



UNIVERSITY OF THE ARCTIC

Circumpolar Studies Program



Høgskolen i Finnmark
- studenten i sentrum

Advanced Emphasis Title: Management of Local and Regional Development

Institution: [Finnmark University College](#)

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Start Date: January – April (Only available in the Spring Semester)

Delivery Method: Only onsite

Application deadline:

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

Requirements: For the course “Regional Economies, Change and Business Environment” the prerequisites are basic courses in business administration or from the Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies. For the course “Community Governance and Development” the prerequisites are basic knowledge in political and organization theory and/or practice in local development work. For the course “Natural Resources Based Business and Industries” the prerequisites are general requirements for study competence at university level. This is a social sciences based programme.

Advanced Emphasis Description:

Finnmark University College has initiated a new applied study program in Management of Local and Regional Development (30 ECTS) (and/or NA 3 credit units). The program consists of three integrated courses and is part of three different bachelor programs taught at Finnmark University College: Business Administration, Politics and Management, and Natural Resource Management. The Management of Local and Regional Development is also offered as an Advanced Emphasis Course in UArctic’s bachelor degree in Circumpolar Studies.

The multicultural dimension of our northern communities creates a special dynamics with respect to social, political and economic change and development. Most of the Sámi, an indigenous people, live in Finnmark, the northernmost county in Norway. This course gives



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special attention to the Sámi communities in the interior and on the coast of Finnmark County. The Advanced Emphasis provides a multidisciplinary approach to the developmental challenges faced by small communities in the Barents Region, focusing on the dynamics of regional economies, community development and resource based industry. It consists of three courses, all related to regional development activities, a program and a model for community workshops. The workshop model has been developed by Finnmark University College, in partnership with public, private and civil society organizations.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

OBJECTIVES

The Advanced Emphasis will give students the theoretical and practical knowledge about for local management and regional development in the Circumpolar North.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student will learn different coping strategies and processes that are identified and analyzed through the course, especially processes developed within a bottom-up strategy (needs clarification), involving combined efforts with local authorities, civil society actors and enterprise networks (for example governance, network and partnership models of different kinds).

The Advanced Emphasis is divided into three courses, and has been developed in an interdisciplinary context:

1. Regional Economics and Innovation (6 ECTS for theory and 4 ECTS for practice)
2. Community Governance and development (6 ECTS for theory and 4 ECTS for practice)
3. Natural Resource Based Businesses and Industries (6 ECTS for theory and 4 ECTS for practice)

COURSE DELIVERY

Learning in all three modules will be problem—oriented, thematically organized and related to ongoing research, development projects and a regional development program built on a series of inter-municipality work-shops. The workshops alternate between communities on the coast and the inland of Finnmark, the northernmost county of Norway, and the focus and content of the course will vary accordingly. The challenges these communities are confronted with are similar to those facing other small coastal and inland communities in other parts of the North Atlantic Region. The development program and the project of community workshops are part of a regional innovation network created to stimulate community and business development in the Barents region.

As a means to actualize learning outcomes and increase student motivation, students are invited to participate in the regional development program. From day one, they will be working with both theoretical and practical tasks related to the former community workshops and planning new ones. The course will be offered in the spring semester, since the workshops usually take place during spring and early summer. Apart from the community workshops, 2-3 excursions to the local communities as well as the regional development agencies and institutions that we are working with, will be organized. Representatives of these agencies and institutions, local and county authorities, the business community and civil society organizations in the region will also be directly involved in the teaching and learning process at the College, on excursions and at workshops.



EXCURSIONS AND WORKSHOPS

In the workshops, the students will be assigned different analytical and practical tasks in relation to the main objectives of the community workshops and the modules of the course. At the end of the course, the student shall write a report from one of the excursions to municipalities where we have organized community workshops in the past, for which they are expected to use and synthesize the different theoretical and practical components of the course. This explains the 6+4 ECTS credit model, which indicates that 4 out of the 10 credits for that particular individual module is directly related to the community workshops which include planning, field work as well as writing papers and a project report.

EVALUATION AND EXAMINATION

Course papers, participation in field work, and a written exam.

Courses:

Regional Economies, Change and Business Environment (10 ECTS)

Module	Regional economies, change and business environment
Semester	Spring
Credits	10 ECTS or 3 credit units in North America institutions
Objective	Introduce the students to the spatial economy, its dynamics and the present understanding of tools for enhancing the business environment and the regional competitive edge
Prerequisites	Basic courses in business administration and one year Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies.
Description	<p>The course is divided into three parts.</p> <p>The first part consists of economic development in a historic, institutional perspective. Part of this will be an economic geographic introduction to northern, circumpolar economies (3 ECTS).</p> <p>Subsequently the attention is moved to methods for enhancing the regional business environment, to the benefit existing firms and newcomers. Partnerships and triple-helix approaches are central (3 ECTS).</p> <p>The last part is a 4 ECTS practical module, where the students are to perform an analysis of a regional industry.</p> <p><u>The students will learn practical tools</u> for analyzing industrial competitiveness. Theoretical reference; innovation systems, cluster theory, cluster initiative and triple helix/mode 2.</p> <p><u>Strategy:</u> Facilitate problem oriented learning by means of basic data collection and analysis. (not sure what this means; perhaps should</p>



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	be deleted?) Students are required to: 1. Design data collection instruments 2. Collect data 3. Analyze data 4. Write a paper To the extent that it is found feasible, the student is encouraged to do an international benchmarking of regional innovation systems and differing practices in business development.
Course language	English
Instructional Techniques	Weekly lectures and seminars, combined with excursions to local communities, regional development and research institutions.
	Lectures, exercises and paper
Ongoing evaluation	Papers and participation in field work
Final evaluation	Group case term paper (40%) Individual written 6 hour exam (60%) Final grade composed of grades from both paper and exam
Marks	A-F, A is the best mark, E is the lowest mark for pass. F is fail.

Community Governance and Development (10 ECTS)

Module	Community Governance and Development in Northern Regions
Semester	Spring
Credits	10 ECTS or 3 credit units in North America institutions
Objective	The aim of this course is to give the students theoretical and practical knowledge about the global challenges for communities in the Circumpolar North and how they are coping with them. Models and methods used in community governance and community development, both on a local and regional level, will be presented and discussed in relation to development theory and a selection of empirical cases from Northern Canada, North West Russia, Alaska (USA) and the Euro-Arctic (Barents) region. The student will become familiar with different coping strategies and processes that are identified and analyzed through the course, especially processes developing within a bottom-up strategy,



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	involving joint efforts of local authorities, civil society actors and enterprise networks (for example governance, network and partnership models of different kinds).
Prerequisites	Basic knowledge in political and organization theory and BCS 100, Introduction to the Circumpolar World, for both national and international students following UArctic 's bachelor program in Circumpolar studies.
Description	<p>This course is mainly about how communities in the North or the Circumpolar Area can develop as a whole, politically, socially and economically, in ways that serve their needs and are appropriate to their environment, culture and their own goals and expectations.</p> <p>Module 1: Global and local dimensions of development. Within the process of globalization, the ambiguous consequences of radical modernity might be more apparent in the Northern regions of Canada, Russia, USA and the Nordic countries, than anywhere else in the world. The circumpolar region is an extremely modernized periphery, no matter the strong dependency upon natural resources. How do and can local communities in the region organize themselves politically and socially to take advantage of what we often find to be a privileged natural resource situation and from that develop long term sustainable coping strategies and processes in a more and more globalized world? We will give special attention to small, peripheral communities in the North, including Indigenous communities.</p> <p>Module 2: Inclusive Democracy and Empowerment. Recent research in the field of local and regional development has come up with concepts like civil society organizations, social capital, empowerment, embeddedness, networking, partnership, local knowledge and, not to forget the importance of broad, open and participative political decision processes when attempting to identify and explain successful community development projects and processes. When it comes to management or steering of local or regional development processes, the same researchers have identified an important political success factor, namely a change from a "government" to "governance" type of processes. In other words, what Friedman (1992) describes as "inclusive democracy" in "Empowerment: The Politics of Alternative Development".</p> <p>Module 3: From Government to Governance in steering of local and regional development processes. When it comes to management or steering of local or regional development processes the same researchers have identified an important political success factor, namely a change from a "government" to "governance" type of processes, in other words,</p>



	<p>what Friedman (1992) describes as “inclusive democracy” in “Empowerment: The Politics of Alternative Development”.</p> <p>Module 4: Community Development — in a regional circumpolar context</p> <p>In this module different models and methods used in community development in the Circumpolar area will be presented and discussed in relation to local and global challenges. Communities all over the Circumpolar North are facing very much the same type of social, political and economic challenges. The smallest communities do not always have the human, organizational and economic resources necessary to initiate broad community development processes. It is therefore useful to have a regional perspective on community development, including regional development agencies, both private and public, and inter- community/municipal cooperation. The main focus will be on the planning, execution and evaluation of local and/or regional development programs and workshops</p>
Course language	English. Norwegian students can present case term papers and their final exam in Norwegian
Instructional Techniques	<p>Lectures will be combined with seminars and excursions to local communities (municipalities) and other development and research institutions in the region. In planning and organizing local and/or regional development workshops students will be assigned analytical and practical tasks in relation to the main objectives of the workshops and the modules of the course. This work shall preferably be done through teacher organized student groups. The students’ group term paper should be based on their experience from the excursions organized to municipalities where we have run community workshop in the past.</p> <p>Active self-studies among the students, literature search, including the use of different net-based tools, paper presentations and discussions, mainly at seminars, group work based on empirical cases, student involvement in the planning, execution and evaluation of local and/or regional workshops</p>
Ongoing evaluation	Obligatory group case term paper based on all the three courses
Final evaluation	Group case term paper (40%) Individual written 6 hour exam (60%) Final grade composed of grades from both paper and exam
Marks	A-F, A is the best mark, E is the lowest mark for pass. F is fail.



Natural Resources Based Business and Industries (10 ECTS)

Module	Community Governance and Development in Northern Regions
Semester	Spring
Credits	10 ECTS or 3 credit units in North America institutions
Objective	This course provides an introduction to, and an understanding of, the natural resource based industries in the region: reindeer husbandry, fisheries and aquaculture and tourism
Prerequisites	General Ecology and BCS 100 Introduction to the Circumpolar World Contents.
Description	<p>The course is divided into four parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The resource bases. The biology and ecology on which these industries are based will be presented and analyzed. • Natural resource regulation and management in the region. The different levels of management will be described - with special emphasis on the regional and local levels. In particular, the role of local and traditional knowledge in management will be focused on. Description of the natural resource. • The Industries. An overview of the history and development of the Fishery, Aquaculture, Reindeer Husbandry and Tourism sectors will be presented. • Case studies from the respective sectors will be presented.
Course language	English. Norwegian students can present case term papers and their final exam in Norwegian
Instructional Techniques	Theoretical knowledge will be given in a combination of lectures, colloquia and mentoring paper work on campus. An important part of the course is the excursions to local reindeer husbandry, fishing industry and aquaculture. Connected to the excursions there will be related lectures, and the students will be assigned to solve problems for oral presentation and discussions. The paper should be written in organized groups (2-3 students)
	Lectures, colloquia, field work/excursions, students' presentations and paper work.
Ongoing evaluation	Participation in field work
Final evaluation	Group case term paper (40%) Individual written 6 hour exam (60%) Final grade composed of grades from both paper and exam
Marks	A-F, A is the best mark, E is the lowest mark for pass. F is fail.