ARCTIC 200: Indigenous Diplomacies and International Relations in the Arctic

TUESDAYS/THURSDAYS, 2:30-5:20PM (PST); 3 CREDITS | OFFERED REMOTELY
INSTRUCTOR: JASON YOUNG

This course introduces students to international relations in the Arctic, with an emphasis on understanding them from the perspective of the region’s Indigenous peoples. In this course, students will:

• Study dramatic environmental, economic, and social transformations in the Arctic
• Learn about emerging geopolitical issues
• Explore Indigenous perspectives on international relations in the Arctic
• Challenge themselves to understand international frameworks through the lens of Indigenous knowledge systems

Instructor Jason Young studies the political implications of the use of digital technologies by Inuit, Canadian citizens, scientists, and policymakers to discuss and implement environmental management strategies in response to climate change in the Arctic. He has also spent time studying Inuktitut in Igloolik, Canada.

ARCTIC 301: Advanced Inuktitut, the Inuit Language

MONDAYS/THURSDAYS, 3:00-4:30PM (PST); 3 CREDITS | OFFERED REMOTELY
INSTRUCTOR: ALEXINA KUBLU

This course will continue to develop skills touched upon in the 200 level ARCTIC series and will expand students’ knowledge of Inuktitut in the four areas of language learning: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will engage with culture and news in Inuktitut. In Arctic 301 students continue with Dialectology finishing the tour of the Canadian dialects. Students will also be keeping a journal in Inuktitut to help them use the language meaningfully. At the end of the course, students should be able to recognize different Canadian dialects, write on a range of subjects and be able to express their opinion in Inuktitut, and be able to hold conversations with native speakers without strain.

Instructor Alexina Kublu (Iqaluit) was born in Igloolik and is a certified Inuktitut-English translator and a member of Canadian Interpreters and Translators Council. She has held teaching positions in various Nunavut communities, and served as an Inuktitut instructor in the Language and Culture Program at Nunavut Arctic College, Iqaluit for many years. Kublu has also served on the Federal Ministerial Task Force on Aboriginal Languages and Cultures. From 2008-2012 Kublu served as the Official Languages Commissioner of Nunavut, the Inuit territory in Canada. The Languages Commissioner of Nunavut exercises a number of responsibilities under the territory’s official languages legislation including protecting the official language rights of Nunavummiut and reporting to the Legislative Assembly on the government’s compliance with the Official Languages Act and the Inuit Language Protection Act. Kublu has co-published a number of texts on Inuktitut with Sydney Mallon including Introductory Inuktitut (1999), Intermediate Inuktitut Version 1.2 (1995) and several references and workbooks in the language. In addition, she has held positions as Senior Justice of the Peace for the Nunavut Justices of the Peace program, executive director of the Kitikmeot Regional Council in Cambridge Bay and executive director for Atii Training Programs in Ottawa. Kublu has taught Inuktitut for students at the University of Washington since 2015. Kublu is not only recognized as the preeminent expert on Inuktitut, but she also has a reputation as an engaging, inspiring and effective teacher.