



LÆRA
INSTITUTE



UArctic

INTRODUCING THE LÆRA INSTITUTE FOR CIRCUMPOLAR EDUCATION

8th UK Arctic Science Conference

British Antarctic Survey
Cambridge, UK | 13 September 2023

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



Canada

40 members



Denmark/Greenland/Faroes

13 members



Finland

18 members



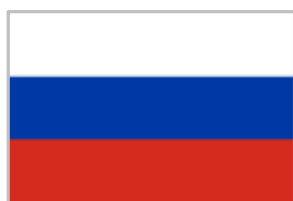
Iceland

10 members



Norway

17 members



Russia

55 members

(participation paused)



Sweden

6 members



USA

27 members



Non-Arctic

42 members

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

Source: UArctic; Læra Institute

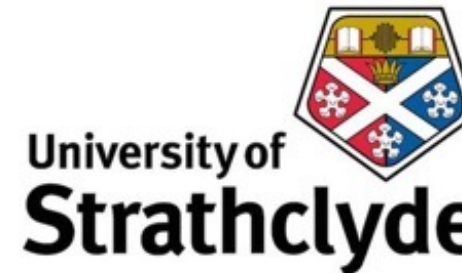
12 British institutions are currently members of UArctic, including 9 Scottish universities in 'Scotland-Arctic Network'



UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN



University of St Andrews



Perhaps your institution should be amongst them?

Source: UArctic; universities shown (logos)

UArctic created Circumpolar Studies as undergraduate core curriculum available for use by all member institutions



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

All UArctic students eligible to take CS courses—
taught online even before pandemic

Læra Institute established in autumn 2020 to help renew and revitalise UArctic Circumpolar Studies programme

Læra Institute founding and steering partners



UNIVERSITY of ALASKA
ANCHORAGE

(participation paused)

(joined 2021)

We're grateful to Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research for funding to support our work

Source: Læra Institute; universities shown (logos)

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 LÆRA INSTITUTE  UArctic

Læra Institute promotes shared understanding of Circumpolar Studies and borderless academic community

Curriculum guide

Detailed guidebook for developing Circumpolar Studies curricula, enabling the design of locally appropriate courses based on shared understanding

Exemplar materials

Example Circumpolar Studies courses and teaching resources, to be used as models, adapted to local needs, or taught 'off-the-shelf'

Faculty workshop

Meeting of UArctic member faculty teaching Circumpolar Studies courses, to share pedagogical research, best-practice and local insights

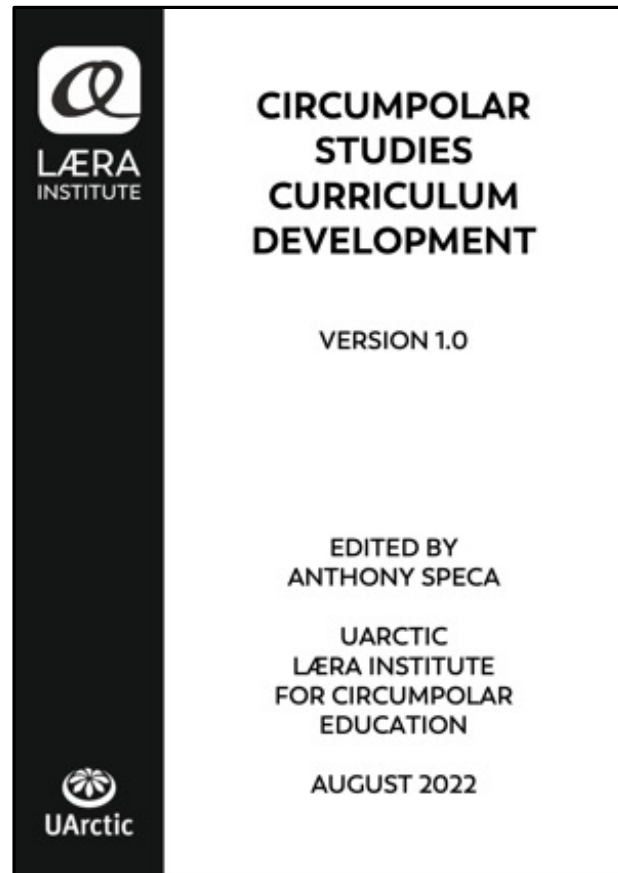
Student symposia

Meeting of UArctic member undergraduate students, to share learning, present own research and collaborate on joint activities

Dialogue and collaboration

Convening conference sessions on educational topics, and support for/collaboration on proposals and projects with educational components

Last summer, we published first edition of our Circumpolar Studies Curriculum Development guide

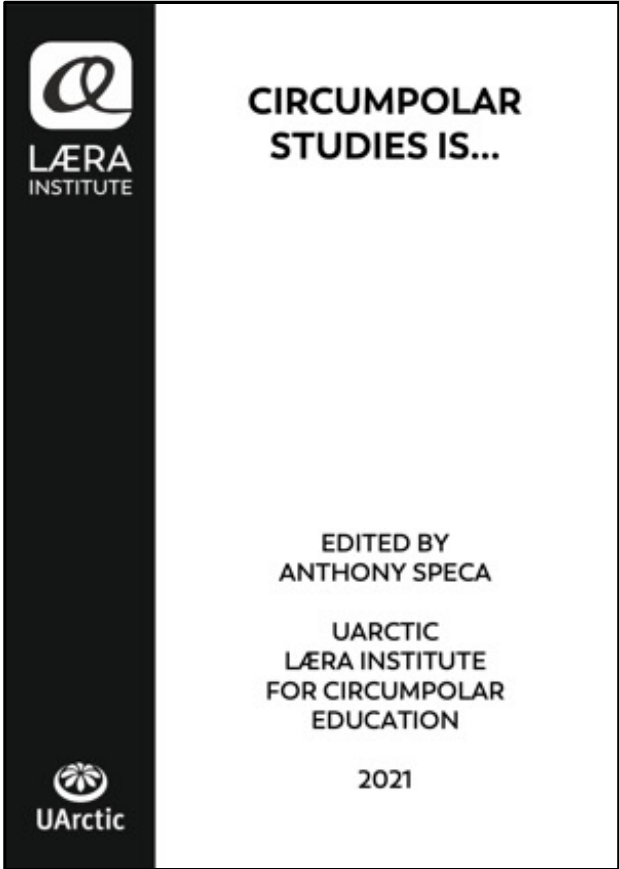


Læra Institute CS Curriculum Guide

- 10 principles for designing high-quality undergraduate Circumpolar Studies curriculum
- 3 themes that any comprehensive Circumpolar Studies curriculum should cover
- Key learning outcomes for students organised by theme
- Question-based checklist to assist curriculum developers
- Appendices – ‘What is Circumpolar Studies?’ and overview of Circumpolar Studies resources

‘Living document’ to be revised and republished at intervals in future

Our curriculum development guide informed by our first faculty workshop on topic of ‘Circumpolar Studies Is...’



Call currently open for proposals for ‘exemplar’ CS courses based on this guide to supplement UArctic core CS programme

Source: Læra Institute

Læra Institute also reaches out to wider academy by sponsoring conference sessions on Circumpolar education



Calls for abstracts announced on our website

Source: Læra Institute; conference organisers shown (logos)

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We have upcoming plans in which UArctic faculty and students are most welcome to be involved

Spring 2024

First undergraduate student symposium (planned as in-person/hybrid event originally postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions)

Spring 2024

Publication of exemplar Circumpolar Studies courses, and associated teaching materials

June 2024

Sessions on educational innovation and pedagogy, as well as Circumpolar Studies program design and delivery, at 4th UArctic Congress and ICASS XI

Rolling

Continued delivery of UArctic CS courses, sponsorship of education-focused conference sessions, and support of educational proposals and projects

Don't hesitate to be in touch if you'd like to take part,
or if you have a proposal for collaboration

Thank you

Dr Anthony Speca

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