UArctic
Circumpolar Studies

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The Circumpolar Studies program is an exciting way for students attending UArctic member institutions to learn about the North, with courses held in the classroom, online, in the field, and around the world.

Circumpolar Studies Program gives students the opportunity to learn about the lands, peoples, and issues of the Circumpolar North and prepares them for advanced study or professional employment in fields as diverse as sustainable resource management, self-government, Arctic engineering, and northern tourism. Special emphasis is given to matters concerning indigenous people of the Circumpolar North.

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# CS 100: Introduction to the Circumpolar World

Introduction to the Circumpolar World introduces students to the landscape, peoples and issues of the circumpolar region. Beginning with an examination of the geography, biological and physical systems of the Subarctic and Arctic, it then turns to the Aboriginal and contemporary peoples of the region. The history of the Circumpolar World is treated in a broad fashion, to provide grounding in the events and developments that have created the region's contemporary qualities. The second part of the course surveys some of the particular issues facing the region, including climate change, economic, political and social development. This course ultimately is intended to stimulate interest in the Circumpolar World.

Study Term Dates:
Term 1: Sept - Dec
Term 2: Jan - April
Term 3: May - July

Credit Equivalent:
6 ECTS

Students may be eligible for OSAP and/or Government funding.

Hosted by
Yukon University/UNBC/
Lakehead/Trent University

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circumpolarstudies@trentu.ca

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# CS 311:
# Land and Environment I

The primary aim of this course is to provide students with a more in-depth understanding of the lands and environments that defines the Circumpolar North, as well as the key issues involving interaction between humans and environment that were introduced through modules of CS100: Introduction to The Circumpolar World. Upon successful completion of Land and Environment I, students will have:

- A better understanding of the land, seas, climate, ecology, and natural resources of the Circumpolar North.
- An appreciation of how diverse methods contribute to understanding land and environment in the Circumpolar North.
- Insight into the challenges presented by the physical and natural universe, and an introduction to human influence on northern lands and environments.

Study Term Dates:
September - December

Credit Equivalent
6 ECTS

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# CS 321: Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar World I

The primary aim of this course is to introduce the peoples and cultures of the North Circumpolar region through interdisciplinary study in the fields of anthropology, sociology, history, media and cultural studies, communications and literature.

Students will be introduced to traditional cultures and contemporary peoples through indigenous and Western perspectives. This is the first of two courses that aim to promote an integrated and multidisciplinary understanding of the circumpolar peoples and their adaptations and contributions to social, economic, political and environmental changes. This course includes an introduction to Aboriginal cultures, a discussion of the Western presence in the Circumpolar North, and an examination of contemporary northern peoples.This course examines primary societies (traditional Indigenous societies up to Western contact) and secondary societies (non-Indigenous enclaves in the North).

Upon successful completion of Peoples and Cultures I, students will:

- Acquire a broad and basic understanding of the histories and experiences of the peoples of the Circumpolar North, and the development of northern cultures;
- Develop an understanding of the similarities and differences of northern peoples and cultures, their adaptations to change, and their roles as agents of change;
- Gain an appreciation of the cultural diversity of the Circumpolar North;
- Develop an understanding of basic research methods and an appreciation of ethical issues confronting contemporary northern researchers.

Study Term Dates:
September - December

Credit Equivalent
6 ECTS

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# CS 331: Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar World I

This course will introduce students to the important structures and forces affecting the sustainability of circumpolar communities.

Students will deal with the population trends in the circumpolar region, natural resource use and the economies of these communities, and economic ownership. This course will also provide students with an appreciation of the main challenges confronting the peoples and communities of the world's northern regions. As such it will be beneficial to students attempting to better understand the current questions facing the north as well as to those planning to pursue advanced studies about the region.

Upon successful completion of Contemporary Issues I, students will have:

- Acquired a basic appreciation of the most important contemporary issues relating to globalization, sustainable communities, and natural resource use in the circumpolar regions of the world.
- Attained an awareness of the relationship between the unique and diverse aspects of Northern societies and the common concerns facing the region.
- Gained further insight into the complexity and inter-relatedness of human activity and the northern environment.
- Critically examined various proposed explanations of the key challenges facing the North.
- Recognized the cultural and gender-related diversity of approaches and ways of approaching the Circumpolar world.

Study Term Dates:
September - December

Credit Equivalent
6 ECTS

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# GEOG-CAST 2810: Canada's People and Places

Explores the geography of Canada and its peoples and places. Examines the development of Canada's cultural landscapes and regions, and the social, economic, and political development of the Canadian nation-state. Canada's geography is explored as an east-west nation under increasing pressure from globalization and new national agendas.

Study Term Dates:
September - December

Credit Equivalent
6 ECTS

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# CAST 3243H: The Contemporary Canadian North in A Circumpolar Context

Explores issues in the contemporary Canadian North with a focus on social, political, economic, and environmental issues. Students are encouraged to critically examine Canada's Northern strategies and compare these to the social and economic priorities of Arctic leaders and Indigenous peoples living in remote Northern communities.

Study Term Dates:
September - December

Credit Equivalent
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# CS 312:
# Land and Environment of the Circumpolar World II

Land and Environment of the Circumpolar World ll will provide students with a greater understanding of the complexity of important concepts and issues related to the land and environment of the North. The course deals with the impacts of natural and physical change on the peoples and conditions of the Circumpolar North. The course concentrates on three major fields for scientific study: (1) climate change, (2) natural resources, and (3) health and environment. Emphasis is given to the challenges of sustainability in the North, and to the need for long-term proper stewardship.

Study Term Dates:
January - April

Credit Equivalent:
6 ECTS

Students may be eligible for OSAP and/or Government funding

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# CS 322: Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar World II

Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar World ll covers the complex issues around the revival of northern cultures and languages will be introduced, and you will be prepared to think about how these issues apply in your home community.

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Study Term Dates:
January - April
May - July

Credit Equivalent:
6 ECTS

Students may be eligible for OSAP and/or Government funding,

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# CS 332: Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar World II

In Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar World ll, students will deal with questions relating to governance and politics, social issues, education and knowledge systems, and global issues in the North. This course will provide students with an appreciation of the main challenges confronting the peoples and communities of the world's northern regions. It will be beneficial to those students attempting to better understand the current questions facing the North as well as to those planning to pursue advanced studies about the region. In this module, the complex issues around the revival of northern cultures and languages will be introduced, and you will be prepared to think about how these issues apply in your home community.

Study Term Dates:
January - April

Credit Equivalent
6 ECTS

Students may be eligible for OSAP and/or Government funding

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# CAST 3241H: Histories of the Canadian North

Introduces students to major themes in the Canadian Northern history, from pre-contact to the creation of the territory of Nunavut in 1999. The major themes focus on evolving cultural, political, socio-economic, and environmental histories.

Study Term Dates:
January - April

Credit Equivalent
6 ECTS

Students may be eligible for OSAP and/or Government funding

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