

ARCTIC STUDIES - CERTIFICATE

The Department of Geography (GEOG) offers an interdisciplinary undergraduate certificate in arctic studies, in collaboration with the Program in Nordic Studies (SCAN), the International Affairs Program (IAFS), the Department of Environmental Studies (ENVS), the Department of Anthropology (ANTH), the Department of Ethnic Studies (ETHN) and the research entities of the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES), the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) and the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR).

This certificate prepares students to address pressing environmental, political and cultural issues in the far north. A laboratory for studying the effects of global climate change, the arctic region spans three continents, with territories in Canada, Greenland (Denmark), Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Russia and the United States. Its population exhibits considerable ethnic, linguistic, and sociopolitical diversity, and contains numerous indigenous peoples. Issues as critical as nationalism, territorial rights and law, security, economic development and resource technology place the arctic at the center of global, regional and national interests. Further, the region's natural and social characteristics have inspired influential and enduring expressive culture—produced by locals and outsiders—from antiquity to the present.

These features make study of the arctic ideal for students pursuing careers in international politics and diplomacy, indigenous rights, environmental science and climate change, humanistic scholarship or creative work.

For more information, and to apply to the certificate in arctic studies, please contact Professor Mark Serreze (<https://www.colorado.edu/geography/mark-serreze-0/>) at serreze@nsidc.org

Requirements

The certificate is open to all CU undergraduates and requires the completion of six courses for a total of 18 credit hours.

Credit hours are distributed in three categories: (1) Certificate Core Courses, (2) Environment and Policy, and (3) Culture and Society. Students must complete all three courses in the core category and at least one course in each of the other two categories. They will then take one elective course, and only one 1000-level course is allowed. Nine of the 18 credits must be upper-division.

Up to three credits of approved study abroad experience may be applied to either the Environment and Policy or Culture and Society categories.

Required Courses and Credit Hours

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Core Courses		
GEOG 2271	Introduction to the Arctic Environment	3
IAFS/SCAN 3631	Arctic Society and Culture	3
PSCI 3206	The Environment and Public Policy	3
Society and Culture		3-6
<i>One course required, plus one elective in this category or in the Environment and Policy category</i>		
ETHN 2013	Critical Issues in Native North America	

GEOG 3882	Geography of the Former Soviet Union	
RUSS 3251	Arctic Noir: Environment, Landscape and Literature of the Far North	
SCAN 2201	Introduction to Modern Nordic Culture and Society	
SCAN 2202	The Vikings	
SCAN 3202	Old Norse Mythology	
SCAN 3204	Medieval Icelandic Sagas	
SCAN 3251	Arctic Noir: Environment, Landscape and Literature of the Far North	
SCAN 3301	Radical Nationalism in Contemporary Northern Europe	
SWED 3010	Advanced Swedish 1-DILS	
SWED 3020	Advanced Swedish 2 - DILS	
Study Abroad - Global Seminar: Identity, Arts & Ethics in Contemporary Norway (Oslo and Bergen)		
Environment and Policy		3-6
<i>One course required, plus one elective in this category or in the Society and Culture category</i>		
ATOC 4500	Special Topics in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences - Upper Division (only if topic is Icesheets and Climate)	
EBIO 3170	Mountain Ecology and Conservation	
ENVS 1000	Introduction to Environmental Studies	
ENVS 3022	Climate Politics and Policy	
GEOG 3022	Climate Politics and Policy	
GEOG 3682	Geography of International Development	
GEOG 4271	The Arctic Climate System	
GEOG 4371	Forest Geography: Principles and Dynamics	
GEOL 1060	Global Change: An Earth Science Perspective	
IAFS 1000	Global Issues and International Affairs	
PSCI 2116	Introduction to Environmental Policy and Policy Analysis	
Total Credit Hours		18