



**LÆRA
INSTITUTE**



UArctic

INTRODUCING THE LÆRA INSTITUTE FOR CIRCUMPOLAR EDUCATION

APECS Workshop
ICASS X

Northern (Arctic) Federal University
Arkhangelsk, Russia | 18 June 2021

UArctic founded in 2001 to promote circumpolar collaboration in education, research and outreach



Canada

35 members



Denmark/Greenland/Faroes

13 members



Finland

16 members



Iceland

10 members



Norway

15 members



Russia

52 members



Sweden

7 members



UArctic



USA

30 members



Non-Arctic

34 members

‘Empower people of Circumpolar North by providing unique educational and research opportunities’

Source: UArctic

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

CS courses in use at number of UArctic member institutions in North America, Europe, Russia

Source: *Shared Voices: The UArctic Magazine* (2017); UArctic

UArctic partners have established new Læra Institute to renew and revitalise Circumpolar Studies



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

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

Curriculum criteria

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

Exemplar materials

Example Circumpolar Studies courses and teaching 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

We held our first faculty workshop online in March, and we hosted discussions at 3rd UArctic Congress in May

Læra Institute will also listen to student voices by hosting regular undergraduate symposia . . .



. . . at which students can also take part in innovative learning experiences—*e.g.* Model Arctic Council

Source: UArctic (photos); Arctic Council (logo); Læra Institute

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As we can only gather online in current circumstances, please allow me to introduce myself briefly as well



Anthony Specca

- Philosopher, geographer, educator and Arctic specialist
- Adjunct Professor, Trent University (Canada)
- Managing Director, Læra Institute for Circumpolar Education
- Former senior policy official with Government of Nunavut
- Runs Model Arctic Council events for universities and schools
- Research interests in Arctic education, governance, and ‘philosophy’

Please join me at the Læra Institute’s ICASS X panel session,
‘Innovation and Pedagogy in Circumpolar Studies’

Thank you / Спасибо

Dr Anthony Spica

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