Submit original with signatures + 1 copy + electronic copy to Faculty Senate (Box 7500).

See http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty-senate/curriculum/course-degree-procedures-/ for a complete description of the rules governing

		cu	ırriculum	& course	changes.				-
		TRIAL COUR	SE OR N	EW COL	JRSE PROPO	SAL			
SUBMITTED BY:									
Department	Biology and Wildlife			College	e/School				CNSM
Prepared by		Donald A. Walker		Phone			X2460		
Email Contact	dawalker@alaska.edu		Faculty Contact			Donald A. Walker			
1. ACTION DESIRED (CHECK ON		V E) :	ıl Course			New Co 4xx/6xx	ourse	X	
2. COURSE IDEN	NTIFICATION:	Dept	BIG	OL	Course #	4624 662	No. of Cr	edits	2
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If yes, Dept:

4. To be CROSS LISTED?

YES/NO [

Governance 10/7/11 K&

Course #

(Requires approval of both departments and deans involved. Add lines at end of form for such signatures.) 5. To be STACKED? If yes, Dept. BIOL Course # | 662 Yes 6. FREQUENCY OF OFFERING: **Spring** Fall, Spring, Summer (Every, or Even-numbered Years, or Odd-numbered Years) - or As **Demand Warrants** 7. SEMESTER & YEAR OF FIRST OFFERING (AY2011-12 if Students should enroll in spring, course will be taught approved by 3/1/2012; otherwise AY2012-13) in early June. First offering AY2012-13. The package of two 2-hr courses is offered instead of a single 4-hr course because some students taking the LECTURE component will not be able to participate in the EXCURSION component because of work or other commitments (e.g. those enrolled in the Wildlife Department with summer internships or jobs). Also we will list both courses as University of the Arctic offerings and want to give the students the option of taking either the LECTURE or the EXCURSION component or (preferably) both. 8. COURSE FORMAT: NOTE: Course hours may not be compressed into fewer than three days per credit. Any course compressed into fewer than six weeks must be approved by the college or school's curriculum council. Furthermore, any core course compressed to less than six weeks must be approved by the core review committee. **COURSE FORMAT:** 6 weeks to full (check all that apply) semester 14 day course OTHER FORMAT (specify) Mode of delivery (specify Lectures and Field Trip lecture, field trips, labs, etc) 9. CONTACT HOURS PER WEEK: **LECTURE** LAB **PRACTICUM** 8 hours/weeks hours /week hours /week Note: # of credits are based on contact hours. 800 minutes of lecture-1 credit. 2400 minutes of lab in a science course-1 credit. 1600 minutes in non-science lab=1 credit, 2400-4800 minutes of practicum=1 credit, 2400-8000 minutes of internship=1 credit. This must match with the syllabus. See http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty-senate/curriculum/course-degree-procedures-/guidelines-forcomputing-/ for more information on number of credits. OTHER HOURS (specify type) **Explanation:** The course consists of the following parts: 1. 2-day preparation period consisting of overview lectures 4 hours

- 1. 2-day preparation period consisting of overview lectures 4 hours (240 minutes of lecture) student planning and logistic preparation 12 hrs (720 minutes of practicum).
- 2. 10-day field excursion on the Dalton Highway: 12 hours (720 minutes) of lecture and 68 hours (4080 minutes) of practicum.
- 3. 2-day preparation and presentation of student oral summaries of field projects. 16 hours (960 minutes) of practicum.

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TOTAL about 16 hours (960 minutes) lecture and 96 hours (5760 minutes) practicum.

10. COMPLETE CATALOG DESCRIPTION including dept., number, title, credits, credit distribution, cross-listings and/or stacking (50 words or less if possible):

BIOL F4 Arctic Plants and Vegetation Ecology: Field.

2 Credits. Offered Spring Even-numbered Years

14-day course with 10-day field excursion along the Elliott and Dalton Highways. Examination and field sampling of a wide variety of Arctic ecosystems and plant communities in the Brooks Range Arctic Foothills and Arctic Coastal Plain. BIOL 115 and 116 or equivalent; BIOL 239 or BIOL 271; or approval of instructor. Special fees apply. Stacked with BIOL F662 (2)

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IF YES, check w	nich core requirements it could be used to fulfill:	
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Note: The p	roposed fee is based on a quote from Tiaga Adventures outfitters in Fa	irbanks
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	her options through CH2MHill and possibly a supplemental funding re	equest to
NSF. We w	ill adjust the fee based on the final cost.	
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Propos	ed North Slope camp gear list for proposed Arctic Ecology course, 7-	-20
		e jevil ve
Quantity	Item	
l ea	2 kw generator – with containment	
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1 ea	Dyna-Glow heater est burn rate @ 1 tank per day.	
l ea	Western Shelter 20' tent with no insulation, send piece of Geotec	ch for floor
l ea	Western Shelter outhouse tent without inner seat	
1 ea	Kitchen box for 26 persons (extra settings)	
2 ea	Reliance Hassock camp toilet	
- 4	Trash compactor bags, small individual trash bags (at least 600 e	ea), TP
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2 ea	6 g jerry cans	
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JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED

The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize course change and new course applications to make sure that the quality of UAF education is not lowered as a result of the proposed change. Please address this in your response. This section needs to be self-explanatory. Use as much space as needed to fully justify the proposed course.

This course is the main field component of the Arctic Plants and Vegetation Ecology course proposed for spring semester 2013. The summer scheduling is needed because of the short time period that is available for field courses during the fall-spring academic year.

The course will provide a much-needed field focus on Arctic Ecosystems with an emphasis on hands-on learning and a natural history of the Arctic. This course is a key to understanding the issues related to Arctic climate change, and how changing land cover and land use in the Arctic will impact Arctic systems and people living in the Arctic.

This course will take a broad interdisciplinary approach to understanding the global Arctic tundra vegetation. During the course, students will become familiar with a wide variety of vascular plant species, mosses and lichens in the field and with the great variety of boreal forest and arctic ecosystems that are accessible along the Dalton and Elliott highways. They will also be trained in methods of vegetation sampling, primarily those needed for jobs in agencies that collect vegetation data. Students will be trained in the methods used for the U.S. National Vegetation Classification and the international Braun-Blanquet relevé approach.

The course is the excursion component of a 2-course package. A 2-credit lecture course will be offered separately during the spring semester 2013 and 2014. (See accompanying New Course Proposal for Arctic Plants and Vegetation Ecology: Lecture.) The Excursion component will not be offered in 2013, but going forward from 2014, in even-numbered years, students can take either the LECTURE or FIELD or both courses (preferred option).

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PROVALS: Add additional signature lines as needed.	
CN	Date Oct 3, 2011
Signature, Chair, Program/Department of:	
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Syllabus for NEW COURSE, BIOL 462 / 662, Arctic Vegetation Ecology: Field, Summer 2014

1. Course information

Title: Special Topic, Arctic Vegetation Ecology: Excursion

Number: BIOL 462 / 662

Credits: 2

Prerequisites: BIOL 115 & 116, Introduction to Plant Biology (BIOL 239) or Principles

of Ecology (BIOL 271) or instructor approval

Location: TBA
Meeting time: TBA

2. Instructor and contact information

Prof. D.A. (Skip) Walker, Alaska Geobotany Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Arctic Health Building, Room 254, X 2460, dawalker@alaska.edu. Office hours: Generally available, call before coming.

3. Course readings/Material:

Readings: Numerous papers will be read and are in the assignments listed in the course calendar and will be posted on line at http://www.geobotany.uaf.edu. These three references provide a good overview of the Dalton Highway transect for the Excursion:

- 1. Brown J, Kreig RA. 1983. Guidebook to permafrost and related features along the Elliot and Dalton highways, Fox to Prudhoe Bay, Alaska. Fairbanks, AK: Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys.
- Walker DA, Hamilton TD, Ping C-L, Daanen RP, Streever WW. 2009. Dalton Highway Field Trip Guide for the Ninth International Conference on Permafrost. Fairbanks, AK: Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys.

Required materials:

The course will provide a large group meeting and eating tent, Coleman stoves, water purification, first aid kit, satellite phone, generator, and vehicles. Students will need to purchase food and have money for eating at Coldfoot and Prudhoe Bay. A list of required equipment, will be provided to students before the course starts. Students will need to enroll early and contact the organizers to get a list of required equipment, including tents, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, rain gear, footwear, sun protection, bug protection, personal gear and other camping equipment.

4. Course description:

Course catalog description: BIOL 462 / 662. Special Topic, Arctic Vegetation Ecology: Field. 2 Credits. 14-day course with 10-day field excursion along the Elliott and Dalton Highways. Examination and field sampling of a wide variety of Arctic plant communities in the Brooks Range Arctic Foothills and Arctic Coastal Plain.

More detailed description: This course will consist of:

- 1. 2 days of preparation with lectures and logistics for the excursion.
- 2. 10-day excursion
- 3. 2 days of student presentations at the end.

This course is based on the guidebook and field trip conducted during the Ninth

International Conference on Permafrost, and the 2010 IARC Summer Field School. The trip will have a strong emphasis on Arctic Vegetation and field sampling.

5. Course goals and student learning outcomes

The goals for the course are to: (1) Provide students with an in-depth field experience of Arctic vegetation and application of vegetation science to current Arctic issues. (2) Provide methods of field sampling of Arctic vegetation in a variety of Arctic plant communities. (3) Visit arctic research sites, including Finger Mountain, Atigun Pass, Toolik Lake, Imnavait Creek, Happy Valley, Sagwon, Franklin Bluffs and Prudhoe Bay.

6. Instructional method and grading criteria:

2-day preparation

Introductory lectures in the mornings will give an overview of the course and ecosystems along the Dalton Highway. In the afternoons, students will develop a research topic to be examined during the excursion. They will also prepare for the excursion by buying food, needed supplies and personal gear. Students should become familiar with the field guides (Walker et al. 2009, Brown and Krieg 1983) for the Dalton Highway route.

10-day field excursion:

The course will follow the route and much of the content of the 2010 IARC Summer Field School course, "Arctic in a changing climate: Physical and biological linkages to permafrost change across an Arctic climate gradient" (Walker et al. 2009), but the emphasis will be on vegetation along the Dalton Highway. We will establish three camps in the Brooks Range, Arctic Foothills, and Arctic Coastal Plain — Galbraith Lake, Happy Valley, and near Deadhorse — where we will camp and spend two days at each location exploring the local vegetation, soils, permafrost, geology, and land-use and climate-change issues. The course will have several field lectures, conducted during most mornings, using materials from past and existing research projects, including vegetation analyses of zonal vegetation, riparian vegetation, poplar groves, pingos, patterned ground, acidic and nonacidic tundra, tussock tundra, alpine tundra, and vegetation mapping. In the afternoons students will learn the methods of vegetation sampling and collect sample data from representative vegetation using the Braun-Blanquet relevé approach and the US National Vegetation Classification approach. Students will be divided into sampling teams to sample vegetation in several habitats (dry, mesic, wet, riparian) along the Arctic climate gradient.

2-day presentation of student projects:

At the end of the course students will spend one day writing an oral presentation that summarizes their observations during the excursion. Students will present their findings on the second day with ample time for group discussions.

Research topics:

Students will develop a research topic that fits with the planned sampling approach. The topics should focus on descriptive aspects of vegetation along the climate gradient. Students should keep in mind that the analysis of the data will be limited by the short time available at the end of the course. (Data collected from the excursion will also be more thoroughly analyzed in the fall semester as part of BIOL 475 Vegetation Description and Analysis.) At the end of the course, each student will present 15-minute oral presentation summarizing an aspect of the field observations, focusing on their research topic. Guidelines for these presentations will be handed out at the beginning of

the course. Graduate students will also write a 10-15 page research paper focused on some aspect of observations during the course, which will be due at end of the summer.

Day	Date	Topic	Assignment:
1	Jun 7	Morning: Arctic Vegetation overview lectures, Afternoon: Development of student research topics	Assignment.
2	Jun 8	Morning: Arctic vegetation overview lectures. Afternoon: Preparation for field excursion.	
3	Jun 9	Drive to Coldfoot with stops at Tolvana River, Yukon River, Finger Mountain, U.S. Forest Service Fire Ecology research site at Mile 85.7 and Arctic Circle. Evening lecture at Coldfoot Multiagency Visitor Center. Camp at Marion Creek.	Brown J, Kreig RA. 1983. Guidebook to permafrost and related features along the Elliot and Dalton highways, Fox to Prudhoe Bay, Alaska. Fairbanks, AK: Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys. Walker DA, Hamilton TD, Ping C-L, Daanen RP, Streever WW. 2009. Dalton Highway Field Trip Guide for the Ninth International Conference on Permafrost. Fairbanks, AK: Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys.
4	Jun 10	Drive to Galbraith Lake with stops at Sukakpak Mountain, Chandalar pingo, 3 stops on Atigun Pass (south side, summit, north side), Atigun River valley. Camp at Galbraith Lake.	Ellis JM, Calkin PE. 1979. Nature and distribution of glaciers, neoglacial moraines, and rock glaciers, east-central Brooks Range, Alaska. Arctic and Alpine Research 11: 403-420. Hamilton TD. 1986. Late Cenozoic glaciation of the Central Brooks Range. Pages 9-49 in Hamilton TD, Reed KM, Thorson RM, eds. Glaciation in Alaska: the Geologic Record. Anchorage: Alaska Geological Society.
5	Jun 11	Morning: vegetation sampling procedures. Relevé method. Afternoon: Visit to aufeis and Atigun canyon, dunes and riparian communities.	Schickhoff U, Walker MD, Walker DA. 2002. Riparian willow communities on the Arctic Slope of Alaska and their environmental relationships: A classification and ordination analysis. Phytocoenologia 32: 145-204.
6	Jun 12	Morning: Soil and site sampling procedures. Afternoon: Student sampling in wetlands and mesic sites in Galbraith Lake vicinity.	Ping CL, Michaelson GJ, Kimble JM, Romanovsky VE, Shur YL, Swanson DK, Walker DA. 2008. Cryogenesis and soil formation along a bioclimate gradient in Arctic North America. Journal of Geophysical Research - Biogeosciences 113: G03S12. Ping CL, Michaelson GJ, Jorgenson MT, Kimble JM, Epstein H, Romanovsky VE, Walker DA. 2008. High stocks of soil organic carbon in North American Arctic region. Nature Geoscience 1: 615-619.
7	Jun 13	Morning: Imnaviat Creek	Hamilton TD. 2003. Surficial geology of the Dalton

		R4D research Afternoon: Toolik Lake, LTER research, and vegetation mapping Dinner at Toolik Lake Field Station: Possible stay at Toolik Lake Field Station or drive to Happy Valley and camp.	Highway (Itkillik-Sagavanirktok rivers) area, southern Arctic foothills, Alaska. I map sheet, 1:63,360 scale + 32 p text: Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys, Professional Report 121. Raynolds MK, Walker DA, Munger CA, Vonlanthen CM, Kade AN. 2008. A map analysis of patterned-ground along a North American Arctic Transect. Journal of Geophysical Research - Biogeosciences 113: 1-18. Raynolds MK, Walker DA, Verbyla D, Munger CA. 2010. Changes in tundra vegetation over 25 years as measured by Landsat NDVI in the Upper Kuparuk River Basin, North Slope Alaska, 1985-2009. AGU Fall Meeting. San Francisco, CA.(or new change analysis paper) Walker MD, Walker DA, Auerbach NA. 1994. Plant communities of a tussock tundra landscape in the Brooks Range Foothills, Alaska. Journal of Vegetation Science 5: 843-866. Walker DA, Barry N. 1991. Toolik Lake permanent vegetation plots: site factors, soil physical and chemical properties, plant species cover, photographs, and soil descriptions. Boulder, CO: University of Colorado. Walker DA, Lederer ND, Walker MD. 1987. Permanent vegetation plots (Imnavait Creek): site factors, soil physical and chemical properties, and plant species cover. Boulder, CO: U.S. Department of Energy. Report no.
8	Jun 14	Morning: Happy Valley: Tussock tundra, riparian vegetation, water tracks, Sagavanirktok River flooplain. Biocomplexity research site. Afternoon: Sampling in Happy Valley vicinity. Camp along Sagavanirktok River at Happy Valley	Kade A, Walker DA, Raynolds MK. 2005. Plant communities and soils in cryoturbated tundra along a bioclimate gradient in the Low Arctic, Alaska. Phytocoenologia 35: 761-820. Kade A, Walker DA. 2008. Experimental alteration of vegetation on nonsorted circles: effects on cryogenic activity and implications for climate change in the Arctic. Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research 40: 96-103. Walker DA, Auerbach NA, Nettleton TK, Gallant A, Murphy SM. 1997. Happy Valley Permanent Vegetation Plots. Boulder, CO: University of Colorado. Report.
9	Jun 15	Morning: Sagwon vicinity, northern foothills vegetation. Acidic and nonacidic tundra. Afternoon: Continuation of foothills vegetation sampling. Camp at Happy Valley.	Walker DA, Kuss HP, Epstein HE, Kade AN, Vonlanthen C, Raynolds MK, Daniëls FJA. 2011. Vegetation of zonal patterned-ground ecosystems along the North American Arctic Transect. Applied Vegetation Science 14: 435- 606. Walker DA, et al. 1998. Energy and trace-gas fluxes across a soil pH boundary in the Arctic. Nature 394: 469-472.
10	Jun 16	Morning: Drive to Franklin Bluffs, Visit research sites. Afternoon: Coastal Plain vegetation sampling.	Walker DA, Bockheim JG, Chapin FS, III, Eugster W, Nelson FE, Ping CL. 2001. Calcium-rich tundra, wildlife, and "the Mammoth Steppe". Quaternary Science Reviews 20: 149-163.

		Camp along Sagavanirktok River near Prudhoe Bay.	
11	Jun 17	Morning and afternoon: Hike to Percy Pingo. Pingo vegetation and flat coastal plain wetlands. Camp near Prudhoe Bay.	Walker MD. 1990. Vegetation and floristics of pingos, Central Arctic Coastal Plain, Alaska. Stuttgart, Germany: J. Cramer. Walker DA, Everett KR. 1991. Loess ecosystems of northern Alaska: regional gradient and toposequence at Prudhoe Bay. Ecological Monographs 61: 437-464.
12	Jun 18	Return to Fairbanks, stopping where necessary for student projects.	
13	Jun 19	Students prepare oral presentations summarizing field observations	
14	Jun 20_	Student oral presentations	Graduate student papers due Aug 15.

8. Course policies:

Academic integrity:

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is presenting another's work as new or original without citing your source. For additional detail, see http://www.uaf.edu/library/instruction/handouts/Plagiarism.html

Please speak with me if you have any questions about how to properly use other people's work.

Attendance policy:

Students are expected to actively participate in both the academic part and expedition part of camp, cooking, clean-up, waste management, emergencies, group decisions, and keeping a cheerful attitude in sometimes trying circumstances.

9. Evaluation:

Summary of grading points:

Undergraduate student grading (BIOL 462 students):

Attendance and participation in discussions:	200 pts
Relevé data sheets and data entry	200
Oral presentation of research topic	<u>200</u>
TOTAL	600 pts

Graduate student aradina (BIOL 662 students):

Attendance and participation in discussions:	200 pts
Relevé data sheets and data entry	200
Oral presentation of research topic	200
Final research paper	<u>200</u>
TOTAL	800 pts

These criteria may be modified somewhat as the course progresses. Final grades will be as follows: greater than or equal to 90% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; < 60% = F.

Graduate student grading:

Graduate students will be graded according to the same criteria as the graduate students except that the graduate students are required to turn in 10-15 page research paper on an Arctic Vegetation topic of their choice by Aug 15. This paper will be worth 25% of the total grade.

10. Support Services:

Students are encouraged to contact the instructor with any questions, or to clarify the lecture or the assignments. I will be happy to review drafts of assignments and answer questions any time. Arctic Health, Room 254. Phone 474-2460, dawalker@alaska.edu. Home phone: 451-0800.

11. Disabilities services:

The instructor will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474 7043, to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.