

CRAWFORD, I. [2024]. *COIL and sustainability education in the Arctic region: developing the COIL@UArctic network*.  
To be presented at the 2024 European Association for International Education annual conference and exhibition  
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# COIL and sustainability education in the Arctic region: developing the COIL@UArctic network.

CRAWFORD, I.

2024

# COIL and sustainability education in the Arctic region: Developing the COIL@UArctic network

## General data

**Topic area:** 5.7: Collaborative online international learning (COIL)

**Additional topic area:** 8.7: United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

## Title

**Title:** COIL and sustainability education in the Arctic region: Developing the COIL@UArctic network

## Proposal text

**Short description:** COIL@UArctic is a new UArctic (University of the Arctic) thematic network that is designed to promote and facilitate Collaborative Online International Learning and Biodiversity Education across the Arctic region. The founding partners will present their work developing this new resource and explore through round table discussion how it can be used to strengthen sustainability education and greater collaboration between colleges and universities within and beyond the Arctic region.

**Long description:** COIL or Collaborative Online International Learning is a sustained educational approach where groups or individual students from one institution collaborate with groups or individual students from another institution, in a different country and/or culture, on sustained and assessed projects or assignments, developed collaboratively by tutors from each partner institution. The collaborative work takes place online, using freely available and commonly used communication technology. COIL projects can involve any topic, subject or discipline and are often inter-disciplinary in nature. The challenge of biodiversity loss is one example of how COIL pedagogy can be applied to address real world problems. This type of experiential learning promotes intercultural competence, as well as the attitudes and reflective behavioral skills that are vital for a globalized society and economy. The COIL@UArctic thematic network is designed to promote unique educational opportunities and higher academic collaboration, and the focus on biodiversity education has potential to provide knowledge for better lives and environments for all UArctic and non-UArctic partners. The founding partners will present their work developing this new resource and explore through round table discussion how it can be used to strengthen sustainability education and greater collaboration between universities within and beyond the Arctic region.

## Other fields

**Duration:** 60 minutes (1 chair, 2 speakers)

**Has a version of this proposal been submitted to any previous EAIE conferences?** No

**Audience interactivity:** World café

**Additional audience interactivity:** Peer discussion

**Session structure/ itinerary:** **Chair:** Session Introduction and Overview (5 minutes)

The Chair will introduce herself and the speakers, and explain the topic, purpose, and format of the session.

**Speaker 1:** COIL@UArctic: A new thematic network and resource (5 minutes)

The speaker will present a brief overview of the development of the COIL@UArctic network and resource.

**Speaker 2:** COIL and Sustainability: Biodiversity and the Arctic region (5 minutes)

The speaker will present a brief overview of sustainability education in the Arctic region focusing on an example of COIL and biodiversity loss.

**Chair:** Round Table Topics and Questions (5 minutes)

The Chair will explain the process and desired outcomes of the round table discussion. Each table will discuss each question for 10 minutes and one person from each table will feed back the key points to the wider room at the end.

Round Table Discussion Topics:

1. How can we use COIL to promote sustainability in the Arctic region? (10 minutes)
2. How can the COIL@UArctic network facilitate greater collaboration between partners within and beyond the Arctic region? (10 minutes)
3. What can we learn from other COIL networks and projects to help move COIL@UArctic forward? (10 minutes)

**Chair:** Plenary Discussion (10 minutes):

The Chair will invite one representative from each table to feed back the key points from the discussion and will summarise the key themes that emerge.

**Learning outcomes:**

1. To promote and enable wider engagement with COIL as part of a globally connected, virtual learning strategy.
2. To highlight the importance of biodiversity education for the well-being of the planet as well as for sustainable development.
3. To democratise student mobility and strengthen internationalisation at home through the expansion of COIL knowledge and opportunities across the Arctic region.

**Target audience:** The primary audience for this session is anyone who would like to embark on (or already has experience of) a COIL project with partners in the Arctic region, with an educational focus on one or more of the UN sustainability goals. A basic understanding of COIL and sustainability issues would be helpful but not essential, as a short overview of both will be provided at the beginning of the session.

**Level:** Intermediate

**Suitability of Chair and Speakers:** **Chair:** Mariam Raza is Manager of Global Initiatives and Partnership Development at Conestoga College in Canada. She is a key partner in the COIL@UArctic network and has extensive knowledge and experience of international collaboration and education.

**Speaker 1:** Izzy Crawford is an Associate Dean at Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen Scotland. She is the thematic network lead for COIL@UArctic, responsible for its design and delivery. She has presented and published her COIL work internationally.

**Speaker 2:** Elina Oksanen is Professor of the Department of Environmental and Biological Sciences at the University of Eastern Finland. She is the vice lead for the COIL@UArctic network and has extensive knowledge and experience of biodiversity and sustainability education.

**Equipment:** Flipchart paper, pens, and sticky notes for each table

**Room setup:** Roundtables

**Additional information:** Three chairs and a table for the presenters in front of the projection screen

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**Chair person**

**First name(s):** Mariam

**Last name(s):** Raza

**E-mail:** Mraza1@conestogac.on.ca

**Institution:** Conestoga College

**Country:** Canada

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**Speaker**

**First name(s):** Izzy

**Last name(s):** Crawford

**E-mail:** i.c.crawford@rgu.ac.uk

**Institution:** Robert Gordon University

**Country:** United Kingdom

**First name(s)\*:** Elina

**Last name(s)\*:** Oksanen

**E-mail\*:** elina.oksanen@uef.fi

**Institution\*:** University of Eastern Finland

**Country\*:** Finland

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**Consents**

- 1. I confirm that I have previewed this proposal and that all information is correct. I accept that the content of this proposal cannot be modified or corrected after the submission deadline and I am aware that it will be sent to review exactly as submitted.:** Yes
  - 2. Submission of the proposal constitutes my consent that if the proposal is accepted, the EAIE may re-use the materials and recordings for EAIE events and publications for three (3) years for educational purposes, with the knowledge that original Speakers will be acknowledged when re-using materials (or parts thereof).:** Yes
  - 3. I confirm that the contact details saved in this system are those of the corresponding submitter, who will be notified about the status of the proposal.:** Yes
  - 4. I have read and agree to the terms listed in the 2024 EAIE Conference proposal agreements:** Yes
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