



School of Liberal Arts

NOST 200
Research in the North
Fall 2025
3 Credits

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR	Alison Perrin	OFFICE HOURS	Mon 10-12; Wed 1-3; by appt.
OFFICE	NR32 (YukonU Research Centre)	CLASSROOM	A2408
E-MAIL	aperrin@yukonu.ca	CLASS TIME	Fridays 9:00 – 11:50 am
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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

This course assumes you have some post-secondary experience. Second-year standing is highly recommended.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

This information refers to the current course and is taken from the BC Transfer Guide, August 2025. 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 1XX (3)
KPU	KPU ARTS 2XXX (3)
TRU	TRU SSEL 2XXX (3)
TWU	TWU SOCS 2XX (3)
UBCV	UBC ARTS_V 2nd (3). Credit granted for max 2 of YU NOST 200, NOST 201 or NOST 202
UFV	UFV GEOG 233 (3)
UNBC	UNBC NORS 2XX (3)
UVIC	UVIC SOSC 1XX (1.5)
URegina	ELEC 2XX
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 delivered in person on the Ayamdigut campus, with some flipped or flex classes as may be required, augmented variously by lectures, guest speakers, student presentations, discussion, and local field visits or working trips to libraries, the territorial archives, the MacBride Museum, and/or other research facilities. Students are expected to attend class and may be required to complete assignments and/or activities online or individually. There may be no facility for including students at a distance.

Related course requirements

Students will be asked to sign a waiver for off campus activities. The visit to the MacBride Museum will require you to pay admission if not a member (\$11).

Workload

It is expected that this course will require 3hours/week of instructional time including field activities, online learning and classroom activities, and 3-4 hours/week of homework and additional reading. It is important to note that the time required for successful course completion will vary by individual.

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. Engaged participation is necessary to benefit from this course, however participation and attendance are not marked.

Assignments

There are 5 main assignments in NOST 200. There is no final exam.

1. State of research: an information-gathering and reporting exercise that describes the background of and/or state of research in a selected field or locale in the North.
2. Research ethics: complete the TCPS-2 online tutorial and write a short reflection paper comparing the TCPS-2 requirements to those of another northern research guideline.
3. Issues in northern research: explore an issue or topic relevant to northern research, either domestic or circumpolar and historical or contemporary.
4. Research poster: prepare a research poster communicating a summary of your final research paper and present in class. Posters will be shared in the university and/or on a public website.
5. Research paper: Write a research paper exploring a topic or theme of your choice based on the course curriculum and/or course field trips.

Assignment 1: Research background paper	15 %
Assignment 2: TCPS-2 and reflection paper (10%+15%)	25 %
Assignment 3: Issue in northern research	20 %
Assignment 4: Research poster	10 %
Assignment 5: Final research paper	30 %
Total	100%

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS

There is no specific textbook for this course. Relevant readings and web materials will be available on the course site on Moodle.

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

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Yukon University is committed to providing a positive, supportive, and barrier-free academic environment for all its students. Students experiencing barriers to full participation due to a visible or hidden disability (including hearing, vision, mobility, learning disability, mental health, chronic or temporary medical condition), should contact Accessibility Services for resources or to arrange academic accommodations: access@yukonu.ca. [Text updated 16 November 2022]

TOPIC OUTLINE

Date	Topic	Preparation/Reading.
Sep 5/25	Introduction/Research planning	N/A
Sep 12/25	History of northern research	CCA, 2023 (ex. summary); Korsmo & Graham, 2002
Sep 19/25	Sources of information	N/A
Sep 26/25	Contemporary trends and issues in northern research	Polidoro et al., 2024 Assignment 1 due
Oct 3/25	Self-determination in research, partnership & co-production	Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, 2018; Yukon Native Brotherhood, 1973
Oct 10/25	Research in the social sciences and humanities and research ethics	TCPS-2
Oct 17/25	READING WEEK	No class
Oct 24/25	Research in the natural and physical sciences	Wong et al., 2020 Assignment 2 due
Oct 31/25	Research workshop I	TBA
Nov 7/25	Research workshop II	TBA
Nov 14/25	Research workshop III	TBA Assignment 3 due
Nov 21/25	Research policy	Perrin et al., 2021
Nov 28/25	Communicating research	TBA
Dec 5/25	Poster presentations	Assignment 4 due
Dec 12/25	NO CLASS	Assignment 5 due