

Field Course in Biodiversity

BIOL*2300*01

Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS)

Course Offering Information

The College of Biological Science was approached back in 2018 by Dr. Ian Hogg to collaborate on a field experience that would bring together second year students from the south with Inuit students from Ikaluktutiak or Iqalukuttiaq (Cambridge Bay). The goal of the experience is to introduce students to an integrative approach to understanding biodiversity that includes culture, history, and knowledge systems. We will explore the surrounding wilderness, appreciate the diversity of life at different scales, and learn about how to understand that diversity from different perspectives.

Duration and Location

Ikaluktutiak is in the region of Kitikmeot and territory of Nunavut. The field portion of the course will take place between June 15 and June 28, 2020, approximately 10 days in duration. The dates are approximate as it will depend on availability of flights and weather. Final dates will be confirmed once enrollment has been completed.

Students from the University of Guelph will travel together from Toronto as travel to Ikaluktutiak is limited and to ensure timely and efficient arrival of all participants. Students will reside at the Canadian High Arctic Research Station for the duration of the experience. Meals will be served at research station and students will be expected to participate in food preparation and clean up.

Costs

Students will be required to contribute \$1800 to cover a very small portion of the costs of the field course. The CHARS and the Department of Integrative Biology have graciously provided funds to supplement some of the student costs however as travel and costs of living in the north are extremely high these funds cannot support all costs associated with the course.

A DEPOSIT OF \$500.00 MUST BE SUBMITTED UPON ACCEPTANCE TO THE COURSE. Cheque/money order is payable to the University of Guelph. You must also complete a Course Waiver form (check the box Fall, Year 2020). WE WILL REGISTER YOU IN THE COURSE. If the deposit is not received within 5 business days of admission to the course your offer will be rescinded.

If a student withdraws from the course after paying all fees a refund is possible with documented medical or compassionate reasons.

Course Admission

This course is open to students registered in a major offered by Integrative Biology or the Biological Science major who are returning in the Fall 2020 semester. As this experience is limited all students

must apply for the course. The application form can be found on the Integrative Biology website ([link](#)). Applications for this course will be accepted until **4pm on February 4th, 2020**. All applications are to be submitted to **Dr. Shoshanah Jacobs sjacob04@uoguelph.ca**.

As part of the application students are required to describe why they are interested in participating in this course and how the experience will contribute to their overall academic and personal goals. Students will also need to submit a copy of their unofficial transcript and their resume.

Applications will be reviewed and ranked by the instructor of the course, the chair of the department and the Associate Dean Academic for CBS. Decision will be sent out within approximately 1 week of the application deadline.

Enrolling in the Course

If you are selected for the course you will need to complete the undergraduate course Waiver form ([link to fillable pdf](#)). This course will be assigned to your fall 2020 semester. Please note that if you are enrolling in an additional 2.00 credits or more for the fall semester you will not be charged additional tuition for this course. If however you are going to be a part-time student in the fall semester this course could increase your tuition fees for the fall.

Once we have your course waiver form the instructor for the course will sign the form and we will add the course to your fall schedule. This course will be added later in July once you have added your other fall courses. Students who participate in field courses, outside the regular semester can enroll in 3.00 credits for the fall semester or you may choose to use this course as your elective. If you have questions about how this course will apply to your fall semester or your degree as a whole, please follow up with the B.Sc. Program Counsellors.

Course Requirements

Full details regarding the course requirement can be found in the course outline. While students will be leaving on the experience in late August, participants will be required to complete course work prior to their departure. A course website, through CourseLink, will be established early in August and the instructor of the course will be in contact during the summer to advise you on the pre-departure requirements.

Students will complete academic work during the field experience however additional work will be required upon the students' return. Please see the course outline for assignment details as well as deadlines to complete these assignments. Generally, the course work would be due within the first four weeks of the semester.