



ILISIMATUSARFIK/UNIVERSITY OF GREENLAND

GRØNLANDS UNIVERSITET

ILIMMARFIK-INSTITUTTET

Supplement for Curriculum for the Nordic Master Programme: Master in West Nordic Studies: Governance and Sustainable Management

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The Curriculum derives from the following legislation:

- Landstingslov nr. 19 af 19. november 2007 om Ilisimatusarfik
- Hjemmestyrets bekendtgørelse nr. 51 af 29. december 1994 om adgangskrav til videregående og højere uddannelser uden for Grønland.
- Hjemmestyrets bekendtgørelse nr. 27 af 1. september 1995 om uddannelser og eksaminer ved Ilisimatusarfik.
- Hjemmestyrets bekendtgørelse nr. 14 af 23. juni 2008 om karakterskala og anden bedømmelse
- Hjemmestyrets bekendtgørelse nr. 6 af 2. januar 1990 om censorer ved Ilisimatusarfik

Chapter 1: Duration and Title

The Nordic Master Programme of Master in West Nordic Studies is a two-year programme with the amount of 120 ECTS credits. The title received after finalising the programme is the English title of Master of Social Sciences (MSSc) (West Nordic Studies).

Chapter 2: Admission Requirements

To become enrolled in the Master in West Nordic Studies the student should have reached an equivalent to BA-level in Social Sciences and at least have passed English at B-level from the gymnasium. The language of instruction will be English for the whole programme.

Chapter 3: Educational Purpose

The Nordic Master Programme in Master in West Nordic Studies is an interdisciplinary programme in Governance and Sustainable Management of the West Nordic region: Greenland, the Faroe Islands, Iceland and coastal Norway. The objective is to produce candidates that can understand and handle the complicated challenges of the peripheral regions of the West Nordic countries as part of the High North complexity.

This programme aims to provide specific knowledge of the West Nordic region. Candidates will be able to critically assess and link present-day debate issues with past developments in order to work with societal challenges and sustainable management issues facing the West Nordic region.

The programme will give the students understanding and knowledge about important aspects of handling societal, legal, business and environmental issues connected with sustainable management in the region.

Chapter 4: Structure

The structure of the programme has an in-built flexibility, since there are five universities involved in the programme: Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland, University of the Faroe Islands, University of Iceland, Akureyri University and University of Nordland. This consortium of universities gives the student a unique opportunity to choose his/her own curriculum regarding the programme. The free choice of courses is the cornerstone of the programme, however, there is one mandatory course of 10 ECTS credits as an introduction to the programme, which Akureyri University will be responsible for. Another mandatory course in the third semester called Field Project also amounts for 10 ECTS credits.

The overall structure and choices can be seen in the following table. Students are to pick one option from each semester:

1ST SEMESTER	2ND SEMESTER	3RD SEMESTER	4TH SEMESTER
Akureyri University: 10 ECTS (mandatory for all) PLUS some courses of alt. 1-3 below.	Alt. 1: University of Nordland: courses within Business Management and Administration, 30 ECTS	Alt. 1: Ilisimatusarfik: courses from the normal MA-programme, 20 ECTS + Field Project , 10 ECTS (mandatory course)	Master thesis at home university, 30 ECTS
Alt. 1: Akureyri University: courses within Polar Law, 20 ECTS	Alt. 2: University of Iceland: courses from a) and b) as in the 1 st semester, 30 ECTS	Alt. 2: University of Faroe Islands: Field Project, 10 ECTS (mandatory course) and optional courses, 20 ECTS	
Alt. 2: University of Iceland: a) courses within Environment and Natural Resources in the High North, 20 ECTS b) courses within Small States, Societies and Culture in the High North, 20 ECTS	Alt. 3: Akureyri University: courses within Polar Law 30 ECTS	Alt. 3: University of Nordland: Field Project, 10 ECTS (mandatory course) and optional courses 20 ECTS	
Alt. 3: Ilisimatusarfik: courses within the normal MA-programme, 20 ECTS	Alt. 4: University of Faroe Islands: optional courses, 30 ECTS	Alt. 4: University of Iceland: Field Project, 10 ECTS (mandatory course), Small state summer school, 10 ECTS, optional course 10 ECTS	
		Alt. 5: Akureyri University: Field Project, 10 ECTS (mandatory course) and optional courses 20 ECTS	

Chapter 5: Descriptions of the Disciplines

Courses at Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland:

Advanced Political Science:

The purpose of this course is to give the students analytical and critical tools within Political Science. The course will be focused on Arctic relations and Greenlandic issues in the framework of relevant theories within the discipline, which in international relations entails realism, liberalism and constructivism, in addition to alternative approaches. Subjects such as the various forms of autonomy, nation-building, nationalism, the concept of state and sovereignty will be covered. Other important areas that are taken into account include the international dimension with a general introduction to foreign and security policy, globalisation, key institutions and key actors (including roles of non-state actors).

Teaching: 60 hours, including supervision

Amount of literature: approx. 1500 pages

Examination: Home exercise in the form of essay writing, max. 20 pages excl. appendix

Censorship: External

Character: GGS(Greenlandic Grading System)-Scale and based on the following criteria:

- Class participation: 20%
- Home exercises or article writing: 30%
- Examination: 50%

ECTS credits: 15. Adjusted as 10 ECTS for MA-programme.

Advanced Sociology:

The purpose of the course is to give the students knowledge of modern sociological theories and approaches. The emphasis lies on concept analysis. The course covers the social dynamics between various structures, organisations, individuals and other actors. The relationships and interactions between systems, structures and individuals are in focus within a Greenlandic context.

Teaching: 60 hours, including supervision

Amount of literature: approx. 1500 pages

Examination: Home exercise in form of essay writing, max. 20 pages excl. appendix

Censorship: Internal

Grading: GGS-Scale and based on the following criteria:

- Class participation: 10%
- Home exercises: 20%
- Group work: 20%
- Examination: 50%

ECTS credits: 15. Adjusted as 10 ECTS for MA-programme.

Public Finances:

The purpose of this course is to give the students knowledge about public finances within both the public and private sector. The course covers cost-benefit analyses, theories of public goods and

services, tax policies and the role between state, self-government and municipalities. The course is based on microeconomics.

Teaching: 42 hours, including supervision

Amount of literature: approx. 750 pages

Examination: A one-week written exam, max. 15 pages excl. appendix

Censorship: External

Grading: GGS-Scale

ECTS credits: 10

International Law:

The purpose is to give the students insights into international law regarding treaties, human rights, indigenous peoples' rights and EU law. The UN Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and other relevant international agreements/treaties will be analysed and discussed in relation to natural resources. Other law systems might also be relevant.

Teaching: 36 hours, incl. supervision

Amount of literature: approx. 900 pages

Examination: Oral with preparation and material. 30 minutes or a written home exercise of one-week duration, max. 15 pages excl. appendix

Censorship: External

Grading: GGS-Scale

ECTS credits: 10

Optional Courses:

The Department of Social Sciences offers optional courses every semester/term within the main field of the educational programme such as political science, sociology, economics, law or more interdisciplinary courses. These courses are decided upon every semester/term in May for the autumn and in November for the spring. These courses vary each year and can be combined with BA-courses, where the MA-students will have a more extensive reading list than the BA-students.

Teaching: 36 hours, including supervision

Amount of literature: 600-900 pages depending on the subject

Examination: Depending on teacher's choice

Censorship: Internal/External

Grading: GGS-Scale or passed/failed

ECTS credits: 10 for each course

Field Project

In consultation with a supervisor at the home university, a student or group of students choose a subject and field of study in the country of the host university. A field project may involve quantitative and/or qualitative research and data collection including ethnography, survey research, interviews, observation, etc. depending on the context. A faculty member at the host university assists the student in cooperation with the supervisor.

Learning outcomes:

On completion of the Field Project, the student will be able to:

- Compare certain aspects of the host region with comparable aspects in the home region.
- Formulate issues and challenges facing the host region in a way that demonstrate thorough understanding.
- Put local issues and challenges in the context of broader concerns facing the West Nordic Region.

Assessment:

Assessment can include a mixture of elements, depending on the methods and subject matter involved. This can include elements such as a written report, student presentation, field journal, or a concept note for the master thesis. Assessment will always have to include a written report.

Teaching: In the form of supervision

Examination: Written report, max 20 pages excl. appendix

Censorship: Internal/External

Grading: GGS-Scale

ECTS credits: 10

Chapter 6: Important Links to the Involved Universities and the Webpage

The Nordic Master Programme of West Nordic Studies – Governance and Sustainable Management has its own webpage, where important information will be posted continuously. It is available at the following address: <http://westnordicstudies.net>.

All partner universities have, of course, their own web pages where important information about the programme is posted:

Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland: <http://www.uni.gl> and especially at the following link: <http://www.uni.gl/en-gb/international/studyingoverseas/nmp.aspx>

University of Iceland: <http://www.english.hi.is>

University of Akureyri: <http://www.english.unak.is>

University of Nordland: <http://www.uion.no>

University of the Faroe Islands: <http://www.setur.fo>

Chapter 7: Exams at Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland

Each course is passed by an exam. Passed exams are considered as finalised. A student, who has not passed, can take a re-exam for a maximum of three times of the same exam. The Rector can according to dispensation accept a fourth attempt. Application for dispensation should be addressed

to the Rector and be sent to the Head of Institute, who delivers the issue further to the Rector's office. The Rector has the ultimate decision-power in these issues.

At the exams the GGS-Scale or passed/failed is used.

There is a difference between open and closed exams. At open exams, the question or subject is freely chosen by the student in an agreement with the examiner(s). At closed exams, the examiner(s) decides the questions or subject.

Most exams are individually completed, but see the description of Field Project above.

At open exams the agreement of subject is rejected if the exam is not handed in according to the time schedule. This rule does not apply for the MA-thesis.

Exams are either internal or external. Internal exams are marked by the examiner(s) alone or by an appointed internal censor. External exams are marked by the examiner(s) together with a censor, who has been appointed by the Department of Education. An exam which has the formulation as an internal exam in the curriculum can be evaluated by an external censor and thereby become external.

There is a difference between mid-term exams, final exams and MA-thesis (see chapter 8).

At written exams a normal page is defined as 2.400 characters. The exercise can have the length according to the description of the disciplines in chapter 5. An appendix is outside the scope of the normal length of a paper. If a written exam is delivered with more than the recommended length of pages, the exam might be refused. If a written exam is refused it counts as one attempt.

The marking of written exams at spring semester and/or autumn semester should be finalised one month after the exams have been held. If an exam has been delivered at the end of June, the time of marking is, however, at 22nd of August. Exams are held within the semester periods (June or January) annually.

The Department can decide to have an exam within the teaching period (February-May or September-December) if the Department finds it necessary. The change of exam period is then notified to all students and the student administration.

If there are any specific circumstances the Head of Department can change the form of exam in relation to the curriculum. In that case a form of exam is decided upon according to the list of exams defined in chapter 8. The change is notified to the student administration.

A student who have been sick or been at maternal leave or have failed an exam can apply for a re-exam. The student has to apply for this on a certain form. The form of exam can be according to another form than the original exam, usually written form.

Chapter 8: Forms of Exams at Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland

The following exams are used at the Department:

- 1) Free written home exam, max. 20 pages excl. appendix.
- 2) Closed written home exam, max. 15 pages excl. appendix for one week duration.
- 3) Oral exam, 30 minutes with or without means of assistance; with or without synopsis.
- 4) Mid-way exam in form of a written home exam: closed or free, max. 10 pages excl. appendix; can be marked by the GGS-Scale or by passed/failed.
- 5) Exam as a total evaluation of activity, home exercises, group works and so on weighted according to the given percentages in the curriculum.

Chapter 9: Master Thesis

The Master thesis has to be written at Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland. It cannot be transferred from another university. The purpose with the MA-thesis is to produce an individual work within the scope of the programme. The MA-thesis is a larger work which should show the student's ability to do own research. The MA-thesis is a scientific work within a specific area showing the relationship between theoretical, empirical and methodological approaches. The MA-thesis should be written according to academic standards with a stringent language. The MA-thesis should act as a proof of the student's ability to master how academic work should be conducted.

The subject of the MA-thesis is decided between the student and the teacher within the discipline of concern. The teacher within the field of research accepts the research problem and disposition before the student begins with his/her project.

The MA-thesis is around 100 pages excluding appendix.

Teaching: In form of supervision, max. 40 hours.

Examination: Deadline 30th of June.

Censorship: External. Censor and supervisor write a written conclusion on at least 1-2 pages.

Grading: GGS-Scale

ECTS credits: 30

Chapter 10: Academic Credit Transfer and Other Merits

Students taking courses within the partner universities will receive their ECTS credits according to the common academic transfer system established between the universities. ECTS credits have equal value at the host as well as at home university. Students taking courses at various host universities will follow the host universities' regulations and procedures.

Chapter 11: Provisional Regulation

This curriculum will enter into force by the academic year of 2014/15.