

APPLIED ARTS DIVISION
School of Liberal Arts
Fall, 2015



COURSE OUTLINE

NOST 101

INTRODUCTION TO THE CIRCUMPOLAR WORLD

**45 HOURS
3 CREDITS**

PREPARED BY: Amanda Graham, MA

DATE: 10 August 2015

APPROVED BY: Name

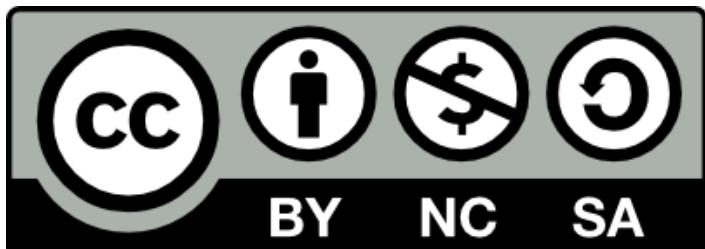
DATE:

APPROVED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL

DATE:

RENEWED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL

DATE:



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>.

APPLIED ARTS DIVISION
Introduction to the Circumpolar World
Credit Course
Fall, 2015

TITLE	
INSTRUCTOR: Amanda Graham, MA	OFFICE HOURS: Tue., 7:00 - 10:00 pm; Wed., 10:30-Noon; by appt.
OFFICE LOCATION: A2517	CLASSROOM: Online
E-MAIL: agraham@yukoncollege.yk.ca	TIME: Online
TELEPHONE: 867-668-8773	DATES: 14 September - 14 December 2015

COURSE DESCRIPTION

NOST 101 is an online course that introduces the landscapes, peoples and cultures and selected matters of contemporary interest to the people and governments of the northern circumpolar region. Through readings, assignments and discussions, students become familiar with the vocabulary, concepts and features of life in the Circumpolar North.

Introduction to the Circumpolar World is an online course developed by the University of the Arctic network for its Circumpolar Studies Core (it's their CS 100). It begins with a discussion of our perceptions of the north polar region and then introduces the landscapes, peoples and cultures and selected matters of contemporary interest to the people and governments of the northern circumpolar region. Through readings, assignments and discussions, students become familiar with the vocabulary, concepts and features of life in the Circumpolar North. They develop an appreciation for the region's Subarctic and Arctic geography, its biological and physical systems, as well as the historical and contemporary cultures and political and economic systems of the peoples who reside in the North today.

The course offers an exciting and interdisciplinary mix of topics aimed at stimulating interests in and knowledge about the circumpolar world and is a prerequisite for upper-level BCS courses.

PREREQUISITES

This course has no prerequisites.

However, since it is an entirely online course, to get the most out of it, you should

have good access to a computer with an Internet connection and experience using both. Familiarity with a digital camera, scanner, webcam and other peripherals or devices would be helpful.

RELATED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete a separate University of the Arctic registration form allowing the UArctic International Academic Office to share relevant student information. An account on the course site server will also be required. This account will remain available to you after the course is concluded unless you request its deletion.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

This information refers to the current course and is taken from the BC Transfer Guide, November 2014. Please consult bctransferguide.ca for the complete list of transferability that includes older versions of this course. This course is accepted for transfer by other institutions on a case-by-case basis.

Receiving Institution	Transfer Credit
AthabascaU	AU GEOG 302 (3)
CAMO	CAMO GEOG 100 lev (3)
KWAN	KWAN GEOG 1XXX (3)
SFU	SFU GEOG 1XX (3)
TWU	TWU GEOG 100 lev (3)
UBC	UBC GEOG 1st (3)
UBCO	UBCO GEOG 2nd (3)
UNBC (UArctic member)	UNBC NORS 101 (3) or UNBC INTS 240 (3)
UVIC	UVIC GEOG 100 lev (1.5)
VIU	VIU HUMA 1st (3)
UArctic members	Equivalent course: BCS/CS 100

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to

- A. Explain the concept of nordicity using examples from various subject areas.
- B. Identify and sketch the physical and biological features and processes of the Circumpolar North.
- C. Identify and describe features of cultures, social structures, and political systems of the Circumpolar North.
- D. Contrast the historic and contemporary economic activities in the Circumpolar North.

- E. Identify and describe several of the critical issues the Circumpolar North faces, climate change, self-determination, stewardship, and globalization, as examples, and place them in context.
- F. Identify strategies for building a common identity in the Circumpolar North.
- G. Locate and evaluate online and other sources of high-quality information on the Circumpolar North and its issues, including maps, books, and journal articles.

COURSE FORMAT

This is an online course taught off-site (i.e., not hosted at Yukon College) using the Moodle learning management system (LMS). It consists of ten week-long modules (one is two weeks), each comprised of a “lecture” or module text that includes required and suggested reading, glossary lists and study questions. A link to this site is posted on the MyYC NOST 101 course page for convenience.

Students discuss the module material and explore its ideas in an online forum through a series of individual mini-projects, called “postcards.” Two, short, written assignments focus on aspects of contemporary circumpolar culture and current events. A final online exam will test your vocabulary and concept knowledge as well as your broad understanding of some contemporary circumpolar issues.

ASSESSMENTS

Attendance & Participation

NOST 101 is an “asynchronous” (no set meeting times), online course. Attendance is recorded by the course site, as it your use of the resources. While there are no set meeting times, your engaged participation in the forums and in the life of the class is necessary for any of us to have fun with and benefit from this course. Experience shows that several regular shorter visits each week (3-4 times) is more effective for learning than one long one weekly.

Online participation is 10% of your final mark and serves Outcomes A, B, C, D, and E.

Assignments

Two short (about 600 words) papers (2 x 15%, Outcomes C, E, and G); six 400 to 500-word module “postcards” (6 x 5%, outcomes A, B, C, D, E, F and G)

Tests

Comprehensive final online exam (30%, Outcomes A through F)

Other

None

EVALUATION

Assignments	60 %
Participation	10 %
Final Exam	30 %
Total	100 %

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

CS 100 course texts and readings. These are supplied online in “Course information” on the home page in html, pdf, epub and mobi formats.

Recommended: Map of the North Circumpolar Region (National Atlas of Canada Reference Map Series, MCR-001) or equivalent wall-sized polar projection map.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the Academic Regulations:

http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca//downloads/Yukon_College_Academic_Regulations_and_Procedures_-_August_2013_final_v1.pdf

Attendance is integral to student success. Discussion and participation are particularly important in this class, and students are expected to attend regularly and punctually. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and to complete any work assigned.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when students present the words of someone else as their own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person’s writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Resubmitting a paper which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the College.

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Yukon College recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build

positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon College program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see <http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr>.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in Section 8.0 of the Yukon College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

TOPIC OUTLINE

Week	Topic	Core Reading
1	Introduction to the Circumpolar World	Module 1
2	Northern Perceptions	Module 2
3	Northern Environments	Module 3
4	Peoples and Cultures	Module 4
5	Contemporary Economic Activity	Module 5
6	Political Systems	Module 6
7	Climate Change (science)	Module 7
8	Climate Change (human consequences)	Module 7
9	Stewardship of Resources and Sustainable Development	Module 8
10	Northern Governance	Module 9
11	Geopolitics, Security, and International Society	Module 10
12	Review / Exam	

Other readings and materials may be assigned or advised. A detailed syllabus is provided on the course site and will be discussed in online forums.