

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL  
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE  
FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

---

**PRESENTED BY:** Kevin Flynn, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

**DATE OF MEETING:** February 16, 2017

**SUBJECT:** **Terminations in the College of Arts and Science**

- **Northern Studies Field of Study**
- **Public Administration Field of Study**

**COUNCIL ACTION:** For information only

**CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND:**

The Academic Programs Committee (APC) approved the termination of the Northern Studies field of study and the Public Administration field of study at its January 25, 2017 meeting.

As per the Academic and Curricular Change Authority Chart approved by Council at its June 23, 2016 meeting, APC has the authority to approve the deletion of a field of study unless this has significant academic or financial implications.

**DISCUSSION SUMMARY:**

Northern Studies

The College of Arts and Science approved the termination of the Northern Studies field of study through its Academic Programs Committee on November 16, 2016 and its Faculty Council on December 7, 2016. The termination of the Northern Studies field of study affects the delivery of the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) three-year, four-year and honours programs, as well as the minor in Northern Studies.

Northern Studies had been established through funding from the federal and provincial governments as well as through partnerships with international partners through the University of the Arctic. Changes in the funding model, as well as significant changes in the University of the Arctic consortium, have led to Northern Studies being a costly undertaking for the U of S. As part of the agreement with the University of the Arctic, students pay tuition to their home institution while being able to take classes offered elsewhere. The U of S is experiencing an imbalance vis-à-vis our commitment to this

consortium and the presence of U of S students and U of S course offerings. In short, we are no longer recovering our costs because our students are not enrolling in this program in great numbers. There are only 11 students enrolled in the program currently.

Many of the courses previously designated as Northern Studies courses will now be taught by Geography and Planning, so the academic impact of this termination is minimal.


#### Public Administration

The College of Arts and Science approved the termination of the Public Administration field of study through its Academic Programs Committee on November 16, 2016 and its Faculty Council on December 7, 2016. The termination of the Public Administration field of study affects the delivery of the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) three-year, four-year and honours.

The enrolment and graduation numbers in Public Administration has dwindled over the years, to just seven students last year. These students will be permitted the opportunity to complete their studies in the field. Faculty with expertise in this field have been focusing their efforts on the very successful Master of Public Administration program that is being offered through the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy. With this successful program in place, there will be minimal academic impact with this termination.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1. Report Form for Program Termination – Northern Studies**
- 2. Report Form for Program Termination – Public Administration**

 <b>UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN</b>	<b>Report Form for Program Termination</b>
---	--

**Program(s) to be deleted:** Bachelor of Arts Honours, Four-year and Three-year, and Minor in Northern Studies

**Effective date of termination:** May 2017

---

**1. List reasons for termination and describe the background leading to this decision.**

Previous University of the Arctic (UArctic) and provincial government funding to support the operation of the International Administrative Office was withdrawn beginning a number of years ago. As a result, personnel at our partner institution in La Ronge who previously coordinated course delivery and supported students have been reassigned.

The current program delivery model, in which students from many universities across the circumpolar north take courses at any of the other participating universities under an exchange agreement, has proven to be unsustainable. This is in large part due to the imbalance between student numbers and course offerings: courses are being offered, and paid for, by some institutions, but the majority of students taking the program, and paying fees, are from other institutions. As no tuition is transferred per the terms of the exchange agreement, the cost of offering the suite of seven core Circumpolar Studies courses has become prohibitive.

---

**2. Technical information.**

**2.1 Courses offered in the program and faculty resources required for these courses.**

NRTH 101.3 Introduction to Circumpolar World (will become GEOG 150)  
 NRTH 312.3 Environmental Geography of the Circumpolar North (approved to become GEOG 380)  
 NRTH 321.3 Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar World I  
 NRTH 322.3 Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar World II  
 NRTH 331.3 Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar World I (will become GEOG 331)  
 NRTH 332.3 Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar World II  
 NRTH 480.6 Northern Studies Honours Thesis  
 NRTH 490.0 Seminar in Northern Studies

The University of Saskatchewan has offered one or two of these courses, per year, online, for many years.

**2.2 Other resources (staff, technology, physical resources, etc) used for this program.**

Advising for this program is provided by the College of Arts & Science.

Technical support for course offerings is provided by the Distance Education Unit (DEU).

### 2.3 Courses to be deleted, if any.

NRTH 321.3 Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar World I  
NRTH 322.3 Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar World II  
NRTH 332.3 Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar World II  
NRTH 480.6 Northern Studies Honours Thesis  
NRTH 490.0 Seminar in Northern Studies

### 2.4 Number of students presently enrolled.

11 students in 2016-17.

### 2.5 Number of students enrolled and graduated over the last five years.

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Enrolled	4	9	14	10	15

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Graduates	4	1	4	5	4

---

## 3. Impact of the termination.

### Internal

#### 3.1 What if any impact will this termination have on undergraduate and graduate students? How will they be advised to complete their programs?

Students currently in the program will be allowed to complete the program requirements within a reasonable period of time.

#### 3.2 What impact will this termination have on faculty and teaching assignments?

NRTH 101, 312 and 331 will become GEOG-labelled courses and continue to be taught by the previous instructors.

Other courses were offered online by Sessional Lecturers or at partner institutions, so no impact on U of S faculty teaching assignments.

#### 3.3 Will this termination affect other programs, departments or colleges?

Termination of this program affects the Department of Geography and Planning, which has been consulted and approves of this deletion.

#### 3.4 If courses are also to be deleted, will these deletions affect any other programs?

NRTH courses appear as course options in the Resource Economics and Policy, and the Resource Science programs in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, but are not required for any program other than the Northern Studies program.

- 3.5 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop a program to replace this one?

A replacement program may be developed in the College of Arts & Science, but only if the program requirements can be covered by U of S resources and through stable partnerships with reliable partner institutions.

- 3.6 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop courses to replace the ones deleted?

It is unlikely that the courses being deleted will be exactly replaced.

- 3.7 Describe any impact on research projects.

No impact.

- 3.8 Will this deletion affect resource areas such as library resources, physical facilities, and information technology?

No impact.

- 3.9 Describe the budgetary implications of this deletion.

The program currently costs significantly more to offer (online courses) than it earns (U of S tuition paid). Deletion of the program will stem this loss.

### External

- 3.10 Describe any external impact (e.g. university reputation, accreditation, other institutions, high schools, community organizations, professional bodies).

Any impact on university reputation or from other institutions and high schools is anticipated to be small, due to the limited enrolment in and general awareness of the program. No impact is expected with regard to accreditation, community organizations or professional bodies.

- 3.11 Is it likely or appropriate that another educational institution will offer this program if it is deleted at the University of Saskatchewan?

Other institutions which are members of the UArctic already offer similar programs. It is unlikely that a new institution will choose to develop a very similar program.


### Other

- 3.12 Are there any other relevant impacts or considerations?

No.

- 3.13 Please provide any statements or opinions received about this termination.

Memo from Gordon DesBrisay, Vice-Dean Academic, College of Arts & Science attached.

	<b>UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN</b>	<b>Report Form for Program Termination</b>
---	---------------------------------------	--

**Program(s) to be deleted:** Bachelor of Arts Honours and Four-year in Public Administration

**Effective date of termination:** May 2017

---

**1. List reasons for termination and describe the background leading to this decision.**

The University offers a Master of Public Administration program through the Johnson-Shoyama School of Public Policy, and the number of graduates from the BA Four-year and Honours programs has been low for a number of years.

---

**2. Technical information.**

2.1 Courses offered in the program and faculty resources required for these courses.

No courses are offered exclusively for this program.

2.2 Other resources (staff, technology, physical resources, etc) used for this program.

No resources are used exclusively for this program.

2.3 Courses to be deleted, if any.

None.

2.4 Number of students presently enrolled.

6 students in 2016-17.

2.5 Number of students enrolled and graduated over the last five years.

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Enrolled	16	16	16	10	7

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Graduates	9	4	3	3	2

---

### **3. Impact of the termination.**

#### **Internal**

- 3.1 What if any impact will this termination have on undergraduate and graduate students?  
How will they be advised to complete their programs?

Students currently in the program will be allowed to complete the program requirements within a reasonable period of time.

- 3.2 What impact will this termination have on faculty and teaching assignments?

No impact.

- 3.3 Will this termination affect other programs, departments or colleges?

No impact on other programs. Program deletion has been discussed with and approved by the Department Head of Economics.

- 3.4 If courses are also to be deleted, will these deletions affect any other programs?

n/a

- 3.5 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop a program to replace this one?

The University already offers a Master of Public Administration program through the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, which meets the needs of the province. It is unlikely that a new, undergraduate program will be developed.

- 3.6 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop courses to replace the ones deleted?

n/a

- 3.7 Describe any impact on research projects.

No impact.

- 3.8 Will this deletion affect resource areas such as library resources, physical facilities, and information technology?

No impact.

- 3.9 Describe the budgetary implications of this deletion.

None.

### External

- 3.10 Describe any external impact (e.g. university reputation, accreditation, other institutions, high schools, community organizations, professional bodies).

No impact is anticipated.

- 3.11 Is it likely or appropriate that another educational institution will offer this program if it is deleted at the University of Saskatchewan?

Similar programs already exist across Canada.

### Other

- 3.12 Are there any other relevant impacts or considerations?

No.

- 3.13 Please provide any statements or opinions received about this termination.

Memo from Loleen Berdahl, Head, Department of Political Studies attached.

Memo from Gordon DesBrisay, Vice-Dean Academic, College of Arts & Science attached.