Introducing the Læra Institute for Circumpolar Education

Environmental Education Panel

Scotland-Arctic Network Series
1st March 2021
UArctic founded in 2001 to promote circumpolar collaboration in education, research and outreach.

Canada
35 members

Norway
15 members

Denmark/Greenland/Faroes
13 members

Russia
52 members

Sweden
7 members

Finland
16 members

Iceland
10 members

Non–Arctic
34 members

USA
30 members

‘Empower people of Circumpolar North by providing unique educational and research opportunities’
UArctic created Circumpolar Studies as undergraduate core curriculum available for use by all members

UArctic CS Core Curriculum

- Introduction to the Circumpolar World
- Land and Environment of the Circumpolar World I & II
- Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar World I & II
- Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar World I & II

Source: Shared Voices: The UArctic Magazine (2017); UArctic
UArctic partners have established new Læra Institute to renew and revitalise Circumpolar Studies

Source: Læra Institute

All UArctic member institutions welcome to engage with work of Læra Institute

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In our work, Læra Institute will listen to Arctic voices and respect different perspectives on ‘circumpolarity’

**Læra Institute Work Programme**

**Curriculum criteria**
Detailed topic specifications for Circumpolar Studies, to help UArctic members develop locally appropriate courses based on shared understanding.

**Exemplar courses**
Example Circumpolar Studies courses and resources, which UArctic members can use as models, adapt to local needs or teach ‘off-the-shelf’

**Faculty workshop**
Regular meeting of UArctic member faculty teaching Circumpolar Studies courses, to share pedagogical research, best-practice and local insights

**Student symposia**
Regular meeting of UArctic member undergraduate students, to share learning, present own research and collaborate on joint activities

Our first workshop, ‘Circumpolar Studies Is...’, scheduled to take place 12th March

Source: Læra Institute

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LAERA INSTITUTE WILL ALSO LISTEN TO STUDENT VOICES BY HOSTING REGULAR UNDERGRADUATE SYMPOSIA . . .

. . . AT WHICH STUDENTS CAN ALSO TAKE PART IN UNIQUE LEARNING EXPERIENCES—E.G. MODEL ARCTIC COUNCIL

Source: UArctic (photos); Arctic Council (logo)
As we can only gather online in current circumstances, please allow me to introduce myself briefly.

Anthony Speca

- Adjunct Professor of Canadian Studies at Trent University (Canada)
- Managing Director, Læra Institute for Circumpolar Education
- Based near Norwich, UK (and annual visitor to Scotland)
- Runs Model Arctic Council events for universities and schools
- Research interests in Arctic education, governance, and ‘philosophy’

I look forward to the opportunity to meet you in person one day!

Source: Læra Institute

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Thank you

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uarctic.org/organization/thematic-networks/
laera-institute-for-circumpolar-education/

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