Course Instructor

Nadine Fabbi & one of Churchill, Manitoba’s sweetest sled dogs!

Nadine C. Fabbi is currently researching Canadian Inuit political mobilization in the Arctic region – both geopolitical self determination and emerging strategies in educational policy. In 2010 she was awarded a Graduate Research Fellowship from University of the Arctic and the Government of Canada for her proposal, "Arctic Educational Policies and their Impact on Canada’s Leadership Role in the Circumpolar World." In 2007 Nadine utilized a Government of Canada Faculty Research Grant, "Inuit Homelands in Canada" to design the first Task Force on the Arctic. In 2009 she was awarded a Program Enhancement Grant to take 13 University of Washington students to Ottawa as part of the first Task Force on Arctic Sovereignty co-taught with Professor Gallucci. Nadine has travelled to Alaska, the Yukon, Greenland, Iceland and Siberia and has taught two summer programs on Inuit homelands for the University of Alberta. In 2008 she was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the International Council for Canadian Studies in recognition of her contributions to Canadian Studies. She is currently enrolled in a doctoral program in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at the University of British Columbia.

Course Description

Welcome to “Inuit & Qallunaat Concepts of Arctic Marine Space in Maritime Transport Policies” offered March 2012 by the Coastal & Marine Management program, University Centre of the Westfjords, Ísafjörður, Westfjord, Iceland. This site provides a course description, course syllabus and readings/research materials. Join us as the course unfolds in Ísafjörður in the Westfjords, Iceland! – Nadine

How do we understand the Arctic marine environment and how does this understanding translate into maritime transport policies and ultimately into emerging forms of governance for the Arctic region? For the Inuit, marine space – sea ice and open sea – is a source of food, skins for traditional clothing, materials for art, and serves as a platform for cultural and educational activities. Inuit identity, at its core, is based on free movement on nunangat (land, sea and
Qallunaat (non-Inuit) have traditionally used the Arctic seas for economic gain to support exploration or extraction of natural resources, tourism, future fisheries and shipping routes. As a result, how Arctic marine space is conceived has considerable variation resulting in developing tensions and disputes over ownership and use. These differing concepts shape the agenda of Arctic maritime transport policies.

Qallunaat policies focus on safety and environmental protection or short-term sustainability primarily to support near future economic development. The policy of the international Inuit association, the Inuit Circumpolar Council, “The Sea Ice is Our Highway: An Inuit Perspective on Transportation in the Arctic” (2008), calls for a different type of sustainability. Inuit sustainability is based on maintaining the natural order for hundreds and even thousands of years (p. 22). Given these differing concepts of Arctic marine space and the values/policies they generate, how can we successfully resolve maritime transport disputes?

This course will provide a critical foundation for understanding marine transport in the Arctic region—a region comprising much of Inuit traditional homeland. Lectures will include an overview of the geography of the Arctic Ocean including major ports, traditional travel and shipping routes; the history of Arctic marine transport for Inuit and Qallunaat; differing concepts of Arctic marine regions; actors/stakeholders in the Arctic; Arctic maritime organizations, think tanks and key scholars; current marine transport disputes; and, the policies and laws that govern the region.

Students will select a current Arctic marine transport issue (individually or in teams) and write a policy report taking into account Arctic indigenous and nation-state policies, perspectives, values and worldviews in report recommendations.

Policy reports will be evaluated on their ability to successfully integrate Inuit and Qallunaat concepts of marine space and to translate those concepts into effective policy formation. Where appropriate, policy reports will be provided to Arctic stakeholders. Particular attention will be given to the treatment of marine transport in the foreign and domestic policies of the eight Arctic nations, the European Union, in the declarations and reports of the Inuit Circumpolar Council, and reports of the Arctic Council. The course will also draw on artistic renderings of the Arctic marine region in Inuit prints and Qallunaat paintings to assist students in understanding the philosophical and cultural relationships to the region.

This course will hopefully engage soon-to-be leaders in marine management in the complex and exciting new decision-making models emerging in the Arctic region—models that are increasing and successfully integrating Arctic indigenous diplomacies in international relations.
Course Outline

Wednesday, 21 March 2012
Introductions
Primary Course Readings – The Sea Ice is Our Highway, Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment 2009 Report & Foreign, Domestic & Indigenous Marine Policies
Slide Show of Arctic Marine Space in Inuit & Qallunaat Art

Thursday, 22 March 2012
How to Write a Policy Recommendation
Introduction to Policy & Spatial Activism
Introduction to Indigenous Diplomacies

Friday, 23 March 2012
Overview of Current Issues in Marine Travel & Shipping
The Northwest Passage – Internal Waters? International Strait? Inuit Nunangat?

Monday, 26 March 2012
Geography of the Arctic Marine Region
History of Traditional Travel, Exploration & Shipping in the Arctic

Tuesday, 27 March 2012
Overview of Political Mobilization by Arctic Indigenous Peoples
Introduction to the Arctic Council

Wednesday, 28 March 2012
Governance Models & Legal Tools in the Arctic
Key Actors, Stakeholders, Organizations & Scholars in Marine Management

Thursday, 29 March 2012
Overview of Arctic Marine Shipping in Inuit, Foreign & Domestic Policy
Class Feedback on Policy Reports

Friday, 20 March 2012
Student Presentations

Daily Readings
All readings are either linked below or can be found in MySchool. – Nadine

Wednesday, 21 March 2012 – Introduction to the Arctic & Key Concepts

**Thursday, 22 March 2012 – Climate Change & Human Rights**


**Friday, 23 March 2012 – Arctic Marine Space & Transport**


**Monday, 26 March 2012 – Arctic Council, Permanent Participants & Arctic Policies**


**Tuesday, 27 March 2012 – Indigenous Political Mobilization & the Inuit Circumpolar Council**

Wednesday, 28 March 2012 – Guest Lecture

Thursday, 29 March 2012 – Canadian Inuit & the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami
No reading assignment – prepare your presentation and paper!

Arctic Marine Space in Maritime Transport Policies Articles

Melting Arctic brings new opportunities
22 December 2011, Aljazeera, Michael Byers
Vancouver, Canada - "For the first time in my life, I'm trying to find ice." Alex MacIntyre was standing on the bridge of the Akademik Ioffe as the Russian flagged ice-strengthened cruise ship traversed the Northwest Passage last
summer. A Canadian ice-pilot with four decades of Arctic experience, MacIntyre remembers when the route was choked with sea-ice that was 10 to 15 metres thick.

Marine protection in the Arctic cannot wait
Most people know that profound change is happening in the Arctic Ocean. Most people would say that this is because the sea ice there is in retreat. But most people would be wrong. Changes in ice cover are only part of a story that is, in fact, driven largely by economics and geopolitics. Despite the headlines, policymakers, planners and regulators need to look beyond the disappearing ice and understand the economic drivers to grasp the urgent need for maritime regulations to address the booming development of the region.

Two major Arctic Ocean shipping routes open simultaneously as ice recedes
1 September 2011, MercoPress
Satellites in 2008 saw the Northwest Passage in the Canadian Arctic and the Northern Sea Route above Russia were open simultaneously for the first time since satellite measurements started, and researchers say it has happened again, the European Space Agency reported in a release from its Paris headquarters this week. http://en.mercopress.com/2011/09/01/two-major-arctic-ocean-shipping-routes-open-simultaneously-as-ice-recedes

Canada boosts claim to Northwest Passage
11 May 2011, Financial Times , Bernard Simon
A plan to open up northern Quebec to resource development will help bolster Canada’s disputed claims to the Northwest Passage, according to Jean Charest, premier of the French-speaking province.
"With global warming, a northern route is going to open up just on the tip of northern Quebec by 2030 or 2040," Mr Charest told the Financial Times. http://byers.typepad.com/arctic/2011/05/canada-boosts-claim-to-northwest-passage.html

Melting Arctic Ocean opens shipping frontier
21 August 2008, MSNBC
BARROW, Alaska — Rapidly melting ice on Alaska's Arctic is opening up a new navigable ocean in the extreme north, allowing oil tankers, fishing vessels and even cruise ships to venture into a realm once trolled mostly by indigenous hunters.
The Coast Guard expects so much traffic that it opened two temporary stations on the nation's northernmost waters, anticipating the day when an ocean the
size of the contiguous United States could be ice-free for most of the summer. https://www.msn.com/#.T2PfeBGPXD-

All foreign vessels entering Canadian Arctic waters should register with authorities says report by Senate Fisheries and Oceans Committee
14 December 2009 (Ottawa), Liberal Senate Forum
All foreign vessels entering Canadian Arctic waters should be required to report to NORDREG – the Arctic Canada Traffic System – regardless of vessel size or tonnage, says a report by the Standing Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans, entitled Controlling Canadian Arctic Waters: Role of the Canadian Coast Guard: https://sencanada.ca/content/sen/Committee/402/fish/rep/rep07dec09-e.pdf . Currently, foreign vessels transiting the Northwest Passage have no obligation to report to any Canadian authority, as long as they do not land. http://liberalsenateforum.ca/

A Bering Strait Vessel Traffic Service: Critical Infrastructure for an Opening Arctic (Part I)
6 February 2012, The Arctic Institute: Center for Circumpolar Security Studies, Olin Strader
Nations and multi-national corporations are positioning themselves to take full advantage of the Arctic’s Northwest Passage (NWP) and Northern Sea Route (NSR). However, there is very little safety infrastructure in place to ensure incident-free transit. Both of these Sea Lines of Communication terminate in the Bering Strait, the gateway to the Arctic. In this critical water space it is essential the United States and Russia begin considering how to manage traffic through this strategic choke point.

RPT-FEATURE-Arctic ice melt lifts hopes for Russian maritime trade
30 January 2012, Reuters
SEVERODVINSK, Russia, Jan 27 (Reuters) - When severe snowstorms prevented life-sustaining fuel supplies from reaching the frozen Alaskan town of Nome, U.S. officials turned to a Russian company for help.
The relief mission through perilous, ice-choked seas was the first mid-winter fuel delivery to western Alaska, capping a year of pioneering shipping as oil and gas development and climate change increase traffic along northern trade routes sought by centuries of Arctic explorers. https://www.reuters.com/article/russia-arctic/rpt-feature-arctic-ice-melt-lifts-hopes-for-russian-maritime-trade-idUSL5E8CU2VF20120130

Inuit hunters buttress theory Arctic Ocean is approaching 'tipping point'
16 January 2012, ArcticDispatch, Doug O'Harra
The Arctic Ocean might look like an isolated body at the top of the world, but several multi-year investigations have found deep interconnections with the Pacific and Atlantic oceans -- and new evidence that the polar sea may be poised to undergo a dramatic change in structure and life, senior climate oceanographer Eddy Carmack told the opening session of an annual marine science conference in Anchorage. https://www.adn.com/arctic/article/inuit-hunters-buttress-theory-arctic-ocean-approaching-tipping-point/2012/01/17/

Arctic Research Institutes

**Arctic Institute of North America, University of Calgary** – To advance the study of the North American and circumpolar Arctic through the natural and social sciences, the arts and humanities and to acquire, preserve and disseminate info on physical, environmental and social conditions in the North.

**ArcticNet, University of Laval** – Brings together scientists and managers in the natural, human health and social sciences with partners from Inuit organizations, northern communities, federal and provincial agencies to study the impacts of climate change in Arctic Canada.

**Arctic Research Consortium of the U.S.** – A nonprofit member consortium of educational and scientific institutions that have a substantial commitment to arctic research.

**Geopolitics in the High North** – Research programme to develop new knowledge about actors and their interests in the High North. Led by the Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies, and consists of a core group of Norwegian and international partners.

**Arctic portal** – Non-governmental organization that aims to encourage, facilitate and promote leading-edge multi-disciplinary research to foster a greater scientific understanding of the arctic region.

**National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, Arctic Theme Page** – Provides Arctic information and a set of reputable indicators that describe the present state of the Arctic ecosystem and climate.

**U.S. Arctic Research Commission** – To develop and recommend an integrated national Arctic research policy and assist in establishing a national Arctic research program plan to implement the policy.

Arctic Foreign Policy & Legal Instruments
Arctic Indigenous Foreign Policies

Arctic Marine Assessments & Policies
Inuit Circumpolar Council. (March 2008). The sea ice is our highway: An Inuit perspective on transportation in the Arctic (Report to inform the Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment 2009 Report.)

Arctic Nation-State Foreign Policies
Finland. Ministry for Foreign Affairs. (August 2010). Finland’s strategy for the Arctic region.
Sweden. Ministry for Foreign Affairs. (12 May 2011). Sweden’s strategy for the
Arctic region.

**Legal Instruments**
United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

## Arctic News Sources & Organizations

### News Sources

**The Arctic Portal** – (Arctic Portal is an endorsed International Polar Year project lead by Iceland’s Senior Arctic Official in consultation with other members of the Arctic Council.)

**The Arctic: The World Affairs Blog Network** – (Focuses on political, military, and environmental issues maintained by the Foreign Policy Association. Foreign Policy, based in New York, is a non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring the American public to learn more about the world.)

**BarentsOberver.com** – (Cross-border news from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia.)

**Nunatsiaq News** – (Nunatsiaq News, published in Nunavut, serves Canada’s northern territories.)

**Michael Byers on the Arctic** – (Byers holds the Canada Research Chair in Global Politics and International Law at the University of British Columbia. He is the author of *Who Owns the Arctic? Understanding Sovereignty Disputes in the North* (2009))

### Organizations

Arctic Council
Arctic Marine Organizations
International Maritime Organization

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment, Arctic Council

Canadian Inuit Organizations
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami

Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

Makivik Corporation (Nunavik)

Nunatsiavut Government

Nunavik Government

Nunavut Government

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (Nunavut)

Other Arctic-Focused Organizations
Conference Board of Canada, Centre for the North - Works with Aboriginal leaders, businesses, governments, communities, educational institutions, and other organizations to achieve a shared vision of sustainable prosperity in Canada's North.

Permanent Participants of the Arctic Council
Aleut International Association

Arctic Council Indigenous Peoples Secretariat

Gwich’in Council International

Inuit Circumpolar Council

Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North

Saami Council