

Office Hours: M and W, 2-4; Tu 10-12, and by appointment.

Signup sheet on office door.

The International Relations of the Arctic

A seminar studying the world's "newest ocean" as source, avenue, and arena of interaction. In this rapidly changing region, we examine economic, strategic, and cultural contexts with special attention to environmental concerns. Within an Arctic context, students will be encouraged to pursue their primary intellectual interests whatever they may be. The course is without formal prerequisite although some background in maritime studies is strongly desirable. Course format is both lecture and discussion.

Course Format

One hour lectures laying out the modern historical background from the 16th century until the late 20th century. The lectures will be followed by two to three 30-minute individual tutorials, comprising the first six weeks of the course. During this interval, each student will presenting in tutorial an 800-word paper exploring possibilities for a major research topic to culminate in a final paper of journal article length. This will form the student's primary responsibility in the course. In addition all students will submit weekly a one-page review of the assigned readings to be discussed in that class.

Structured discussions will comprise much of the balance of the course, dealing with contemporary history. This will culminate with formal oral reports and the submission of the long paper. The final grade will rest primarily upon that paper, with the tutorial paper, oral presentation, weekly papers, and contribution to class discussion also given consideration.

Inevitably, since this is a seminar, the thrust of the course will ultimately reflect the interests of students as shown in their choices of research topics.

Sept 9: Class 1: Studying the Arctic:

Introductions and course mechanics

Brief lecture to be followed by documentary film

Readings for Sept 16:

Richard K. Nelson, *Shadow of the Hunter, Stories of Eskimo Life*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1990: Introduction and pp 1-54; 273-279

John E. Read, *Nansen in the Frozen World*, Philadelphia, 1897, pp 366-438

Barry Lopez, *Arctic Dreams, Imagination and Desire in a Northern Landscape*, New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1986, pp 76-118

Alun Anderson, *After the Ice: Life, Death, and Geopolitics in the New Arctic*, New York: Smithsonian, 2009, pp 19-41

Map assignment

Outline map will be distributed with list of places to identify, please return completed copy to me at class, Sept 30.

One page autobiography to be submitted at class, Sept 16, which we will circulate to become better acquainted.

Sept 16: Class 2: The Indigenous Peoples: Lives under Threat

Lecture + Tutorials

Readings for Sept 23

Jared Diamond, *Collapse, How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, Penguin, 2006, pp 211-276

Robert McGhee, *The Last Imaginary Place. A Human History of the Arctic World*, Oxford, 2005, pp 173-189

Jeannette Mirsky, *To the Arctic! The Story of Northern Exploration from Earliest Times*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1970, pp 95-160

Elizabeth Kolbert, ed., *The Ends of the Earth, An Anthology of the Finest Writings on the Arctic*, New York: Bloomsbury USA, 2007, pp 7-13

Sept 23: Class 3: Oceanic Europeans Enter the Arctic:

Lecture + Tutorials

Readings for Sept 30

Paul R. Josephson, *The Conquest of the Russian Arctic*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2014, pp 1-20

Valerian Albanov, *In the Land of White Death*, 190 pp

Anne Applebaum, *Gulag, A History*, New York: Random House, 2003, pp XIV-XL

Alexander Solzhenitsyn, *A Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, any edition.

Time will presumably not permit you to read the entire book. Read enough to capture the flavor.

But do not miss the end.

Sept 30: Class 4: Russians in the Arctic

Lecture + Tutorials #3

Readings for October 7

Sir John Barrow, *Voyages and Discovery and Research within the Arctic Regions*, London: np, 1846, pp iv-ix and 13-24

Roald Amundsen, *The Northwest Passage*, Volumes I and II, London: Constable, 1908, read enough to get a sense of this extraordinary man and his accomplishments.

Robert Leonard Reid, *Arctic Circle, Birth and Rebirth in the Land of the Caribou*, Boston: David R. Godine, 2010, pp 3-39

Nancy Fogelson, *Arctic Exploration & International Relations, 1900-1932*, Fairbanks: University of Alaska Press, 1992,

pp 9-28

Lopez (*supra*); pp 391-415

Oct 7: Class 5: Science and Exploration

Lecture + tutorials #4

Readings for Oct 14:

Mark Scott, ed., *Eyewitness Accounts of the World War II Murmansk Run, 1941-1945*, Lewiston: Edwin Mellen Press, ND, pp 101-111, 113-149

Frances Jewel Dickson, *The Dew Line Years, Voices from the Coldest Cold War*, Lawrencetown Beach, Nova Scotia, Pottersfield Press, 2007: pp 7-23; 172-202

Rolf Tamnes, *The United States and the Cold War in the High North*, Aldershot: Dartmouth Publishing Co., pp 52-57; 91-136; 295-303 (those with a special interest in strategic matters may want to read more widely in this useful book)

Additional reading suggested for entertainment as well as enlightenment:
Sherry Sontag and Christopher Drew, *Blindmans Bluff*, Harper Collins, 1998

Oct 14: Class 6: Arctic as Arena

20th century conflict

Lecture + tutorials #5

Readings for Oct 21

Heather Conley, Terry Toland, and Jamie Kraut, *A New Security Architecture for the Arctic, An American Perspective*, CSIS, Washington DC, 2012, 44 pp

For the balance of the course we will have plenary meetings for our full assigned time bloc: 3:20-5:10 pm

Oct 21: Class 7: Guest Lecturer: Dean Stavridis

International Rivalries and Strategic Questions

Readings for Oct 28

James Kraska, ed., *Arctic Security in an Age of Climate Change*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011, pp 20-46

Lawson Brigham, "The Challenges and Security Issues of Arctic Marine Transport," pp 20-32

Joshua Ho, "The Arctic Meltdown and Its Implications for Ports and Shipping in the Arctic," pp 33-46

Albert Buixade Fare, "Commercial Arctic Shipping Through the Northeast Passage Re-examined: Routes, Resources, Governance, Technology, and Infrastructure," draft article under review for publication.

Michael T. Klare, *The Race for What is Left, The Global Scramble for the World's Last Resources*, New York: Metropolitan Books Henry Holt, 2012, pp 7-99

for reference:

Arctic Council, *Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment 2009 Report*

Oct 28: Class 8:

Discussion: The Arctic economy: changing technologies, routes and resources and the global Arctic impact.

Readings for Nov 4

Committee on Science and Technology, House of Representatives, One Hundred Tenth Congress, October 17, 2007, Hearing before the Subcommittee on Investigation and Oversight, Disappearing Polar Bears and Permafrost: Is a Global Warming Tipping Point Embedded in the Ice? 97 pp.

Michael Byers, International Law and the Arctic, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013, pp 171-215

Nov 4: Class 9:

Discussion: Environmental Challenge: climate change; its impact on the Arctic and the globe

(last of 8 weekly papers on assigned readings)

NOV 11 NO CLASS HOLIDAY

Assignment for Nov 18

Everyone read Barry Lopez, pp xix-xxix

Each student will choose one example of Arctic-related literary and visual arts to present in class based upon a bibliography of artists of all stripes that I will distribute. Your subject can be the work of an individual or a theme. The purpose of the exercise is to broaden our understanding of the philosophical and aesthetic impact of the Arctic. These will be informal presentations but I want you to bring to class on Nov 18 a one page summary of your subject.

Nov 18: Class 10

Arctic as Artifact: Changing images and Perceptions

Student presentations and discussion

Assignment for Nov 25

submit 100 word description of your seminar paper

Nov 25: Class 11

Lecture: Thinking about Talking

Student informal oral reports

Dec 2 and 9: Classes 12 and 13

Formal ten minute oral reports – the presentations to be followed by student critiques of performer, in written form, submitted anonymously after class

(ff after each class by private critique by jcp)