

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS
 Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan
Northern Studies BA
 College of Liberal Arts
 Spring 2013

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose	Intended Objectives/Outcomes	Assessment Criteria and Procedures	Implementation (what, when, who)
MISSION STATEMENT: 1. To instill in undergraduate students a multidisciplinary appreciation of the circumpolar North, with a particular focus on its diverse peoples, art forms, economies, political systems, histories, policies, literatures, geographies, communities, and ecosystems 2. To develop students' understanding of the issues and challenges facing the people, systems, and environments of the circumpolar North 3. To provide a locus for discussion and analysis of the circumpolar North, particularly as it experiences social, political, climatic, and environmental changes 4. To facilitate students' success in accomplishing their own individual life goals, including: graduate study; careers focusing on northern issues; community engagement in the North and beyond; living a successful and satisfying life in the North; and lifelong learning about the North	Students will have facility with core concepts that pertain to the North in each of the key disciplines that make up the BA: Alaska Native Studies; Anthropology; Biology; Art, Literature, and other Humanities; Geography; History; Political Science and other social sciences.	Seminar paper that addresses core concepts from major subject areas of the NORS major, submitted with names redacted to the SLOA Committee; evaluated with rubric	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embedded assignment in the senior seminar, which is the capstone course • Typically taken in the senior year • NORS SLOA committee will evaluate based on rubric
	Students will experience diverse ways of conceptualizing and thinking about the North.	Seminar paper that addresses core concepts from major subject areas of the NORS major, submitted with names redacted to the SLOA Committee; evaluated with rubric	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embedded assignment in the senior seminar, which is the capstone course • Typically taken in the senior year • NORS SLOA committee will evaluate based on rubric
	Students will perceive academic growth in their understanding of the North.	Student program evaluation—an open-ended questionnaire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open-ended questionnaire about the NORS program • Administered in the senior year • Reviewed by NORS faculty
	Students will be able to use written communication to express ideas about the North, e.g. as literature, traditional research papers, literary or art criticism, and/or policy writing.	Writing assignments embedded in W-intensive NORS courses, with students' names redacted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing samples collected from writing intensive (W) courses in NORS with students' names redacted • Collected at least annually • NORS SLOA committee will evaluate based on rubric

Submitted by:

<p>GOAL STATEMENT:</p> <p>1. Provide a high quality multidisciplinary education in Northern Studies to students seeking a BA in NORS; to those who are taking NORS classes as part of another major; to students taking NORS classes for upper division credit; and to students who wish to satisfy their personal curiosity and interest in the North</p> <p>2. Be at the forefront of research-based teaching on the circumpolar North</p> <p>3. Provide an academic structure for learning about the Northern context for the entire university community through high quality teaching and innovative research and scholarship on the North</p>	<p>Students will have opportunities for experiential, applied, and other out-of-classroom learning, e.g. hands-on participation in research and scholarship, field trips, attending lectures and presentations by visiting scholars, interaction with NORS graduate students, and participation in NORS social and academic events.</p>	<p>Student Program Evaluation—open-ended questionnaire; NORS faculty and student attendance at events, field trips, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Program Evaluation—analyzed at least annually by NORS faculty • Summary of Northern Studies Seminar Series events, submitted annually, with approximate attendance count and projected impact
	<p>Students will engage in a seminar experience near their final semester that will integrate all of their previous coursework on the North.</p>	<p>Senior seminar (capstone) course is required for graduation with a BA in NORS</p> <p>Seminar paper (embedded assignment) to measure the integration of NORS coursework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NORS 484W/O—Seminar in Northern Studies, the required capstone course • Typically taken in senior year • Seminar papers, with names redacted, will be evaluated at least annually by the NORS SLOA Committee
	<p>Students will explore original research, scholarship, and creative activity that focuses on the North through their interactions with NORS faculty, NORS-affiliated graduate students, visiting scholars hosted by NORS, and through presentations in the Northern Seminar Series.</p>	<p>NORS students are invited to attend Northern Seminar Series events, which are presentations by local and visiting scholars. NORS faculty offer community research presentations, guest lectures, readings, performances, papers, and art shows on campus and in the community. Grad students affiliated with NORS give open defenses and discuss their works-in-progress in open forums. NORS Alumni present formally and also offer informal opportunities for students to interact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northern Seminar Series offers presentations at least annually • Art shows and readings are scheduled on an ad hoc basis • NORS grad student defenses occur in batches in late spring and late fall

Submitted by: