

INTERNATIONAL 2007 ◊ 2008
POLAR YEAR



Time Table

International and Interdisciplinary IPY Polar Field School 2010

June 21st – July 9th 2010

A cooperative effort between,
IPY Norway
University of The Arctic
The University Centre in Svalbard
The Association of Polar Early Career Scientists
The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

WITH RESERVATION TO POSSIBLE CHANGES

Last update: 18.06.10, Elise Strømseng, 79 02 33 93/ elises@unis.no

International and Interdisciplinary IPY Polar Field School 2010

Background

The International Polar Year (IPY) is a large scientific programme focused on the Arctic and the Antarctic lasting from March 1st 2007 to March 1st 2009.

IPY, organized through the International Council for Science (ICSU) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), is actually the fourth polar year, following those in 1882-3, 1932-3, and 1957-8. In order to have full and equal coverage of both the Arctic and the Antarctic, IPY 2007-8 covers two full annual cycles from March 2007 to March 2009. 200 projects, with thousands of scientists from over 60 nations examining a wide range of physical, biological and social research topics, will be involved. IPY 2007-2008 will also be an unprecedented opportunity to demonstrate, follow, and get involved with, cutting edge science in real-time.



The idea of an IPY Polar Field School (FS) for students at the termination of IPY 2007-2008

International cooperation in research, education and outreach has been a common aim for all IPY participating countries. The idea of an IPY Field School (FS) was raised during an APECS/IPY Youth conference in Stockholm, Sweden, in September 2007. The project on realizing this FS started a month later and has kept on until the present date. Funding was an essential issue, however today we can proudly say that the IPY FS is fully financed thanks to IPY Norway, The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and The University of the Arctic (UArctic). The University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS) will host the FS as a 10 ECTS UNIS course. UNIS is contributing with coordination, lecturers, facilities and logistical support. The planning of the total concept has been carried out by IPY Norway/UNIS representative Elise Strømseng, Professor Hanne H. Christiansen and Professor Olafur Ingólfsson (both UNIS), as well as representatives from APECS, Elizabeth Thomas and Melissa Rohde.

The FS is meant to be a final event for internationally recruited students at the termination of IPY – focusing on Polar issues and initiate future networking of students with interests for Polar Science through APECS. This will also be a unique opportunity for the IPY research projects to perform outreach and present their new IPY-data to the future Polar scientists.

The focus of the FS will be interdisciplinary – involving several of the aspects of the research performed during IPY, i.e. also the human dimension. 25 students will be given admission and experience great nature, exiting field work and excursions, and meet other encouraged students at Svalbard during 3 weeks in the summer of 2010.

We wish you welcome to Longyearbyen and UNIS.

Best regards,

Elise Strømseng
Coordinator
UNIS/UArctic

Ólafur Ingólfsson
Professor
UNIS

AFS-201

International Polar Field School (10 ECTS)

Objective:

To give an interdisciplinary introduction to environmental change in the Polar areas based upon past, present and future research being done in the Arctic during and after the IPY. The course will offer a unique field-training experience for internationally recruited students (undergraduate/early graduate) in a high-arctic environment, further on providing them with the latest IPY research data and information to be used for interdisciplinary project work during the field-school.

Content:

This course will focus on the impacts of climatic changes on the Polar regions, and students will accordingly get a general overview of topics including geology, glaciology, permafrost, oceanography, meteorology, biology, Polar social science and management/decision making in the Polar areas. The field-school will provide hands-on activities, field-work, group work and lectures covering the main topics, but also a deeper look into present polar research that was accomplished during IPY 2007-2009.

Students will work with group projects and thus get training to improve report writing and presentation skills. The projects will be based on data collected during fieldwork, the lectured scientific topics and the lectures regarding management systems and the legal framework applying to the Polar region. A unique lecture topic for this course is the inclusion of the effects of environmental changes on the human population, hence including some lectures on indigenous people in Polar areas.

In total the course provides facts and information on a variety of issues within the main concerns mentioned, and introduces students to field-work in the Arctic, methods in different disciplines, skills in how to make a good presentation and perform research outreach, and finally how to see Polar research in a broader perspective.

The course intends to utilize science data obtained as a part of The International Polar Year (IPY) 2007-2009, and is a collaborative initiative between IPY Norway, UNIS, UArctic and the Association of Early Career Polar Scientists (APECS). In 2010 and 2011 The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has contributed financially to the field school.

Prerequisites:

Meet one or more of the prerequisites for the undergraduate courses in biology, geology, technology or geophysics, currently taught at UNIS, 45-90 ECTS in natural sciences/earth sciences.

Period:	June 21st – July 9th 2010
Teaching:	40 hrs lectures, 30 hrs seminars, 3 days of field activity/excursions
Evaluation:	Oral presentation and approved report.
Course responsible:	Ólafur Ingólfsson, oi@hi.is
Unis responsible person:	Elise Strømseng, elises@unis.no

DAYPROGRAMME

Friday - Sunday June 18-20th			
TIME	EVENT	WHERE	RESPONSIBLE
	Arrivals Transport to Student Hostels - Nybyen	<i>Longyearbyen Airport</i>	UNIS
15:00-18:00	Buy food/groceries for yourself	Svalbardbutikken	Students

Monday June 21st			
TIME	EVENT	WHERE	RESPONSIBLE
08:30	Introduction	UNIS	Elise Strømseng Ólafur Ingólfsson
09:00	Safety Course: <i>Remember to make your own lunch in Nybyen before going to UNIS <u>and</u> bring warm clothes!</i>	Rifle range	UNIS Logistical Dep.
16:15-17:30	Welcome to UNIS and Svalbard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNIS 10 min • IPY 10 min • UArctic 5 min • APECS 5 min • Practical information 5-10 • Guided tour around UNIS 	UNIS	Ólafur Ingólfsson Elise Strømseng
18:00	Dinner	UNIS	Kroa

Tuesday June 22nd			
09.15 -10:00	Geology: Glacial history of Svalbard	UNIS	Ólafur Ingólfsson
10:15 -11:00			
11:15 - 12:00	Geology: Glacial history of Antarctica	UNIS	Ólafur Ingólfsson
12.00 -12.30	<i>Lunch – bring your own lunch from Nybyen in the morning</i>		
12.30 -13:15	IPY- Project: ICEBOUND - A case study, field work in the high arctic landscape	UNIS	Endre Før Gjermundsen
13:30 -14:15			
14:30 -16:00	Discussion	UNIS	Ólafur Ingólfsson
17:00	Dinner	Huset	Huset

DAYPROGRAMME

Wednesday June 23rd

TIME	EVENT	WHERE?	RESPONSIBLE
09:15 -10:00	IPY-Project: Science Pub	UNIS	Helena Alexanderson
10:15 -11:00	Field methods in Quaternary research		
11:15 -11:45	Discussions		
11:45 - 12:15	<i>Lunch – bring your own lunch from Nybyen in the morning. Bring some extra food for excursion after lunch.</i>		
12:30 - 17:00	Excursion to Longyearglacier	Longyearglacier	Helena Alexanderson
18:30 →	Dinner – evening barbeque	At the beach	UNIS students

Thursday June 24th

09:15 -10:00	Glaciology: Introduction to the glacial systems of Svalbard.	UNIS	Thomas V. Schuler
10:15 -11:00	IPY-Project: Glaciodyn	UNIS	Thomas V. Schuler
11:15 - 12:00	Avalanches on Svalbard	UNIS	Markus Eckerstorfer
12:00 - 13:00	<i>Lunch – bring your own lunch from Nybyen in the morning.</i>		
13:00 -17:00	Fieldwork on Avalanche sedimentation	Nybyen	Markus Eckerstorfer
17:00 →	Dinner	Huset	Huset

DAYPROGRAMME

Friday June 25th			
TIME	EVENT	WHERE?	RESPONSIBLE
09:15 -10:00	Oceanography: polar Oceans, Ice and Global Climate	UNIS	Tor Gammelsrød
10:15 -11:00	IPY-Project: BIAC (Bipolar Arctic Thermohaline Circulation)		Tor Gammelsrød
11:00-11:30	<i>Lunch – bring your own lunch from Nybyen in the morning.</i>		
11:30 -12:15	Oceanography: instrumentation and observation techniques	UNIS	Tor Gammelsrød
12:15 - 13.00	IPY-project: TSP NORWAY Permafrost in Svalbard		Hanne Christiansen
13:00 - 18:00	Excursion to 3 TSP NORWAY sites	Adventdalen	Hanne Christiansen
18:00 →	Dinner	SAS-hotel	SAS-hotel
Saturday June 26th			
	Free-time		
17:00	Dinner	Huset	Huset
Sunday June 27th			
10.15 - 11.00	Biology: Botany of Svalbard I	UNIS	Ingibjörg S. Jónsdóttir
11:15 -12:00			
12:15 - 13:00	IPY-project: Bird-Health		Sveinn A. Hanssen
13:00 -13:30	<i>Lunch – bring your own lunch from Nybyen + extra food/thermos for the afternoon excursion</i>		
13:30 -17:00	Excursion – Botany and Birds	Endalen and Adventdalen	Ingibjörg S. Jónsdóttir and Sveinn A. Hanssen
18:00 →	Dinner	SAS-hotel	SAS-hotel

DAYPROGRAMME

Monday June 28th			
09:15 - 10:00	Marine Mammals of the Svalbard area	UNIS	Kit Kovacs
10:15 - 11:00	IPY-project incl. techno-biologging: MEOP <i>(Marine Mammals Exploring the Oceans Pole to Pole)</i>		Christian Lydersen
11:30 - 12:00	Marine Mammals and climate change to date		Kit Kovacs
12:00 -13:00	<i>Lunch – bring your own lunch from Nybyen in the morning.</i>		
13.00 -15:00	LAB – dissection of a seal	UNIS	Kit Kovacs
15:30 -16:00	Safety briefing before excursion on Tuesday/ Wednesday	UNIS	UNIS Logistical Dep.
16:00 - 17:00	Arctic auroras and other night sky phenomena	UNIS	Margit Dyrland
17:00	Dinner	Huset	Huset
Tuesday June 29th			
08:30 - 22:00	Excursion to Kapp Linné - Botany <i>Bring your own lunchbag, dinner will be served at Kapp Linné where we will be staying overnight.</i>	Kapp Linné	Ólafur, Ingibjörg, Elise, UNIS logistics
Wednesday June 30th			
08:30 - 09:30	Breakfast (remember to make lunch), clean out of room	Kapp Linné Russekeila	Ólafur, Ingibjörg, Elise
09:30 - 15:00	Geology-excursion outside (including lunch)	Kapp Linné Russekeila	Ingibjörg
15:00	Departure to Barentsburg from Russekeila	Barentsburg	UNIS logistics
16:00 -18:00	Excursion and dinner in Barentsburg	Barentsburg	Ólafur, Ingibjörg, Elise
18:30-21:00	Departure to Longyearbyen	Barentsburg	Ólafur, Ingibjörg, Elise

DAYPROGRAMME

Thursday July 1st			
TIME	EVENT	WHERE?	RESPONSIBLE
09:15 -10:00	Marine Biology I: An introduction	UNIS	Ole Jørgen Lønne
10:15 -11:00	Marine Biology II: The Polar Cod	UNIS	Ole Jørgen Lønne
11:15 -12:00	Career Development lecture I: Managing and advancing your career in Polar Science	UNIS	APECS/ Jenny Baeseman
12:00 -14:00	<i>Lunch – bring your own lunch from Nybyen in the morning</i>		
14:15 - 15:00	Career Development lecture II: The Art of Poster presentation	UNIS	Jenny Baeseman
15:15 - 16:00	A tour of the IPY	UNIS	Dave Carlson
18:00 →	Dinner and Knowledge bar with politicians from The Nordic Council.	Huset	Huset
Friday July 2nd			
09:15 -10:00	IPY focus 2007-2008: Human Dimension	UNIS	Lars Kullerud
10:15 -11:00	Who owns the north pole?	UNIS	Lars Kullerud
11:15 - 12:00	Career Development lecture III: Giving your best presentation	UNIS	Dave Carlson
12:00 -13:00	<i>Lunch – bring your own lunch from Nybyen in the morning.</i>		
13:00 -16:00	Project work start-up – divide into groups	UNIS	Ólafur Ingólfsson
18:00 →	Dinner	SAS-hotel	SAS-hotel

DAYPROGRAMME

Saturday July 3rd			
TIME	EVENT	WHERE?	RESPONSIBLE
10:00 - 10:45	The natural history of the Polar Bear	UNIS	Ólafur Ingólfsson
11.00 -12:00	<i>Lunch – bring your own lunch from Nybyen in the morning.</i>		
12:00 -12:45	IPY-Project: EALÁT I	UNIS	Anders Oskal
13:00 -13:45	IPY-Project: EALÁT II		Anders Oskal
14:00 -16:00	Excursion to Svalbard Museum	UNIS	Tora Hultgren
17:00	Dinner	Kroa	Kroa

Sunday July 4th			
	Free-time		
17:30	Dinner	Huset	Huset

Monday July 5th			
09:15 -10:00	Svalbard Climate and Meteorology	UNIS	Anna Sjöblom
10:15 -16:00	Project work – organize your own lunch	UNIS	
16:00 -16:30	Discussion and supervision	UNIS	
17:00	Dinner	Huset	Huset

Tuesday July 6th			
09:15 - 10:00	Scavenging guilds on sub-arctic tundra	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
10:15 - 16:00	Project work – organize your own lunch	UNIS	
16:15 -16:30	Discussion and supervision	UNIS	
16:30	Dinner	Huset	Huset

Tuesday July 6th			
09:15 - 10:00	Scavenging guilds on sub-arctic tundra	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
10:15 - 16:00	Project work – organize your own lunch	UNIS	
16:15 -16:30	Discussion and supervision	UNIS	
16:30	Dinner	Huset	Huset

DAYPROGRAMME

Wednesday July 7th			
TIME	EVENT	WHERE?	RESPONSIBLE
09:15 - 10:15	Lecture: CO2 storage	UNIS	Snorre Olaussen
10:15 - 15:00	Project work – organize your own lunch	UNIS	
15:00 - 16:00	Poster Printing	UNIS	
16:00 - 16:30	Discussion and supervision	UNIS	
18:00	Dinner	SAS-hotel	SAS-hotel

Thursday July 8th			
TIME	EVENT	WHERE?	RESPONSIBLE
09:00 - 12:00	Oral Presentations	UNIS	Students
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch - organize your own lunch	UNIS	
13:00 - 14.30	Poster Presentations	UNIS	Students
14:30 - 15:00	Evaluation of presentations by examiner	UNIS	
15:00 - 17:00	Final gathering + course evaluation	UNIS	
19:00 →	Concluding dinner	SAS-hotel	SAS-hotel

Friday July 9th			
TIME	EVENT	WHERE?	RESPONSIBLE
→ 10:00	Cleaning of room and bathroom in Nybyen	UNIS	Students
10:30	Farewell gathering/lunch	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
13:00	Bus transport to Nybyen to pick up luggage	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
13:30	Transport to Airport	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
14:45	Departure	UNIS	
→17:00	Cleaning and sum-up organizers	UNIS	Elise Strømseng

Friday July 9th			
TIME	EVENT	WHERE?	RESPONSIBLE
→ 10:00	Cleaning of room and bathroom in Nybyen	UNIS	Students
10:30	Farewell gathering/lunch	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
13:00	Bus transport to Nybyen to pick up luggage	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
13:30	Transport to Airport	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
14:45	Departure	UNIS	
→17:00	Cleaning and sum-up organizers	UNIS	Elise Strømseng

Friday July 9th			
TIME	EVENT	WHERE?	RESPONSIBLE
→ 10:00	Cleaning of room and bathroom in Nybyen	UNIS	Students
10:30	Farewell gathering/lunch	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
13:00	Bus transport to Nybyen to pick up luggage	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
13:30	Transport to Airport	UNIS	Elise Strømseng
14:45	Departure	UNIS	
→17:00	Cleaning and sum-up organizers	UNIS	Elise Strømseng

READING FOR IPY FIELD SCHOOL 2010

Glaciology	Hagen, J.O. et al. 2003. On the Net Mass Balance of the Glaciers and Ice Caps in Svalbard, Norwegian Arctic. Arctic, Antarctic and Alpine research, 35:2, pp.264-270.
	Moholdt, G. et al 2010. Geometric changes and mass balance of the Austfonna ice cap, Svalbard. The Cryosphere, 4, p. 21-34.
Geology	Blankholm HP. 2008. Målsnes 1: An early post-glacial coastal site in northern Norway. Oxbow Books, Oxford. <i>(Pages will be specified at the Field School).</i>
	Evans DJA and Benn DI. 2004. A practical guide to the study of glacial sediments. Chapter 2 (sections 2.2-2.5): Facies description and the logging of sedimentary exposures. p. 11-39. Arnold, London.
	Ingólfsson, O., Wiig, Ø., 2008. Late Pleistocene fossil find in Svalbard: the oldest remains of a polar bear (<i>Ursus maritimus</i> Phipps, 1744) ever discovered. Polar research 2008, 455-462.
	Landvik, J.Y. et al., 2003. Northwest Svalbard during the last glaciation: Ice-free areas existed. Geology, 31(10), 905-908.
	Landvik J.Y. et al. 2005. Rethinking Late Weichselian ice-sheet dynamics in coastal NW Svalbard. Boreas 34, p. 7-24.
	Lindquist, C. et al. 2010. Complete mitochondrial genome of a Pleistocene jawbone unveils the origin of polar bear. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 16; 107(11). 5053-7.
	Mangerud, J. et al., 2002. The extend of the Barents-Kara ice-sheet during the Last Glacial Maximum, Quat. Sci. Rev. 21 (2002), p. 111-119.
	Ottesen, D. and Dowdeswell, J. A. 2009. An inter-ice-stream glaciated margin: Submarine landforms and a geomorphic model based on marine-geophysical data from Svalbard. Geological Society of America Bulletin.
	Svendsen, J.I. et al. 2004. Late Quaternary ice sheet history of northern Eurasia. Quaternary Science Reviews, 23(11-13), 1229-1271.
	<i>Recommended Field Guides:</i>
	Humlum O. et al. 2005. Late-Holocene glacier growth in Svalbard, documented by subglacial relict vegetation and living soil microbes. The Holocene 15, p. 396-407.
	Hjelle A. 1993. Geology of Svalbard. [Section] Longyearbyen - Adventdalen p. 58-69. Norwegian Polar Institute, Oslo

SYLLABUS

Permafrost/ Avalanches	Eckerstorfer, Markus, 2010: Snow avalanches in Central Svalbard in the High Arctic. Field guide book, Third European Conference on Permafrost.
	Humlum, O., Instanes, A. & Sollid, J-L., 2003: Permafrost in Svalbard: a review of research history, climatic background and engineering challenges. <i>Polar Research</i> , 22, 191-215, 25 p.
Human dimension	Crate, S.A. 2008. Gone the Bull of Winter? Grappling with the Cultural Implications of and Anthropology's Role(s) in global Climate Change. <i>Current Anthropology</i> ; 49:4, p. 569-585.
	Baer, L.A. 2010. Study on the impact of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures on reindeer herding. United Nations Economic and Social Council. <i>Unpublished</i> .
Geophysics (Oceanography and Meteorology)	Førland, E.J. and Hanssen-Bauer, I. 2003. Past and future climate variations in the Norwegian Arctic: overview and novel analyses. <i>Polar Research</i> , 22:2, 113-124.
	Gammelsrød et al. 2009. Mass and heat transport in the NE Barents Sea: Observations and models. <i>Journal of Marine Systems</i> 75, 56-69
	Skagseth et al. 2008. Volume and heat transport to the Arctic Ocean via the Norwegian and Barents Seas. In: <i>Arctic Subarctic Ocean Fluxes</i> (Springer).
Terrestrial/ Marine Biology	Alsos, I.G. et al. C. 2007. Frequent long distance plant colonization in the changing Arctic. <i>Science</i> 316: 1606-1609.
	Jónsdóttir, I.S. 2005. Terrestrial ecosystems on Svalbard: heterogeneity, complexity and fragility from an arctic island perspective. <i>Biology and Environment</i> 105B, 155-165.
	Sakshaug, E., Johnsen, G., Kovacs, K. et al. 2009. Ecosystem Barents Sea. Ch.18. <i>Marine Mammals of the Barents Sea</i> (p.453-496). Tapir Academic Press; Trondheim.
	Hanssen, S.A. et al. 2003. Costs of parasites in common eiders: effects of antiparasite treatment. <i>Oikos</i> 100: 105-111.
	Ims, R.A. and Fuglei, E. 2005. Trophic Interaction Cycles in Tundra Ecosystems and the Impact of climate change. <i>Bioscience</i> 55:4, p. 311-322.
	<i>Recommended Field guides:</i>
	Rønning, O. I. 1996. The Flora of Svalbard. Norsk Polarinstitutt. <i>(This book is available both in Norwegian and English. Can be ordered form Norsk Polarinstitutt, bought in Longyearbyen or borrowed at UNIS).</i>
	Pielou, E. C. (1994). A naturalist's guide to the Arctic. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. <i>(Provides a popular introduction to arctic environments and arctic ecology. Not for sale in Longyearbyen. One copy is available at the UNIS library and ISJ has another copy).</i>

Contact persons / Lecturers

FUNCTION	NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL
EMERGENCY CALL	Governor of Svalbard	79 02 43 00	
EMERGENCY CALL	Hospital in Longyearbyen	79 02 42 00	
IPY/UNIS - coordinator	Elise Strømseng	79 02 33 93/ 95 70 79 72	elises@unis.no
UNIS-professor	Ólafur Ingólfsson		oi@hi.is
Safety	Fred S. Hansen	79 02 33 40	Fred.hansen@unis.no
Reception	UNIS	79 02 33 00	reception@unis.no
Avalanches/Snow	Markus Eckerstorfer		Markuse1@unis.no
Auroras	Margit Dyrland		margitd@unis.no
Biology	Kit Kovacs/ Christian Lydersen		kit.kovacs@npolar.no / christian.lydersen@npolar.no
Biology	Ole Jørgen Lønne		olel@unis.no
Biology	Ingibjörg S. Jónsdóttir		isj@hi.is
Biology	Sveinn Are Hanssen		sveinn.a.hanssen@nina.no
CO2-project	Snorre Olaussen		snorreo@unis.no
Climate/Meteorology	Anna Sjöblom		AnnaS@unis.no
Geology	Helena Alexanderson		helena.alexanderson@umb.no
Geology	Ólafur Ingólfsson		oi@hi.is
Glaciology	Thomas Vikhamar Schuler		t.v.schuler@geo.uio.no
Permafrost	Hanne H. Christiansen		hanneh@unis.no
Oceanography	Tor Gammelsrød		Tor.Gammelsrod@gfi.uib.no
Human Dimension	Lars Kullerud		Lars.Kullerud@uarctic.org
Human Dimension	Anders Oskal		anders.oskal@reindeercentre.org
Svalbard Museum	Tora Hultgren		tora@svabardmuseum.no
IPY/ Career Develop. / Termination of FS	Dave Carlson		ipy.djc@gmail.com
Career Development	Jenny Baseman		jbaeseman@gmail.com

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Longyearbyen and Svalbard

Svalbard is an archipelago in the High Arctic, situated between 74° and 81°N and 10° and 35°E. The seven large and many small islands cover a total area of some 63 000 sq.km. Glaciers cover about 60% of the land.

Settlements

The Svalbard Treaty of 1920 gave Norway sovereignty over the archipelago, and since the Treaty was enforced in 1925, Svalbard has been part of the Kingdom of Norway. There are two main communities on Svalbard: Longyearbyen (Norwegian) with ca. 2100 inhabitants; and Barentsburg (Russian) with a total of about 500 inhabitants. There are also smaller settlements in Ny-Ålesund, Svea and Hornsund.

Climate

The climate is relatively mild in comparison with other areas at these latitudes. The mean temperatures vary from -14° C in the winter to +6° C in the summer. Svalbard can be characterized as "Arctic semi-desert", with an annual precipitation of only 200 - 300 mm.

The midnight sun can be seen in Longyearbyen from April 19 until August 24, but between October 28 until February 16 the sun does not appear above the horizon at all.

Longyearbyen

Longyearbyen is a small community (approx. 2000 people), and the centre of Norwegian presence on Svalbard.

The Governor ("Sysselmannen") is the highest authority in Svalbard, and the Governor's office is in Longyearbyen. The main industrial activity is mining and export of coal. Tourism and service industries, education and research are other important industries.

During the Field-School we will visit Longyearbyen, Barentsburg and Kapp Linné on the west-coast of Spitsbergen, Svalbard.



ARRIVAL



- All students need to be present in Longyearbyen in time for the course. Latest arrival is Monday June 21st at 00:30, we recommend students to arrive with the day-flight (14:00) on Sunday, June 20th.
- A representative from UNIS will meet you at the airport in Longyearbyen. The person will carry a poster with a large UNIS logo, and will be in the arrival area. You will be transported to the student accommodation in Nybyen. All new students will receive an envelope with information about UNIS and Longyearbyen.

FOOD



- The kitchen and the fridge should be filled up with food every other day. Report missing items/products to the organizers at UNIS throughout the whole Field School. Remember to make your own lunch from the food available in the kitchen – unless you want to buy lunch in the cantina at UNIS. Dinners are organized through the Field School from June 21st – July 9th. If you are arriving earlier/staying longer you need to organize your own meals, including dinners, on the days outside this period.

VISA & INSURANCE



- No visa is required for staying on Svalbard. If you are an international student from outside the European Union and travelling to Svalbard through Norway, you are required to obtain a transit visa if citizens of your country need a visa to go to Norway. Please see the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration's webpage for more information about visa.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the appropriate types of insurance. This includes travel-, accident- and health insurance. All UNIS students are insured during activities that UNIS initiate, however during leisure time you will need private insurance coverage. All Nordic citizens are insured through the Norwegian public health insurance. All other citizens should check with their local authorities whether their home country insurance is valid on Svalbard.

SAFETY FIRST



- The students will be introduced to some of the safety guidelines that apply on Svalbard through the safety courses when they arrive. The safety guidelines form a foundation, upon which the students may continue to build.
- UNIS takes no responsibilities for activities students choose to do in their spare time. Most students staying on Svalbard will take the opportunity to do some exploring. This requires that students take the necessary safety precautions and make the preparations essential for such trips.
- In preparation of your UNIS stay you can have a look at the UNIS Health, Safety and Environment webpages concerning safety issues.
- The students that have attended the safety course at UNIS will be allowed to borrow rifles and ammunition for protection against polar bears when out in the field.

CLOTHING



- The average temperature in Svalbard in June is approx. 3°C, but both warmer and even temperatures below 0°C are not uncommon. We recommend that you bring some warm clothing and suitable footwear for Arctic summer conditions.
- At UNIS and several other buildings (the hotels) people are asked to use indoor footwear – due to the problems of coal dust.

Clothes and equipment that are recommended to bring:

- Woollen underwear and woollen socks
- Warm hat and scarf
- Warm and/or windproof gloves/mittens
- Warm and/or wind/waterproof jackets
- Outdoor (windproof and/or water resistant) trousers
- Outdoor shoes and regular shoes (UNIS can provide rubber boots)
- Regular clothes for everyday use (jeans, sweaters, t-shirts, shoes)
- Indoor shoes and /or woollen socks
- Small rucksack
- Thermos for hot drinks in field
- Bed clothing!

TRANSPORT



The walk from the Student hostels (Nybyen) to UNIS is approx 2km (20 min). There is no public transport system. Taxis can be helpful:

- Taxi: 79 02 13 05 or 79 02 13 75

SHOPS



- There is only one grocery store “**Svalbardbutikken**”
Opening hours are 10.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. every day, except:
Saturday (10.00 am to 3.00 pm) and Sunday (3.00 pm to 6.00 pm).
Svalbardbutikken also market souvenirs, some clothing and sports equipment.
- For buying alcohol you need to bring your plane-ticket due to special restrictions on alcohol quotas in Svalbard. The liquor store is inside Svalbardbutikken.
- Almost all shops are located in the middle of the town. There are several sports- and souvenir shops. In addition there are other shops (clothes/ sports equipm.), hair dressers, cafés, a post-office and a bank in the same nearby area. The price range on things and food are considere to be from average to high.

PLACES TO VISIT

- Gallery of Svalbard (Art)
- The Svalbard Museum
- The Church of Svalbard
- Spitsbergen Airship Museum
- Svalbardhallen (gym/swimmingpool)