

More Than Just Polar Bears: A system-wide interdisciplinary approach to connecting Maine with the Arctic

Faculty:

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*Picture the Arctic
In Your Mind*









The Arctic Circle

AGREEMENT ON ENHANCING INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

NON-BINDING ILLUSTRATIVE MAP

This non-binding illustrative map shows the approximate extent of the Identified Geographic Areas described in Annex 1 of the Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation. It is intended for illustrative purposes only and does not form part of the Agreement.

- Approximate Extent of Identified Geographic Areas
- 62°N
- - - Arctic Circle
- Additional areas covered voluntarily by Canada

Continental shelf areas are not depicted.
U.S. Department of State, OES/OPA, April 12, 2019



Why Maine + Arctic?

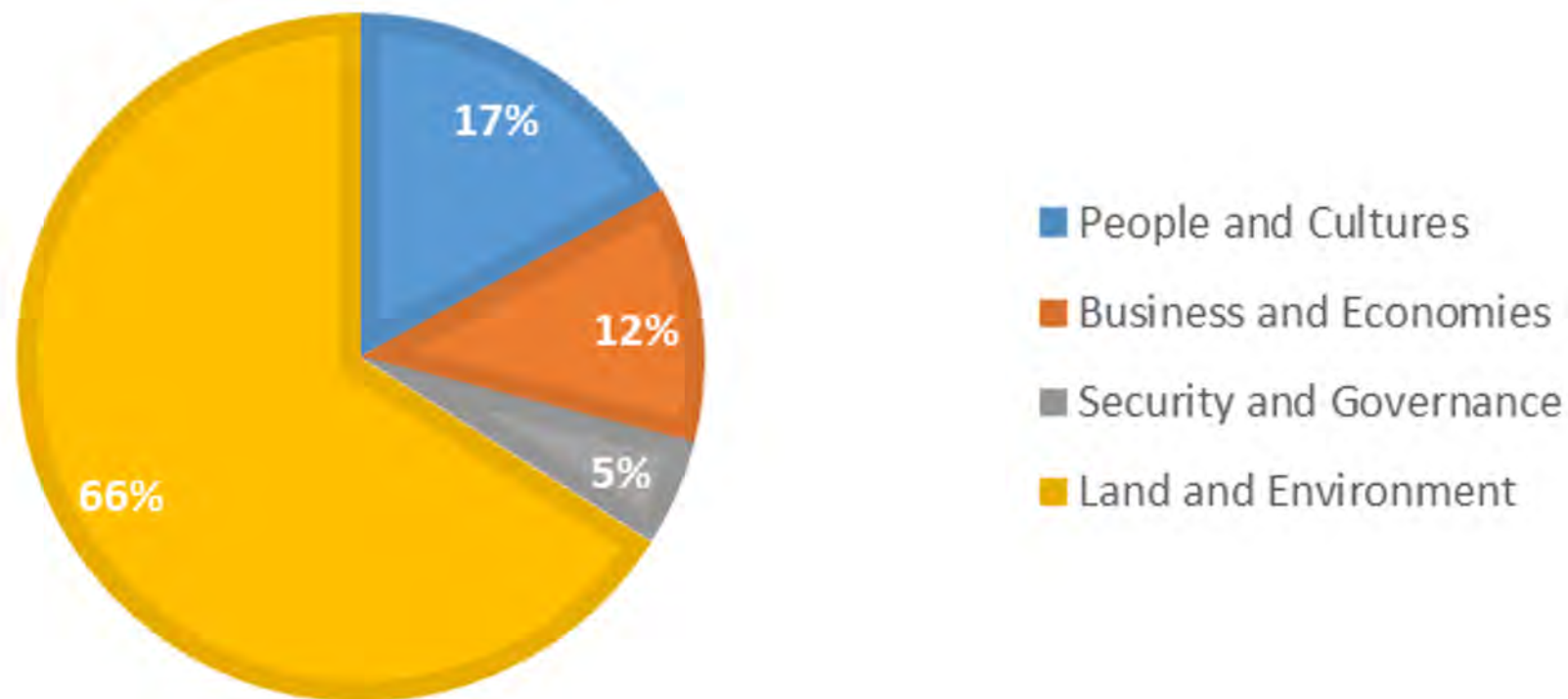
- Maine and Alaska closest US states to Arctic
- Environmental change opening transportation routes and opportunities
- New "Cold War" emerging in region
- Environmental change affecting Maine's oceans and fish stock

About the Research Project

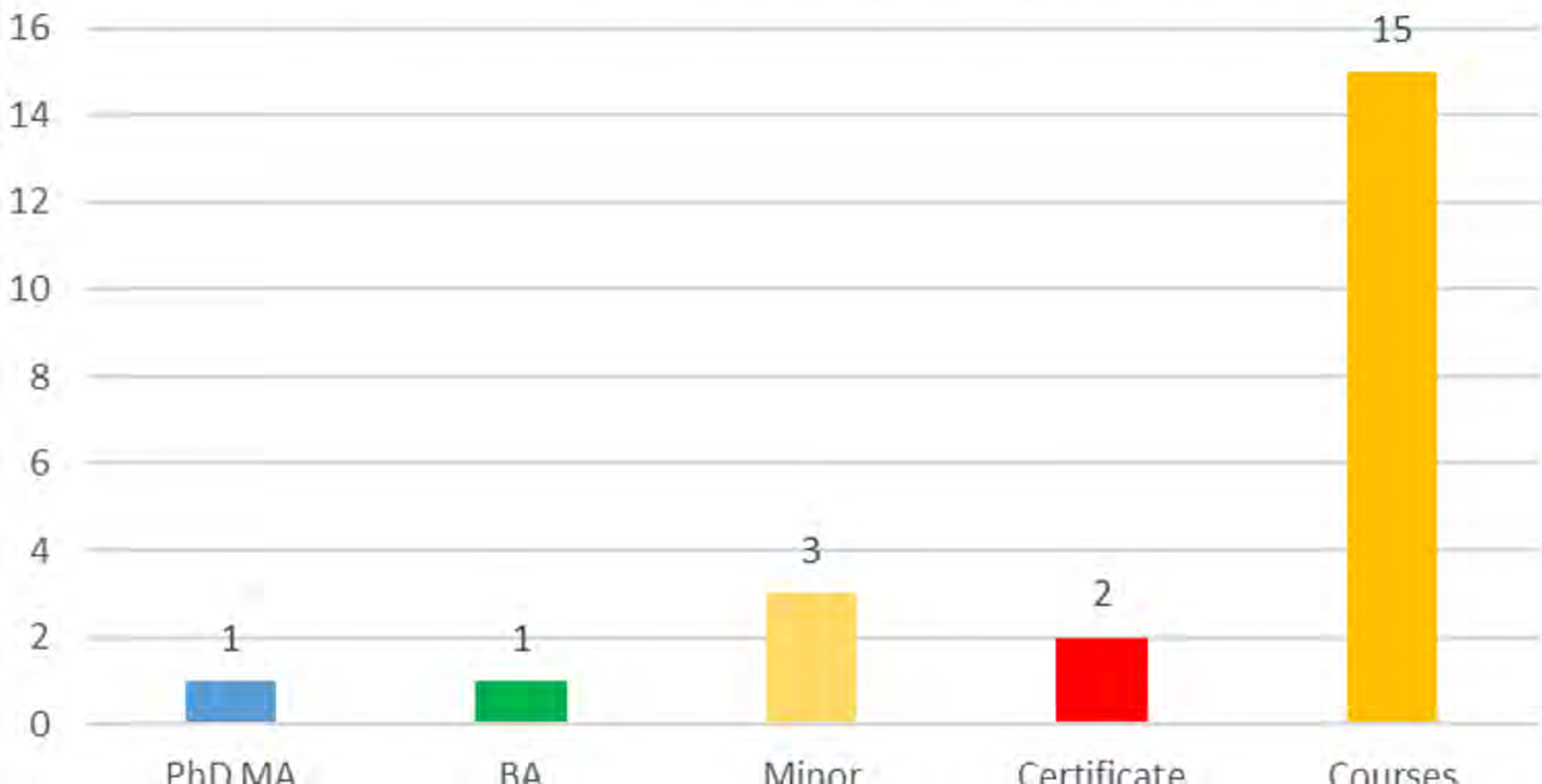
- Student and Faculty inquiry into program design and how it will inform research priorities, develop strategies to address structural changes in the Arctic, and implement solutions to benefit both Maine and the polar region of the Arctic.
- Benchmarked existing Arctic and Circumpolar programs across the globe, identified knowledge, skills and abilities needed to work and engage in field work and careers in the circumpolar region, and inventoried UMS and global opportunities
- Goal: To build a transdisciplinary collaborative learning model for students and professionals to understand, evaluate and create solutions to engage in various fields of study in the Arctic region.
- Funded by the University of Maine System Office of Research Development Research Reinvestment Fund Planning Grant.

UMS FACULTY BY INTERDISCIPLINARY THEME

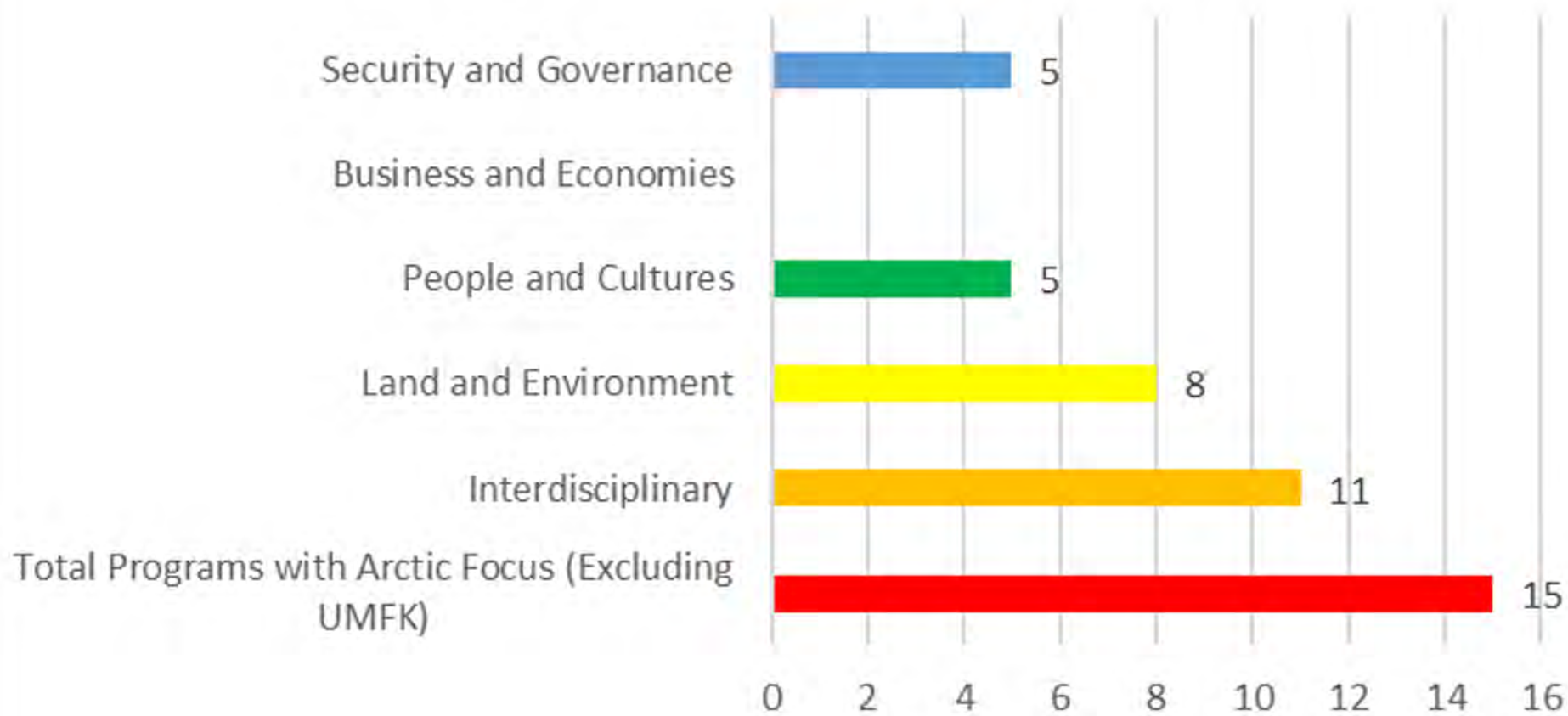
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Arctic Related Programs and Courses, US

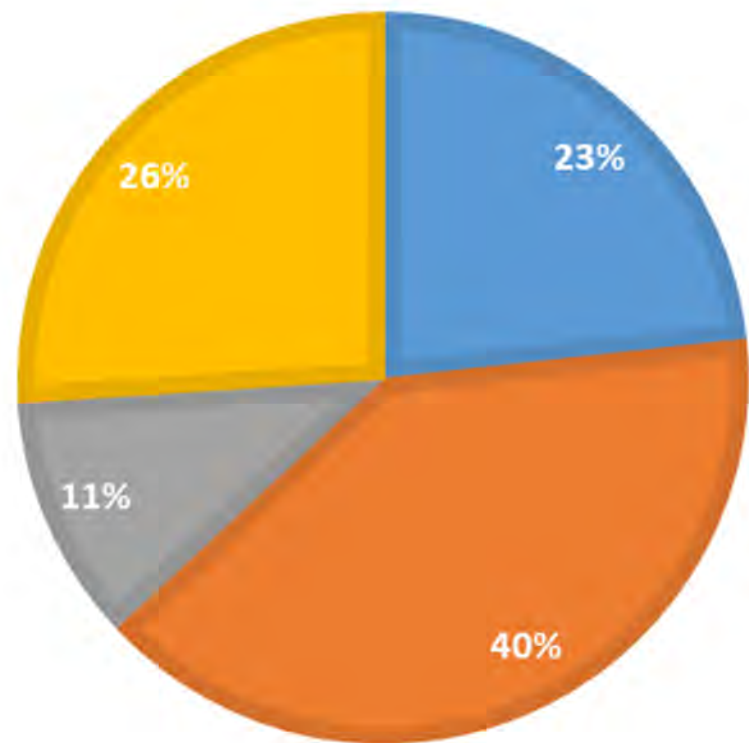


Programs by UMFK Theme and Total with Arctic Programming



JOB OPENINGS BY UMFK INTERDISCIPLINARY THEME

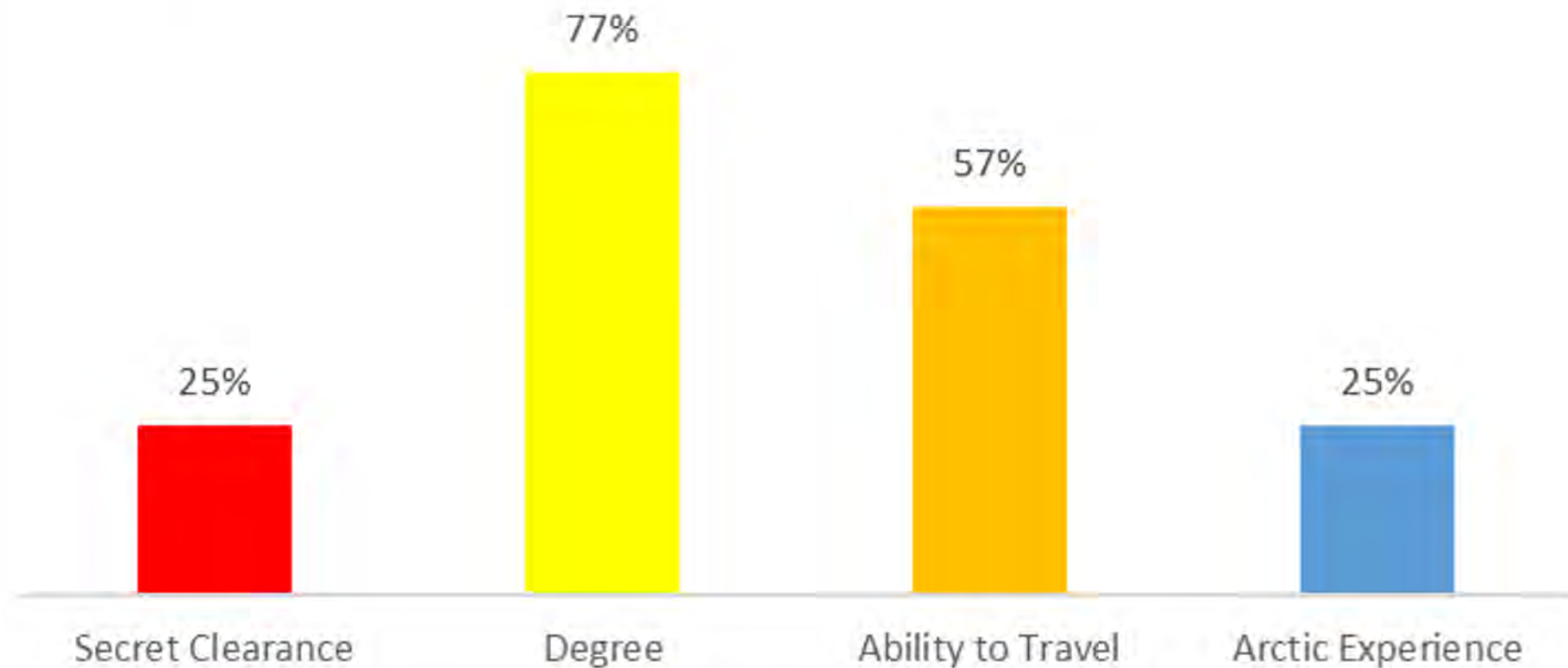
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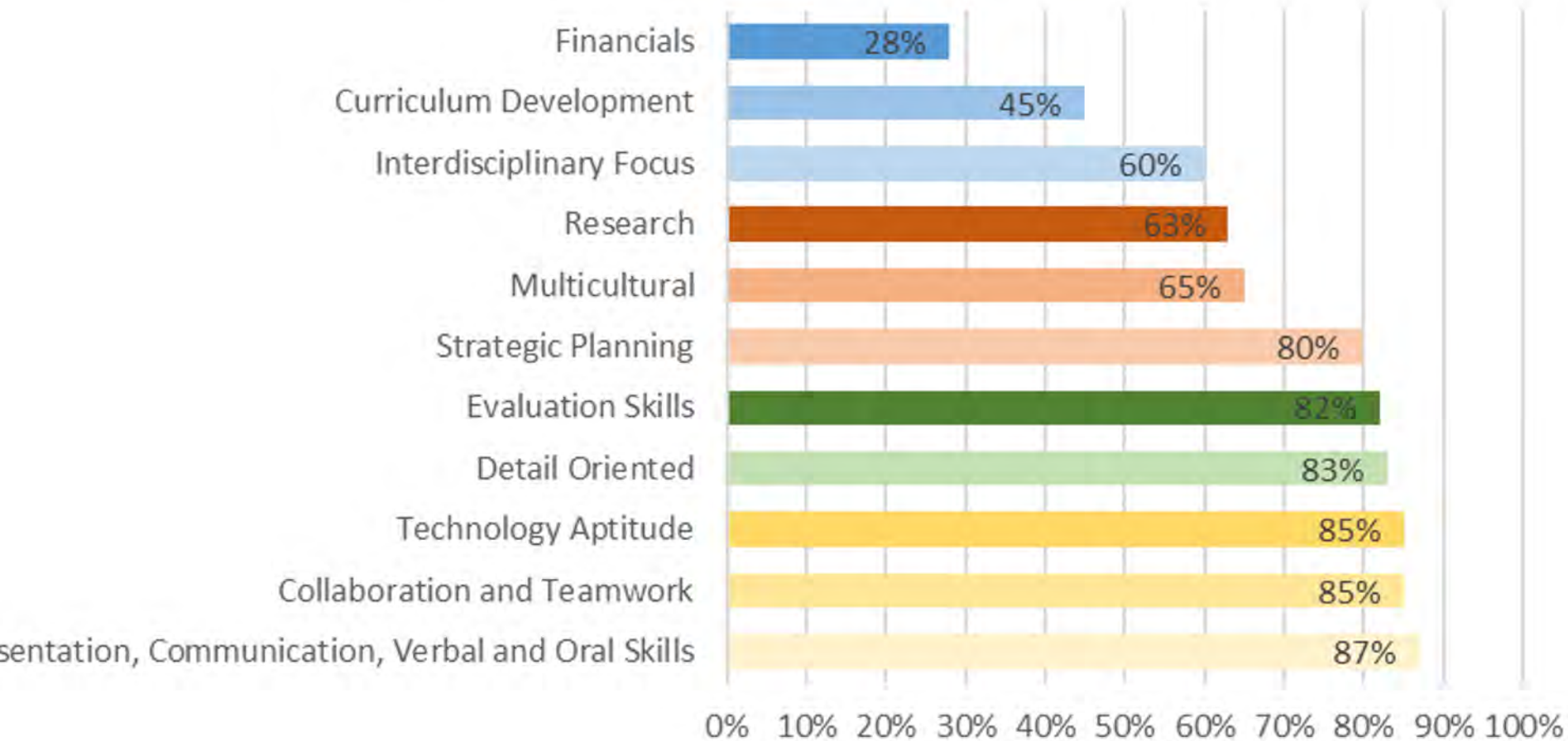
- Security and Governance
- Land and Environment
- Business and Economies
- People and Cultures

Key Qualifications

■ Secret Clearance ■ Degree ■ Ability to Travel ■ Arctic Experience



Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Required



Curriculum

- Need to bolster security and governance, along with people and cultures, and business and economies, knowledge, skills and ability in our courses
- Security clearance is important to many future careers
- Diplomacy and communication a key skill for Arctic related skills
- Applied experience is important

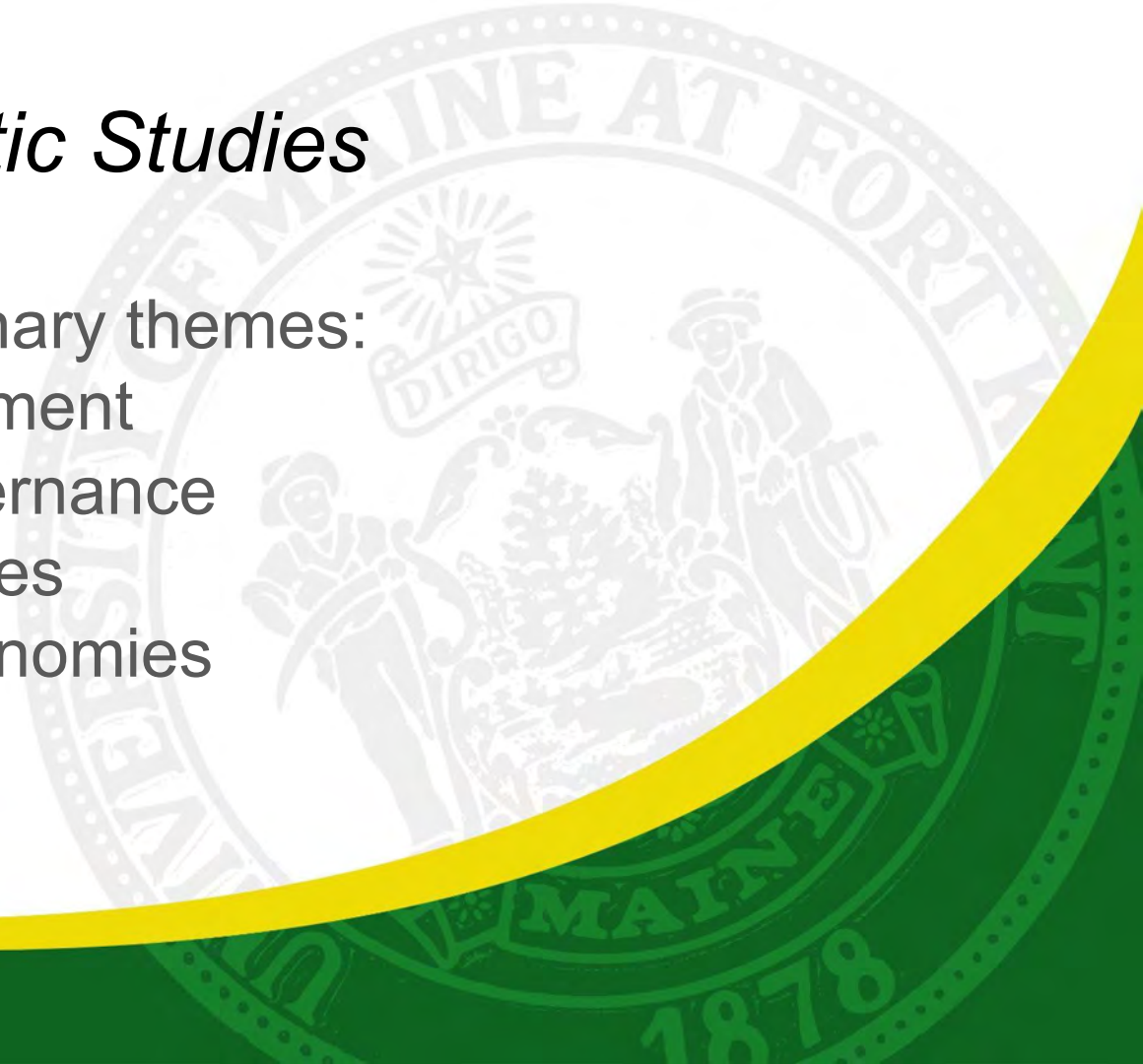
About UMFK Arctic Studies

- Interdisciplinary undergraduate program
- Launched in 2022
- Connects with UMaine Arctic Initiative
- Connects Maine with Arctic
- Earn an Arctic Studies certificate
- Earn an Arctic Studies minor in UMFK undergraduate bachelor programs

About UMFK Arctic Studies

Four key interdisciplinary themes:

- Land and Environment
- Security and Governance
- People and Cultures
- Business and Economies



Framework for UMS Arctic Studies

- Online core courses offered to a broad audience
- Applied experience with one of several UMS or related expeditions
- Offer Research Expedition Microcredential to ensure skills for field work





Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate proficient knowledge in the land and environment of the Arctic region;
- Demonstrate proficient knowledge in the diversity of the indigenous and living people and cultures of the Arctic region;
- Demonstrate proficient knowledge in contemporary governance, security, business and economic issues in the Arctic region;
- Leverage technology to perform analyses of Arctic social and science research and data sets;
- Demonstrate the capacity to develop research questions, conduct research independently or through an affiliation and demonstrate an awareness of Arctic research and issues;
- Demonstrate the ability to present in writing and orally on Arctic topics in an area of interest.

Future Arctic Studies

*The Arctic is “a serious national security issue” and
“something we ignore at our peril”*

- Maine Senator, Angus King



Thank you + Contact Information

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