

Lakehead University
Department of Sociology

Sociology 2817 FA
Sociology of the North

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Fall 2011
Wednesdays: 2:30 to 4:00
Fridays: 2:30 to 4:00
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Office Hours

Wednesdays: 1:30 to 2:30 and Fridays 1:30 to 2:30

Course Objective:

This course is designed to provide students with a general knowledge of the sociological characteristics and social issues of the Circumpolar North. It starts with a general introduction to the region and by trying to answer the question “What is the Circumpolar North?”. Students are then introduced to the general environmental and social characteristics of the region and more specifically to the two main types of communities in the region: Aboriginal communities and resource-dependent communities. Emphasis is given to the types of changes that are currently affecting the region.

The next part of the course deals with the main economic activities of the region and the impact changes in these activities are having on communities. More specifically, the impact of globalization on traditional economic activities, forestry, mining, oil and gas development, fisheries, and tourism will be discussed.

The final part of the course will examine the major social challenges facing Northern communities. These challenges include education, health, environmental, political, and gender-related issues.

Texts:

There will be no required texts. Students will be required to read articles placed in the reserve or to be downloaded off the internet. Many of the articles used in the course are chapters in the recently released Arctic Human Development Report which can be accessed at the sites indicated in the Reading list.

Basis of Evaluation:

Research Paper.....	30%
Discussion Questions	10%
Participation.....	10%
Mid-term Test.....	15%
Final Exam.....	35%

Research Paper: Participants will be required to write a 12-15 page (3000 word) research paper on a contemporary northern social issue. Topics should be chosen in consultation with the professor. A copy of the bibliography upon which the research paper is to be based must be submitted to the professor by October 19, 2010. The bibliography should also list the research question to be examined. The completed paper is due on December 2, 2010. Research papers should use the manuscript format suggested by the American Sociological Association.

Please note that plagiarism is unacceptable and subject to various sanctions. Please see the university regulations section on academic dishonesty in the Calendar. For advice to avoid plagiarism please see <http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/plagiar.html>

Discussion Questions: Discussion questions will be listed each week on the course WebCT site. Participants will be evaluated based on their contributions to discussions around these questions.

Mid-term Test: Participants will be required to write an in-class test on or around October 26, 2011.

Final Exam: The Final Exam will be given during the Exam period.

Course Structure and Readings

September 14 Introduction - Defining the North: the Social Construction of a Region

*Young, Oran and Einarsson, Niels, 2004. "Chapter 1 Introduction: Human Development Report" in *The Arctic Human Development Report*. Found at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/AHDR%20chapters/English%20version/Chapters%20PDF.htm>

Hamelin, Louis-Edmond. 1978. "Chapter 2", *Canadian Nordicity: Its Your North Too*, Montreal: Harvest House.

September 16 Northern Societies and Social Change

*Czonka, Yvon and Schweitzer, Peter. 2004 "Chapter 3 Societies and Cultures: Change and Persistence" in *The Arctic Human Development Report*. Found at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/AHDR%20chapters/English%20version/Chapters%20PDF.htm>

Nuttall, Mark. 2000. *The Arctic is Changing*. Stefansson Arctic Institute, Akureyri, Iceland Retrieved from <http://www.thearctic.is/articles/overviews/changing/enska/index.htm>.

September 21 Population Dynamics in the Circumpolar World

*Bogayavlenskiy, Dmitry and Siggner, Andy, 2004. "Chapter 2 Arctic Demography" in *The Arctic Human Development Report*, 2004. Found at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/AHDR%20chapters/English%20version/Chapters%20PDF.htm>

Duhaime, Gerard and Caron, Andre. 2008. "Economic and Social Conditions in Arctic Regions" in *The Economy of the North*, edited by Solveig Glomsrød and Iulie Aslaksen. Oslo: SSB. Found at http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/00/00/30/sa_economy_north/sa112_en/oversikt_en.html

September 23 Social Change in Northern Resource Dependent Communities

*Duhaime, Gerard. 2004. "Chapter 4 Economic Systems" in *The Arctic Human Development Report*. Found at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/AHDR%20chapters/English%20version/Chapters%20PDF.htm>

September 28 TBA

September 30 Social Change in Northern Aboriginal Communities

*Caulfield, Richard. 2004. "Resource Governance" in *The Arctic Human Development Report*. Found at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/AHDR%20chapters/English%20version/Chapters%20PDF.htm>

Aslaksen, Julie et al. 2008 "Interdependency of Subsistence and Market Economies in the Arctic", in *The Economy of the North*, edited by Solveig Glomsrød and Iulie Aslaksen. Oslo: SSB. Found at http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/00/00/30/sa_economy_north/sa112_en/oversikt_en.html

October 5 Fishing in the North

*Aarsæther, Nils, Riabova, Larissa and Bærenholdt, Jørgen Ole. 2004. "Chapter 8 Community Viability" in *The Arctic Human Development Report*. Found at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/AHDR%20chapters/English%20version/Chapters%20PDF.htm>

Hamilton, Lawrence and Otterstad, Oddmund. 1998. "Demographic Change and Fisheries Dependence in the Northern Atlantic." *Human Ecology Review*, 5(1):16-22. Found at <http://www.humanecologyreview.org/pastissues/her51/51hamiltonotterstad.pdf>

October 7 Forestry in the North

Stedman, Richard et al. 2005. "Forest dependence and community well-being in rural Canada: variation by forest sector and region." *Canadian Journal of Forestry Research* 35: 215–220. Found at <http://article.pubs.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/ppv/RPViewDoc?issn=1208-6037&volume=35&issue=1&startPage=215>

Lawrence, Rebecca and Raitio, Kaisa. 2006 "Forestry Conflicts in Finnish Sápmi: Local, National and Global Links" *Indigenous Affairs*, 4. Found at <http://www.iwgia.org/sw18980.asp>

October 12 Mining in the North. (Readings TBA)

October 14 Oil and Gas Development in the North

Nuttall, Mark. 2006 "The Mackenzie Gas Project: Aboriginal Interests, the Environment and Northern Canada's Energy Frontier" *Indigenous Affairs*, 2-3. Found at <http://www.iwgia.org/sw17944.asp>

October 19 Women in the North

*Williamson, Karla Jessen et al. 2004. "Chapter 11 Gender Issues" in *The Arctic Human Development Report*. Found at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/AHDR%20chapters/English%20version/Chapters%20PDF.htm>

Kleinfeld, Judith and Andrews, J.J. 2006. "The gender gap in higher education in Alaska.", *Arctic*, 59(4): 428-434. Found at <http://pubs.aina.ucalgary.ca/arctic/Arctic59-4-428.pdf>

October 21 TBA

October 26 Mid-term Test

October 28 Health Issues in the North

*Hild, Carl M. and Stordahl, Vigdis. 2004. "Chapter 9 Human Health and Well-being" in *The Arctic Human Development Report*, 2004. Found at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/AHDR%20chapters/English%20version/Chapters%20PDF.htm>

November 2 Climate Change and the North

*Arctic Council, "Context and Executive Summary", *Impacts of a Warming Arctic: Arctic Climate Impact Assessment Overview Report*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004, pp. 2-20. Found at <http://amap.no/acia/>

Duerden, Frank. 2004. "Translating Climate Change Impacts at the Community Level." *Arctic*, 57(2) : 204–212. Found at <http://arctic.synergiesprairies.ca/arctic/index.php/arctic/article/viewFile/496/526>

November 4 Political Changes in the North

*Broderstad, Else Grete and Dahl, Jens. 2004. "Chapter 5 Political Systems" in *The Arctic Human Development Report*, 2004. Found at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/AHDR%20chapters/English%20version/Chapters%20PDF.htm>

Arctic Council. *Declaration of the Establishment of the Arctic Council*. Found at <http://www.arctic-council.org/establ.asp> .

November 9 Education in the North

*Johansson, Gunilla, Paci, Chris and Hovdenak, Sylvi Stenersen. 2004. "Chapter 10 Education" in *The Arctic Human Development Report*, 2004. Found at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/AHDR%20chapters/English%20version/Chapters%20PDF.htm>

Hicks, Jack. 2005. "Education in the Canadian Arctic: What Difference has the Nunavut Government Made?" *Indigenous Affairs*, 1. Found at <http://www.iwgia.org/sw7825.asp>

November 11 Globalization and the North

*Southcott, C. and Heininen, L. 2010 "Globalization and the Circumpolar North: An Introduction" in *Globalization and the Circumpolar World*, edited by L. Heininen, and C. Southcott, Fairbanks: University of Alaska Press, 2010. Accessed at TBA

November 16 Migration in the North

November 18 Dealing with the Resource Curse

Banta, Russell 2006 "The Resource Curse and the Mackenzie Gas Project" *Policy Options*, December, Pp. 80-86. Found at <http://www.irpp.org/po/archive/dec06/banta.pdf>

November 23 TBA

November 25 TBA

November 30 Food Security in the North (Readings TBA)

December 2 Review

* Indicates Required Reading