

Health, security and wellbeing in the North

Course description

Responsible: Prof. Arja Rautio, Centre for Arctic Medicine, University of Oulu, Finland

Teachers:

Dr. Gert Mulvad, Health Research Board Greenland

Prof. Andrey Soloviev, Northern State Medical University, Russia

Prof. Vappu Sunnari, University of Oulu, Finland

Prof. John Moore, University of Lapland & University of Oulu, Finland

Contact information:

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Time: January 24th, 2010 – April 10th 2011

ECTS: 6

Assessment: Grading from 1 to 5

Assignments during the course account for 50% of the overall course grade, and the written examination accounts 50% of the grade.

Course description: Physical environment, population characteristics and social structures have special features in northern circumpolar areas. The ongoing changes in the climate, the environment and the social structures have significant influence on the health, security and wellbeing of Northern residents, as well as on the cultures across the borders in the Northern region. This causes special demands for higher education within this subject, and there is a considerable need to provide capabilities for Northern residents to face these challenges. These include higher mortality and disease rates of the population, and small communities are threatened by high unemployment rate, limited sources of livelihood and deficits in infrastructure. The positive development of health and wellbeing in the north requires new approaches and technologies to improve living conditions and habits and health care services.

Learning outcomes:

After passed this course the student:

- understands the social, health and wellbeing aspects in connection to global change (incl. cultural biodiversity)
- understands the effects of climate change to the health and wellbeing of population/community/individual levels (e.g. infections, climate hazards, contaminants)
- identifies and is able to identify the adaptation mechanisms and future scenarios

Teaching methods: on-line course

Language: English

Literature: will be given by teachers

Requirements:

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