

# Geography of the Arctic Regions

GEOG/NORT/ANTH 3671 WA

W, F 11:30 to 1 pm, ATAC 1007

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## Learning Objectives

Intellectual objectives are to explore the Arctic regions from a human geography perspective and to become familiar with several concepts in geographic thought including identity and the interaction between environment and culture. The skills objectives are to improve academic research, writing and presentation skills. This is to allow students to effectively transition to senior year and potentially to complete independent projects, attend graduate or professional school, or enter a career.

## Marking Scheme

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Paper outline | 10% |
| Case study 1  | 15% |
| Case study 2  | 15% |
| Final paper   | 10% |
| Presentation  | 5%  |
| Participation | 5%  |
| Midterm exam  | 20% |
| Final exam    | 20% |

## Homework

Most homework will include study questions. The study questions are to guide your reading and draw attention to major points. Exams may or may not include these questions and knowing the answers to these questions does not guarantee you will be successful on an exam. Bring a hard copy of your answers to class with your name on it each day. Homework will sometimes be collected and marked to contribute to your participation mark. Also, in-class quizzes may occur at any time on that day's homework. These may also be used to calculate your participation mark.

## Paper

The term paper is broken into four parts to train students in writing at a senior level in university. Support offered for each part will help students develop appropriate writing skills and improve the end product. For the paper outline, students will select a topic and 2 regions to compare. They will provide 1 paragraph (150 words) outlining the paper and 3 common subtopics that will be explored for each case study (this will set up the comparison later). Five peer-reviewed references must be included and referenced properly in the paragraph. Also the student will indicate on this submission their preference for the case study to be presented and the preferred time period (mid-term or end of term).

The case studies are short papers, one on each case study region (1200 words each). They will be organized as literature reviews of the topic in the chosen region and include the 3 sub-topics mentioned in the outline. The outline must be resubmitted with each case study for comparative purposes. The final paper will include a resubmission of the outline, both case studies and a final essay that includes a introduction, the case studies and a comparison of the two (3000 words total). See assignment sheet for more detail.

## Presentation

Each student will present one of his/her case studies to the class. Students will sign up for one of the presentation periods (the professor will finalize the schedule) and present the case study due at that time. The professor reserves the right to assign students to present on a particular day in order to manage our time. Presentations will be 12 minutes with 5 minutes of questions and must include visuals.

\*Note that students will be required to attend each presentation in order to take notes for exams. Students are also expected to write down one question per presentation as part of their participation mark.

## Schedule

| Date       | Class Activities/Deadlines                             | What's Due?                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Jan 11  | Receive Syllabus                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 2. Jan 13  | The Arctic and Its Regions                             | Arctic Human Development Report 2015<br>Read Foreword, Preface, Summary of Major Findings and Introduction, answer study questions and explore the whole document for ideas for your term paper |
| 3. Jan 18  | Example of a regional comparison<br>Physical Geography | Bone Chapter 2 The Physical Base<br>Meet groups for Under 4 Flags activity, exchange emails                                                                                                     |
| 4. Jan 20  | Regional comparison                                    | Example of a regional comparison – Under Four Flags activity                                                                                                                                    |
| 5. Jan 25  | Cultural Adaptations to the Arctic I                   | Vitebsky and Alekseyev 2015                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6. Jan 27  | Cultural Adaptations to the Arctic II                  | Rowley-Only<br><b>Paper outlines due</b>                                                                                                                                                        |
| 7. Feb 1   | Regional Case Study: Greenland 1                       | McGovern Cows Harp Seals and Church bells                                                                                                                                                       |
| 8. Feb 3   | Regional Case Study: Greenland 2                       | TBA                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 9. Feb 8   | Regional Case Study: Russia 1                          | Crate and Nuttall 2003                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 10. Feb 10 | Regional Case Study: Russia 2                          | TBA                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 11. Feb 15 | <b>Presentations</b>                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 12. Feb 17 | <b>Presentations</b>                                   | <b>Case Study 1 due</b>                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 13. Feb 22 | <u>Reading week</u>                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 14. Feb 24 |                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 15. Mar 1  | <b>Midterm Test</b>                                    | <b>Midterm Test</b>                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 16. Mar 3  | Movie day!                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 17. Mar 8  | 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Canadian Arctic               | TBA                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 18. Mar 10 | Arctic Identities                                      | Légaré 2002                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 19. Mar 15 | To Be Announced                                        | TBA                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 20. Mar 17 | <b>Presentations</b>                                   | <b>Case Study 2 due</b>                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 21. Mar 22 | <b>Presentations</b>                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 22. Mar 24 | Arctic Modernity and Change I                          | TBA                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 23. Mar 29 | Arctic Modernity and Change II                         | TBA                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 24. Mar 31 | Arctic Modernity and Change III                        | TBA                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 25. Apr 5  | Arctic Modernity and Change IV                         | <b>Final paper due</b>                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 26. Apr 7  | Review                                                 | Last day                                                                                                                                                                                        |