

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan
B.A. in Arctic & Northern Studies
 College of Liberal Arts
 August 2020

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose	Intended Objectives/Outcomes	Assessment Criteria and Procedures	Implementation (what, when, who)
MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of UAF's Arctic & Northern Studies is to educate students and others on the Arctic region and circumpolar North, with focus on their peoples and communities, social systems, and environments in a rapidly changing context due to climate change, and prepare them to work on Arctic issues. GOAL STATEMENT: The goal of UAF's Arctic & Northern Studies is to elevate significantly the interdisciplinary knowledge and curiosity of and appreciation for the Arctic region and circumpolar North among students and others and to provide an academic structure for learning about the Arctic region and circumpolar North for the UAF and wider academic and policy communities through high quality teaching and mentoring; innovative research and scholarship; and service, outreach, and networking.	Students will learn interdisciplinary ways to conceptualize and think about the Arctic region and circumpolar North.	B.A. students must take and pass the introductory / orientation seminar to the ACNS B.A. program, ACNS 201 The Circumpolar North.	Students typically take this in their first year.
	Students will learn about the region's peoples, communities, political systems, policies, histories, geographies, economies, ecosystems, literatures, and art forms.	Students must take and pass courses in a variety of disciplines. *Students must demonstrate synthesis of these perspectives in the senior seminar, ACNS 484 Perspectives on the North.	Students will complete an essay in the senior seminar, ACNS 484 Perspectives on the North (the capstone course) which should demonstrate broad, interdisciplinary understanding of the Arctic and circumpolar North. *This is typically taken in the senior year. *In addition to the course instructor, the ACNS SLOA committee will evaluate these essays for accreditation purposes.
	Students will explore original research, scholarship, and creative activity that focus on the Arctic region and circumpolar North.	Students will be exposed to such literature in their various classes, especially upper division classes.	Students will complete an essay embedded in the senior seminar, ACNS 484 Perspectives on the North (the capstone course), in which they must become familiar with, evaluate, and synthesize literature based on original research. *This is typically taken in the senior year. *In addition to the course instructor, the ACNS SLOA committee will evaluate these essays for accreditation purposes.
	The program offers opportunities for experiential, applied, and other out-of-classroom learning. This includes participation in the Model Arctic Council, research and scholarship, field trips, lectures and presentations by visiting scholars, and participation in ACNS social and academic events.	These opportunities will be announced through the ACNS Facebook page, ACNS website, and email. Students will be encouraged to participate, but they will ultimately self-select into these opportunities.	Students will have the opportunity to participate in the Model Arctic Council and other opportunities as they are provided. *ACNS leaders will inform students of these opportunities.

Submitted by: Professor Brandon Boylan and Tyler Kirk

			*ACNS will collect information on participation in some events (e.g. Model Arctic Council).
	Students will achieve academic growth in their understanding of the Arctic region and circumpolar North.	Student program evaluation includes an open-ended questionnaire administered towards the end of or shortly after their degree.	Students will complete a program and self evaluation close to or upon graduation. *ACNS faculty will evaluate these questionnaires.