



UNIVERSITY OF THE ARCTIC

Circumpolar Studies Program



Advanced Emphasis Title: Arctic Governance

Institution: [University of Lapland](#)

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Start Date: Sept. 1 – Dec. 20 (Fall); Jan. 15 – May 15 (Spring)

Delivery Method: Only onsite

Application deadline: 15 May (Fall semester); 15 October (Spring semester)

Credits: 30 ECTS (15 North American credits at most institutions)

Requirements: Arctic Governance is one of three optional studies/advanced themes in the [Arctic Studies Program](#) for specialization and ISC Field School. Arctic Governance is a social science based undergraduate program.

Advanced Emphasis Description:

Arctic Governance aims to provide first of all an overview of social conflict and compromise in general. After the Cold War, political structures around the world have been transformed or at least challenged by new ways of thinking and acting. Management of common affairs, as well as the theories about management, have undergone rapid change. Governance, the most general expression we use when referring to the relationship between the allocation of political power, has become a truly universal issue in almost any area of politics. The program aims also to look more specifically into social conflict and compromise in the Arctic. The Arctic has undergone also various changes, partly due to the universal or regional political processes, partly because of internal developments, such as the movements of Arctic indigenous peoples to gain more political independence within the existing nation-states. It is important to review these changes, as well as the theories we use to analyze them.



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Courses:

KARG1100 Arctic Governance ARG (30 ECTS)

KARG1101 International Governance; with Special Reference to the Arctic (7.5 ECTS)

KARG1102 Indigenous Peoples and Governance; with Special Reference to the Arctic (7.5 ECTS)

KARG1103 Environmental Governance; with Special Reference to the Arctic (7.5 ECTS)

KASP2201 Research seminar (7.5 ECTS)

KARG1101 International Governance, with Special Reference to the Arctic (7.5 ECTS)

Content: International governance has in general increased rapidly in the globalizing world we live in. Vast number of international institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, are nowadays in existence, increasingly regulating and influencing issues that were previously managed by national or local levels of government. The course aims to provide perspectives on how these processes operate, what they stand for, how these international governance structures shape the way common issues are managed, etc. It is also important to critically reflect on their contribution to the direction in which our common world is moving. Although the idea is to provide general perspectives on international governance, the focus is on how these processes influence the Arctic. There are numerous universal, regional, semi-regional processes that touch upon the way common Arctic issues are managed. In addition, especially from 1990 onwards, there have been many international processes that have been created by Arctic actors for the purposes of the Arctic. It is the aim of the course to reflect on how these varying levels of governance structures impact on the Arctic.

Method: Choose 5 credits from among the following courses and literature exam (KARG1111-KARG1115). It is possible that some courses may not be offered every year. Alternative courses will be offered every semester. Detailed information will be announced later.

KARG1111 Arctic Region Politics (3 ECTS)

Content: Intended to provide an orientation to Arctic region politics, including a critical discussion of factors forming Arctic environmental politics and region-building movements in general. Since the mid-1980s, the Arctic has emerged as a new international region, especially through the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy ("the Finnish Initiative", related to Gorbachev's 1987 suggestion) and the Arctic Council. This course aims to develop and problematise the question of how the Arctic came to be conceived of in its present form, and which actors and issues came to define a specific (not given) geographical area.

Method: Lectures 12 h

Assessment: Essay of 13-15 pages based on lectures and reading handouts.

KARG1112 Law of the Sea with Special Reference to Arctic Waters (1.5 ECTS)

Content: Brief introduction to general international law. General survey of the law of the sea as presented in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea: identification and delimitation of maritime zones, navigational rights, fisheries, exploration and exploitation of seabed resources, protection of the marine environment, peaceful settlement of disputes. Development of the legal status of Arctic waters in doctrine and state practice. Application of the



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1982 Convention to Arctic waters, especially in view of navigation, environmental protection and the delimitation of maritime zones.

Method: Lectures, written examination based on the lectures

Assessment: Written examination

KARG1113 Environmental Rights of Arctic Indigenous Peoples with Special Reference to Climate Change (1.5 ECTS)

Content: 1. The environmental rights of indigenous peoples in international law:

- connection between human rights and environmental protection; especially from the viewpoint of the indigenous peoples
- connection between human rights and the protection of the nature from the perspective of the indigenous peoples
- the position of indigenous peoples in international law in the context of protecting nature; rights to participate

2. The Arctic indigenous peoples and climate change

- the impacts of climate changes on the rights of the indigenous peoples
- the climate change regimes; development in the past and the current situation
- the status of the indigenous peoples in the debate on climate change
- the position of the indigenous peoples in the Arctic Council and Arctic climate change programs

Method: Lectures and group work

Assessment: Active participation in lectures and the seminar

KARG1114 Literature exam (3 ECTS)

Assessment: Written exam

Required reading: (All of the literature must be covered in a single examination. Partial completion of the requirement will not be counted.)

1. **Tennberg, Monica:** The Arctic Council: A study in governmentality. Ashgate (2000)

2. **Rothwell, Donald R.:** The Polar Regions and the Development of International Law (1996)

KARG1115 Alternative courses (1.5-4.5 ECTS)

Aims and content: This slot provides an opportunity to organize the extra courses. Furthermore, under this heading, the program coordinator may approve courses given in other faculties and departments for inclusion as part of the module.

KARG1102 Indigenous Peoples and Governance, with Special Reference to the Arctic (7.5 ECTS)

Content: The 1980s and 1990s meant the revival of the rights of indigenous peoples and ethnic and linguistic minorities. Several international conventions have been concluded on their rights. The best developed are their cultural and linguistic rights, then educational and participatory rights. Whereas there are positive examples of the recognition of indigenous land rights in a number of countries, most indigenous peoples have not received recognition of their right over their traditional territories from the national government. The land rights are especially important for indigenous peoples, because their livelihood is in many cases dependent on the use of their traditional territories. The livelihood of many indigenous peoples is in danger. The majority society penetrates in many ways into their traditional territories creating environmental and other problems. Indigenous peoples have difficulties in adapting their life and livelihood to modern society. It is important to examine these difficulties and the possibilities of indigenous peoples to



overcome them. Special attention is paid to reindeer herding as a livelihood of indigenous peoples. Very encouraging are different autonomy arrangements in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples, many of them located in the Arctic region. Certain indigenous organizations like the Saami Council have a special status in the Arctic Council, the international cooperation organ of the eight Arctic States.

Method: Choose 5 credits from among the following courses and literature exam (KARG1201-KARG1204). It is possible that some courses may not be offered every year. Alternative courses will be offered every semester.

KARG1201 The Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Minorities in International Law, with Special Emphasis on Arctic Indigenous Peoples (1.5 ECTS)

Content: This course is an overview of indigenous and minority rights in international law. We will examine the historical developments, the most important international conventions and other instruments, as well as most recent developments. We will pay attention to the distinction between indigenous rights and minority rights, to the collective and individual characteristics of these rights, and to the possibility of preferential rights or treatment. The rights of existence and identity, cultural and language rights and land rights are examined in more detail in particular in the Arctic context.

Method: Lectures and oral group reports.

KARG1202 The Autonomy and Participatory Rights, Land Rights and Educational Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Minorities, with Special Emphasis on Arctic Indigenous Peoples (1.5 ECTS)

Content: This course starts with a short overview of indigenous and minority rights. That is followed by lectures on autonomy and participatory rights. This part is held in January-February. The main part of the course, to be held later in the spring term, is reserved for seminar sessions in which the participants give individual oral reports on selected themes dealing with autonomy and participatory rights, land rights and educational rights, especially in the Arctic.

Method: Lectures and individual seminar reports.

KARG1203 The Right of Self-determination and Autonomy and Participatory Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Minorities, with Special Emphasis on the Arctic Indigenous Peoples (3 ECTS)

Assessment: A written examination

Required reading: (All of the literature must be covered in a single examination. Partial completion of the requirement will not be counted.)

1. Rudiger Wolfrum: The Protection of Indigenous Peoples in International Law, *Zeitschrift für ausländisches öffentliches Recht und Völkerrecht*, 1999, pp. 369-382 (distributed during the lectures by your teacher);

2. Frank Horn (ed.): **Minorities and their Right of Political Participation**, Rovaniemi 1996, pp. 1-50 and 90-128 (articles of Myntti, Thornberry, Minde);

3. Markku Suksi (ed.): **Autonomy: Applications and Implications**. The Hague 1998, pp. 7-32, 79-96, 125-138, 251-294 (the articles of Heintze, Hannikainen, Alfredsson, Eide, Myntti);

4. Curtis Cook and Juan Lindau (eds): **Aboriginal Rights and Self-Government - The Canadian Experience in North American Perspective**, Montreal 2000, pp. 3-38, 101-134, 221-264 (the articles of Lindau & Cook, Franks, and the concluding article by Franks);



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5. International Journal on Minority and Group Rights, Nos. 2&3/2001, pp. 127-149, 235-261,303-323 (the articles of Eide, Oskal, Toivanen)). A copy of the Journal can be found both in the main library and in the library of the Arctic Centre.

KARG1204 Alternative courses (1.5-4.5 ECTS)

Aims and content: This slot provides an opportunity to organize the extra courses. Furthermore, under this heading, the program coordinator may approve courses given in other faculties and departments for inclusion as part of the module.

KARG1103 Environmental Governance, with Special Reference to the Arctic (7.5 ECTS)

Content: Environmental governance is nowadays very much influenced by international processes, even universal in scope. Especially the process of sustainable development starting from the Rio Conference on Environment and Development has made it possible to see environmental governance as not only a national issue but also a topic that should influence all sectoral policies of development. The course aims to give a perspective on these processes in general and the influence they have on the Arctic in particular. There exist also multitude of international environmental governance processes that focus on Arctic problems, such as the Arctic Council. Furthermore, increasingly environmental management is seen as a matter that requires the participation of all citizens. The course aims to provide an overview of these mechanisms. Especially important environmental management mechanism is Environmental Impact Assessment, which has rapidly gained success as a primary means of implementing the goal of international society, sustainable development. The course also aims to reflect on how these management mechanisms operate in the Arctic conditions.

Method: Choose 5 credits from among the following courses and literature exam (KARG1301-KARG1306). It is possible that some courses may not be offered every year. Alternative courses will be offered every semester. Detailed information will be announced later.

KARG1301 International Environmental Law in the Arctic (1.5 ECTS)

Content: International environmental law is an increasingly important topic in the Arctic. Especially important are the wide number of international environmental treaties that are applicable in the Arctic. Furthermore, some Arctic-specific international environmental processes, such as the so-called Rovaniemi process, have emphasized the need to examine international environmental law from the perspective of the Arctic. The course aims to provide a general overview of the available norms of international environmental law in the Arctic.

Method: Lectures, written examination based on lectures

KARG1302 Environmental Impact Assessment in the Arctic (1.5 ECTS)

Content: The course introduces the students first to the institution of EIA in general, its entry onto the scene of international relations and national environmental governance systems, and proceeds to study the concept of EIA as it has been developed by the Arctic states in general and adjustment of this concept by the Arctic states to their Arctic areas in particular. It is also important to give a perspective on how transboundary EIA operates in the Arctic political setting.

Method: Lectures and role play in the form of international negotiations

KARG1303 Competing Industries and Contested Nature in Finnish Lapland (1.5 ECTS)

Content: The course includes discussion of the use of nature in Lapland from the point of view of different livelihoods. Another consideration is the relation between the nature and the various



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livelihoods. The subthemes of the lectures are nature as lived space; traditional livelihoods; nature as resource: modern industries; nature as attraction: tourism.

Method: Lectures, workshops and recommended reading

Assessment: Active participation in lectures and workshops; written essay

KARG1304 Local People and Environmental Conflicts in the North (1.5 ECTS)

Content: The course aims to introduce the essential vocabulary of the research of nature conflicts. Students are also introduced to cases concerning conflicts within environmental issues in the north.

Method: Lectures, workshops and recommended reading

Assessment: Active participation in lectures and workshops; written essay

KARG1305 Literature exam (3 ECTS)

Assessment: Written examination

Required reading: All of the literature must be covered in a single examination. Partial completion of the requirement will not be counted.

1. **Koivurova, Timo:** Environmental Impact Assessment in the Arctic. Ashgate. (2002)

2. **Marko Joas and Ann-Sofie Hermanson (eds): The Nordic environments: comparing political, administrative and policy aspects.**

KARG1306 Alternative courses (1.5-4.5 ECTS)

Aims and content: This slot provides an opportunity to organize the extra courses. Furthermore, under this heading, the program coordinator may approve courses given in other faculties and departments for inclusion as part of the module.

KASP2201 Research seminar (7.5 ECTS)

Aim: The aim of the research seminar is to give students tools for preparing an independent research paper and its oral presentation along with training in a multidisciplinary approach.

Content: Introduction to problematics, methods and ethics of social and natural sciences, with emphasis on scientific writing and the use of literature. Instructions for the preparation of a research plan, and thereafter, a research paper and its oral presentation with training in multidisciplinary approach and discussion. Students choose the topics of their papers in cooperation with the Arctic Centre's researchers, who will supervise the papers.

Method: Lectures, seminar and exercises.

Assessment: Active participation, a research paper (about 25 pages) and an oral presentation in a closing seminar.