

School of Liberal Arts



NOST 200
RESEARCH IN THE NORTH
FALL 2021

3 Credits

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR	N. A. Easton	OFFICE HOURS	M/W 10:30 am - Noon
OFFICE	A2801	CLASSROOM	A2202
E-MAIL	neaston@yukonu.ca	CLASS TIME	T/Th - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
TELEPHONE	393-8012	CRN	10235/10236

Liberal Arts office: Ayamdigut Campus A2501, liberalarts@yukonu.ca, 867-668-8770

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Using a multidisciplinary approach, Research in the North considers the nature of knowledge and research, and examines the history of northern research, practical and ethical aspects of conducting and reporting research in the sciences and the humanities, and the state of contemporary northern research in a variety of disciplines.

The aim is to have you come to a broad understanding of research context, methods and principles and develop an awareness and familiarity with key northern research issues and resources. Practical assignments aim to improve your ability to research and write an original, short research paper and other academic and non-academic products and to be able to relate these to your own research and professional interests.

NOST 200 is a core-course option of the Northern Studies diploma programs and will also serve as a NOST or a general elective for Yukon University diplomas or certificates.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

[Prerequisite(s): This course assumes you have some post-secondary experience. Second-year standing is highly recommended. Students will be asked to sign a waiver for any off-campus activities. The visit to the MacBride Museum, if it can be arranged safely, will require you to pay admission (under \$10) if not a member.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Please consult bctransferguide.ca for the complete list of transferability that includes older versions of this course. This course is accepted for transfer by other institutions on a case-by-case basis.

Receiving Institution	Transfer Credit
CAMO	CAMO SOSC 100-level (3)
KWAN	KWAN ARTS 2nd (3)
SFU	SFU GEOG 263 (3) - B-Soc; If SFU GEOG 263 already obtained, credit will be SFU GEOG 1XX (3)
TRU	TRU SSEL 2XX0 (3)
TRU-OL	TRU-OL GEOG 2XX1 (3)
TWU	TWU SOCS 200 lev (3)
UBC	UBC ARTS (3). Credit granted for max 2 of YC NOST 200, NOST 201 or NOST 202
UFV	UFV GEOG 233 (3)
UNBC	UNBC NORS 2XX (3)
UVIC	UVIC SOSC 100 lev (1.5)
URegina	Not currently transferable – Check with School of HEHS
UAF	UAF Elec. (3)
UAS	Hist Elec. (3)

Students are reminded that it is always the receiving institution that determines whether a course is acceptable as an applicable, equivalent course or if it may be transferred to their program for credit. Find further information at: <https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit>

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- A. Outline and summarize the main historical and academic phases and themes of research in the North;
- B. Explain the primary causes, and nature and implications of contemporary conflict and partnership in northern research;
- C. Describe and explain the role(s) of research ethics;
- D. Report and explain the results of research or analysis in a variety of formats;
- E. Analyze and summarize a variety of academic products; and
- F. Design and complete a small-scale original research project and write it up.

COURSE FORMAT

Delivery format

NOST 200 is primarily a seminar course, with some flipped or flex classes as may be required, augmented variously by lectures, guest speakers, student presentations, discussion, and field visits or working trips to local libraries, the territorial archives, the MacBride Museum, or other research facilities. Note that COVID restrictions may limit the field activities.

Workload

NOST 200 meets weekly for three hours for lectures, seminars, or field trips. In addition, students can expect to spend 3 to 4 hours weekly engaged in assigned readings and additional time pursuing their selected research topic.

EVALUATION

The model of student assignments and assessments is different from what you might have encountered in other courses. There is a framework of required assignments, but students will define the specific work they will do to complete them.

Engagement and Participation

NOST 200 meets only once a week, so attendance is crucial. Furthermore, as a seminar with a small number of participants, your engaged participation is necessary for us to have fun with and benefit from this course. This is not a gradable category.

Assignments

There are four main assignments in NOST 200.

The first written assignment is an information-gathering and reporting exercise that describes background of and/or state of research in a selected field or locale in the North.

The second written assignment explores an issue in northern research, domestic or circumpolar, historical or contemporary.

The third assignment develops practical and transferable knowledge of research ethics. Students have the alternative of completing the TCPS-2 online tutorial (and writing a short reflection paper or journal) **or** writing a paper dealing with some aspect of the ethical conduct of research in the North.

The fourth assignment asks students to participate in the class project "Yukon History in 100 Objects." Course-end deliverables will include a documented and illustrated plain-language web-suitable account with appropriate license to post online, some related social media posts, and a poster that will be presented to college public in a lunch-time open house.

Presentations / Activities

A summary activity serves as a final check-in on the project in the form of an in-class short oral report, portfolio or seminar/open house presentation.

Evaluation

Element	Weight
Research background assignment (may vary: outcomes A, B, D, E)	15%
Topic assignment (may vary: outcomes A, B, C, D, E)	20%
TCPS2 tutorial and reflection paper (15% +10%) or alternative ethics in northern research project/paper (25%) (outcomes B, C, D, E)	25%
Research and report (outcomes C, E, F)	35%
Research activity (outcome F)	5%

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS

There is no specific textbook for this course.

Relevant readings and web materials will be referred to in class and will be available (as far as is practical and legal) on the course site on Yukon University's LMS at moodle.yukonu.ca.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Students may officially withdraw from a course or program without academic penalty up until two-thirds of the course contact hours have been completed. Specific withdrawal dates vary, and students should become familiar with the withdrawal dates of their program. See withdrawal information at www.yukonu.ca/admissions/money-matters

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates: www.yukonu.ca/admissions/important-dates

Refunds may be available. See the Refund policy and procedures at www.yukonu.ca/admissions/money-matters

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures (updated bi-annually) for further details about academic standing, and student rights and responsibilities: www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website at www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations)

It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations by contacting the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): LearningAssistanceCentre@yukonu.ca.

TOPIC OUTLINE

Week	Topic	Core Reading
1	Introduction / Research program planning	
2	Sources of information I (library, archives)	TBA
3	Sources of information II (specialist library, museum)	TBA
4	Northern research, northern studies: history, practice	TBA
5	Ethics, politics, partnerships, self-determination in northern research / Ethics intensive	TBA
6	Research workshop	TBA
7	Research workshop	TBA
8	Research workshop	TBA
9	Research workshop	TBA
10	Research on the Human North	TBA
11	Research on the Natural North	TBA
12	Big picture: Science for policy and policy for science	TBA
13	Concluding seminar: Portfolio, reports or paper presentations	TBA