

APPLIED ARTS DIVISION
School of Liberal Arts
Fall, 2016



COURSE OUTLINE

NOST 201

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE NORTH

**45 HOURS
3 CREDITS**

PREPARED BY: DAVE MOSSOOP

DATE: JULY 19, 2016

APPROVED BY: Andrew Richardson

DATE:

APPROVED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: (date)

RENEWED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: (date)



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APPLIED ARTS DIVISION
NOST 201
3 Credit Course
Fall Semester, 2016

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE NORTH

INSTRUCTOR: Dave Mossop

OFFICE HOURS: Most mornings (may be in field Fridays)

OFFICE LOCATION: Yukon Research Centre (08)

CLASSROOM: TBD

E-MAIL: dmosso@yukoncollege.yk.ca

TIME: 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

TELEPHONE: (867) 668-8736

DATES: Mon and Wed, Sept 7 - Dec 20, 2016

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Students taking this course will gain a broad introductory overview of the natural history of the circumpolar northern regions and emphasizes field skills in enjoying the natural world and how northern organisms deal with winter. We begin by learning the processes of identification, methods of study and strategies of winter survival for the spectrum of species living in the north. We also introduce the forces which shape and have shaped the northern landscape including climatic, geomorphic and soil forming processes. The course is circumpolar in context, but local Yukon examples will be emphasised. The course includes one 3 day field trip and shorter local walks.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A broad overview of the natural history of circumpolar northern regions. Students study the plants and animals of the North and their adaptations to the environments, and the forces that shape and have shaped the northern landscapes. Mandatory field activities.

PREREQUISITES

Admission to the second year of the Northern Studies program, or admission to the Renewable Resources Management program, or permission of the instructor.

RELATED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students must be willing to engage in field activities with the usual weather, insect and terrain inconveniences; overnighing by tent and **MUST BE PREPARED TO ENTER ALASKA (A VALID PASSPORT ESSENTIAL)**.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

CAMO GEOG 200 lev (3)

SFU GEOG 263 (3) - B-Soc; If SFU GEOG 263 already obtained, credit will be SFU GEOG 1xx (3)

TRU SSEL 2xx0 (3)

TRU-OL GEOG 2xx1(3)

TWU HIST 100 lev (3)

UBC ARTS (3). Credit granted for no more than 2 of YUKO NOST 200, YUKO NOST 201 or YUKO NOST 202

UFV GEOG 1XX (3)

UNBC NORS 101 (3)

UVIC GEOG (1.5)

200P lev

VIU SSCI 1st (3)

UAF NSCI F2N (3)

UAS NSCI F2 (3)

UR SoSc 100L (3)

For more information about transferability contact the School of Liberal Arts.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion students will be able to use standard field manuals to identify naturally occurring species including birds, mammals, plants, fish and some invertebrates. A basic list of northern species will be identified. The adaptations and strategies northern species exhibit to deal with winter will be known.

- Students will know the use of various outdoor study aids, binoculars, spotting scopes, manuals, cameras, and collection apparatus
- Students will know basic ethical behaviors for the safe enjoyment of natural history
- Students will be able to express in writing their personal field observations of species and phenomenon

COURSE FORMAT

Lectures, demonstrations and class discussions three hours per week. Field trips. One term paper.

Field Trips are an integral part of the course. Two week-end trips will be organized. FIRST IS MID SEPTEMBER AND INVOLVES ENTERING THE USA...PASSPORTS OR ACCEPTABLE ID REQUIRED. Both will focus on learning the Northern biota and group enjoyment of Natural History .. Details will be discussed in the first lecture(s).

EVALUATION

Field Content	35
Journal	15
Term Paper	20
Midterm Exam	15
Final Exam	15
Total	100%

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS

- A reprotex (*Natural History of the North*) will be handed out the first day of class.
- Additional reading material may be provided in class or put on reserve in the library.
- Various field guides will be used and recommended and are available at the bookstore.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

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 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.

Lecture

TOPIC

1	Introduction	Ch.1,2
2	Field equipment, basics of identification,	Ch. 3
3,	Field trip planning, note taking, Journal keeping and Natural History article writing	Ch. 4,
6	Basics of defining the northern area, biological north defined.	Ch.5
7,8	Life in cold-basic winter strategies.	Ch 6,7
9.10	Boreal birds, how to "birdwatch" - Northern families, adaptations.	Ch. 8
11,	Boreal plants, communities, tundra, taiga, boreal forest, treeline.	Ch. 9
12, 13	Mammals of the North - tracking, adaptations..	Ch. 10
14, 15	IMarine mammals	Ch. 11
16	Northern fishes	Ch 12
17	Amphibians	Ch 12
18	Invertebrates	Ch 13
19, 21	Glaciation and glacial landforms	Ch 14
22- 24	Periglacial features	Ch 15