OPTIONAL
1/4 cup chopped nuts

Mix all the ingredients together. (It is easiest to mix the dry ones first. This mixture gets very thick.)
Pour mixture into a greased and floured 13" x 9" pan.
Bake 20–25 minutes at 375° (preheated). You want the brownies to be soft and chewy when done, so test them with a toothpick and remember that they will continue to cook a bit after you take them out of the oven. In my oven, 20 minutes is usually right.

Let the brownies cool, cut them, and remove them from the pan.
Javanese Spiced Pork
Scott St. John

1 1/2 pork, cut into thin strips
2 large onions
1 tsp coriander
1 tsp curry powder
1 tsp salt
1/2 tsp black pepper
2 medium cloves garlic (pressed)
1 Tbs soy sauce
2/4 cup cooked shrimp
3 eggs, beaten

SAUCE

4 Tbs peanut butter
3 Tbs milk
2 Tbs soy sauce
1 1/2 tsp Tabasco sauce
1 tsp corn syrup

1. Brown pork and onions, then cook on low heat for 10 minutes.
2. While the pork and onions are cooking, mix the sauce ingredients together and chill.
3. Add spices and soy sauce and cook another 10 minutes.

Serve with the sauce poured over top.