**Topic: The Impact of Russian Influence in the Arctic**

Topic Statement:

While policies are changing to combat climate change, policies for economic growth and international security are changing with it too. In addition to being exposed to a new security threat during summer months, the ice reduction near the North Pole gave Russia potential for economic growth. It has opened a passage for them to an untouched abundance of resources under the water. With the exploration of resources, comes the side effects such as oil spills which would put the artic ecosystem in danger and put the clean water at risk of being contaminated. This paper explores the impacts of the increasing Russian influence in the north arctic and how that would affect the environment in the upcoming decades.

Working Bibliography

Klimenko, Ekaterina. “Russia's New Arctic Policy Document Signals Continuity Rather than Change.” *SIPRI*, [www.sipri.org/commentary/essay/2020/russias-new-arctic-policy-document-signals-continuity-rather-change](http://www.sipri.org/commentary/essay/2020/russias-new-arctic-policy-document-signals-continuity-rather-change).

Konovalov, A. M., Z. B. Namsaraev, and G. V. Baturova. "Towards the development of the information system for the long-term planning of infrastructure in the Artic zone of the Russian Federation in the context of climate change." *IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science*. Vol. 432. No. 1. IOP Publishing, 2020. <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1755-1315/432/1/012014/meta>

Kramer, Andrew E. “In the Russian Arctic, the First Stirrings of a Very Cold War.” *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 22 May 2021, [www.nytimes.com/2021/05/22/world/russia-us-arctic-military.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/22/world/russia-us-arctic-military.html).

Wall, Colin. “U.S.-Russian Arctic Relations: A Change in Climate?” *U.S.-Russian Arctic Relations: A Change in Climate? | Center for Strategic and International Studies*, 15 Feb. 2022, [www.csis.org/analysis/us-russian-arctic-relations-change-climate](http://www.csis.org/analysis/us-russian-arctic-relations-change-climate).

**Paper #1: Case study**

*Case studies in environmental politics and policy present research that focuses on a single event or series of related events; or an institution, policy, or program, usually affecting an important policy area such as climate change, biodiversity conservation, waste management, marine pollution, freshwater management, or energy (among others). It may apply to one community, a single country, a region, or a small group of countries, or can be global in scope.*

*The main purposes of this case study is to take an in-depth look at something of particular interest and importance; to apply the tools of social science to gather information, development new knowledge, and communicate it to an interested audience. The other is to derive more general lessons about the broader category of phenomena to which the case belongs.*

So, this paper will be mainly descriptive. You will choose an issue, policy, event, or institution relevant to one of our main areas of study and describe it using authoritative sources of data and analysis (more on that below).

***Style, format and submission of paper:***

* **Approximately 8-10 pages, typed, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins, using a standard 12-point type**
* Clearly, written, well organized, with accurate spelling and correct grammar
* Accurate citations everywhere they are required, and a complete bibliography using a standard style (**no exceptions; failure to do so will significantly lower your grade**)
* Policies on plagiarism and academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

**Additional Resources**

*Appropriate sources for your final paper research:*

* **No Wikipedia:** It is useful for exploring topics and finding out what kinds of information may be available, including bibliographies that can lead you to reliable sources. And some Wikipedia articles are good; written and edited by knowledgeable and responsible individuals. But too many are full of inaccuracies, questionable assumptions, opinion presented as fact, and other serious problems. So, you may find it useful for getting started but it should not be listed in your bibliography because anything you find in Wikipedia should be verified by an authoritative source.
* **Scholarly works:** These include articles in professional journals, books, or chapters in edited volumes. A scholarly source is written by academic experts based on their own research. At least four such sources must be used for this paper. *Some of the required readings for this course (beyond the textbook) meet these criteria. If any are relevant to your topic, use them!*
* **Journalistic works:** You should be able to find several recent articles reporting on most topics relevant to this course. *But use these sources to learn about potential topics, supplement, update, and test the information and conclusions presented in the scholarly works and authoritative documents you reference.*
* **Agency and organization publications:** All research topics for this course relate to issues of direct concern to multiple government agencies, inter-governmental organizations (IGOs), and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Their websites and published documents provide a wealth of data, policy and project documents, case studies, and information on their own policies and programs. See below for more information.

**Citing your sources:**

*All works used must be cited using a standard form*. Use University of Chicago, MLA, APA, Harvard or another method with which you are familiar; but *use it consistently and accuratel*y. If you are unfamiliar with the formal requirements of academic citation, this website should help.

Purdue Writing Lab: <https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html>

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/>--it works the same way as regular Google searches but limits results to published sources, many of which are peer-reviewed.

***Some suggested sources for data, and how to use them:\****

Scholarly sources will be very useful for learning how political scientists do case studies, how they pose research questions, and how they select appropriate cases and analyze data. And since those sources are based on peer-reviewed research, they may be good sources of data that you can use in your paper as well. Plus, they will all have bibliographies indicating where they got their concepts and information from. Pay attention to the sources they cite; they could be useful for you too. In addition, continue to search Google Scholar and the library’s electronic journal databases for more.

Whether you need quantitative or qualitative data, the websites of governmental and inter-governmental organizations and NGOs can be very useful. In fact, for this first paper, they can be a very good place to start. See what environmental IGOs and NGOs are working on. One of their projects, cases or causes may be something that you want to examine critically and in more depth in your research. Furthermore, they may contain large datasets for the specific issues you wish to research (global, regional, and for specific countries), and provide examples of how to do detailed case studies. Below are a few of many examples of inter-governmental, governmental, and non-governmental sources that could be used. You will almost certainly see others cited in the scholarly literature and in the news, and *you will find many more* when you start researching your paper topic.

*Inter-governmental:*

UN Environment Program [www.unep.org](http://www.unep.org)

UN Development Program [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

World Health Organization [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

The World Bank [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) <http://www.oecd.org/environment/>

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) <http://www.ipcc.ch/>

European Union <https://europa.eu/european-union/topics/environment_en>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change https://unfccc.int/

Convention on Biological Diversity <https://www.cbd.int/>

The websites of various environment IGOs and secretariats of MEAs, regional organization such as the EU, OAS, African Union, CARICOM

*Governmental:*

US Environmental Protection Agency <https://www.epa.gov/>

US Department of the Interior <https://www.doi.gov/>

Chicago Department of Environment and Sustainability <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/progs/env.html>

Illinois Department of Natural Resources <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Environment and Climate Change Canada <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change.html>

The websites of various national environmental protection agencies, departments of the environment, sustainability of natural resources (virtually every national, provincial and municipal government has one)

*Non-governmental:*

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) [www.worldwildlife.org](http://www.worldwildlife.org)

International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) <https://www.iucn.org/>

Birdlife International <https://www.birdlife.org/>

Conservation International <https://www.conservation.org/Pages/default.aspx>

The Nature Conservancy <https://www.nature.org/en-us/>

And many more—some specifically focused on the issues you are researching

\*Note: For every environmental issue, problem, natural resource, technology, or type of policy there are likely to be multiple organizations, agencies, and institutions that govern it, advocate positions on it, educate about it, conduct research on it, and attempt to lead and/or mislead decision-makers and the general public. For some issues it may also be appropriate to consider information presented by businesses, either because they are causing environmental harm; or they are working on policies, products and services for prevention, mitigation or adaptation. So, there are many, many potentially good sources for the data you will need but you also need to keep in mind that some of it will be “packaged” to promote a particular point of view.