

Circumpolar and Nordic Studies

[See study programme](#)

Autumn 2024 (1. semester)

Nordic Politics	SA210S 10 sp
Contemporary Arctic Politics	NOM1000 10 sp
History, Politics and Northern Resources	SA218S 10 sp

Spring 2025 (2. semester)

Knowledge of Land, Seas and Environment in the Arctic	NOM1003 10 sp
Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar North	NOM1002 10 sp
The Nordic and Circumpolar Societies	NOM1001 10 sp

Programme description

The programme presents a unique exploration of the political, socio-economic, environmental, and cultural conditions of the Arctic and Nordic regions. This one-year programme comprises two semesters: the autumn semester focuses on politics and governance while the spring semester on social, environmental, and cultural aspects of the Arctic and Nordic regions.

The autumn semester offers an examination of the historical development of the Barents region and the Svalbard archipelago, and it delves deep into the political systems of the Nordic states. At the international level, the programme probes the Arctic policies of regional and extra-regional states such as the US and China, shedding light on the intricate web of inter-state relations in the Arctic.

The spring semester focuses on a social organization and cultural exploration with a dedicated focus on indigenous peoples of the Arctic. Understanding their way of life and the challenges they face in today's world is pivotal to our curriculum. Additionally, in the face of rapid environmental changes, our programme addresses the fundamental questions of resource development, justice, and sustainability.

We aim to equip students with the knowledge and skills to address the pressing issues that the region faces today and in the future. Join us on this fascinating journey through the Arctic and the Nordic regions. The programme can be taken as an independent unit for those who wish to learn more about the region. The courses can also be chosen as electives by bachelor students from other programmes. It is offered in English and online. Some courses can be taken physically on-campus.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge

The student should:

have a broad understanding of different social science theories and methodologies
be acquainted with the concepts used to describe the Circumpolar World
have basic knowledge of the history and the most common geographical, biological and physical aspects of the Circumpolar World
have knowledge about the people and peoples living in the Circumpolar World
have knowledge about contemporary challenges for the Circumpolar World, including management of natural resources, sustainable development, business, culture, politics, health issues and the rights of indigenous peoples.

Skills

The student should:

have developed skills necessary for critical analysis
be able to reflect critically on the ethical challenges involved in research and creation of knowledge

General Competence

The student should:

have developed basic knowledge and understanding both of science and of the Circumpolar World

Admission requirements

Higher Education Entrance Qualification

Language requirement: see general guidelines for admission

This semester package is designed specifically for exchange students. Please go to [Student Exchange](#) for more information about becoming an exchange student at Nord University.

Career possibilities

The Northern Studies programme provides a solid background for further study within the social sciences. As an addition to other bachelor level studies, it provides students with the critical skills and knowledge-base to work in a range of positions related to the High North. These could include teaching, tourism and work in cultural and communication sectors.

Further education

The courses may be used as elective courses in some of the bachelor programs at Nord university.

Study abroad

There are no student exchange possibilities on this programme.

Costs

No specific costs other than semester registration fee and course literature.

Assessment methods

Home examinations, online lectures and written submissions. The written submissions are compulsory. The written assignments have to be successfully completed in order for the student to be able to receive the formal grade and credits. The language of the examination is English.

Graduation requirements

Completion of all 60 ECTS credit points.

Programme evaluation

The study programme is evaluated annually via student questionnaires and by the programme director. These evaluations form a part of the university's quality assurance system.

Qualifications requirements and regulations

Refer to applicable legislation, regulations and related guidelines