MEMO

Re: Center for Cross-Cultural Studies Policy Regarding Summer Graduation

From: Faculty of the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies and the Indigenous Studies PhD Program

To: Cross-Cultural Studies MA Students and Indigenous Studies PhD Students;

All Affiliated Faculty

Please note the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies Policy Regarding Summer Graduation, effective as of this memo:

The faculty of the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies’ policy regarding summer graduation is that only under extenuating circumstances, to be determined by a student’s graduate committee and with agreement by the department chair, may a master’s or PhD thesis be defended in the summer semesters of the academic schedule of the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Otherwise, a student should not expect to be able to defend their master’s or PhD thesis in the summer semesters.

This is our policy due to two factors: the majority of faculty are for extended periods in the summer doing fieldwork or otherwise working in locations not equipped with telephones or internet technologies, and very often with no electricity whatsoever; also, none of the faculty are on contract during this period, so all work with students during the summer semesters is voluntary.

Students are still permitted to register for CCS 698/699 for research or thesis credits in the summer, and it is the responsibility of the student to devise an advisory schedule with their graduate committee if these research and/or thesis credits are taken during summer semesters.

Comprehensive exams can also be written during the summer with CCS 698/699 registration, but the student is responsible for devising an advisory schedule with their graduate committee.

Therefore, except under extenuating circumstances determined by a student’s graduate committee and with agreement by the department chair, all theses (master’s and PhD) must be defended during the regular academic year, from late August to mid-May, each year. Of course, all other university deadlines (departmental, Graduate School, College of Liberal Arts) still apply.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Faculty of the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies and the Indigenous Studies PhD Program