



COURSE OUTLINE

NOST 201

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE NORTH

3 CREDITS

PREPARED BY: _____ DATE: _____

Dave Mossop & Larry Gray, Instructor

APPROVED BY: _____ DATE: _____

Margaret Dumkee, Dean

APPROVED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: _____

RENEWED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: _____



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THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE NORTH

Instructors: Dave Mossop, M.Sc.; Larry Gray, MSc. Classes: Mondays & Wednesdays, 9 am
Field trips: 2 weekends
(Sept, Nov) (access to USA essential!)
Time: 09:00 to 10:30 am

Phone: 668-8736

Email: dmosso@yukoncollege.yk.ca
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Office: NR-08 (Research Bldg) Classroom: A2202

Office hours: *Most Mornings (drop by at other times, may be available; usually in field on Fri)*

COURSE 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, and geomorphic 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 PREREQUISITES

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

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

UBC	Arts (3) Note: credit granted for no more than two of NOST 200, NOST 201 and NOST 202.	UAF	NSCI F2N (3)
		SFU	GEOG 263 (3)
		UAS	NSCI F2 (3)
UVIC	GEOG 200PL (1.5)	URegina	SoSc 100L (3)
UNBC	NORS 101 (3)	VIU	SSCI 1 st (3)
TRU	SSEL 2XX0 (3)	UFV	GEOG 1XX (3)
TWU	NOST 201 & Nost 202 = GEOG 200L (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. They will have a fair idea of the names and survival strategies of Yukon's common species.

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. Short term papers.

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).

EVALUATIONS

Field content	35
Journal	15
Term paper	20
Midterm exam	15
Final exam	15
Total	100

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLIES

- 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 & Regulations 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

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.

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.

SYLLABUS

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