



Department of Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies

Velkommen to the Scandinavian Program!

SCAN 332: Topics in Scandinavian Studies (in English)

Acknowledgement

UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam) people. The land upon which it is situated has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.

COURSE INFORMATION

Title: Scandinavian Studies **Code:** SCAN 332A **Section:** 001 **Credit Value:** 3

Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 2:00-3:00 pm (PT)

UBC Schedule: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?page=deadlines>

Meeting Locations: Buchanan D 218 (possibly subject to change)

CONTACTS

Instructor: Ann-Kathrine Havemose

Contact: Make sure to check Announcements on Canvas regularly. This will be our main tool to communicate but you can also email me at ann-kathrine.havemose@mail.ubc.ca (disclaimer: I will not be answering mails on weekends)

Office hours: Mondays 3:30-4:30 pm in Buchanan Tower 905

Fika (the Swedish word for having coffee/tea together):

Drop-in Wednesdays 3:00-4:00 pm in Cenes Lounge (Room 910), 9th floor, Buchanan Tower <https://cenes.ubc.ca/events/event/fika/>

PANDEMIC UPDATES

Due to the pandemic, expect updates from UBC regarding changed regulations etc. Here are two good places to start:

<https://students.ubc.ca/campus-life/returning-to-campus>

and

<https://covid19.ubc.ca/latest-updates/>

We will all have to be flexible since we might need to make changes to the schedule or course format.

COVID-19 Safety

You are currently required to wear a non-medical mask during our class meetings, for your own protection and the safety and comfort of everyone else in the class. For our in-person meetings, it is important that all of us feel as comfortable as possible engaging in class activities while sharing an indoor space. Non-medical masks that cover our noses and mouths are a primary tool for combating the spread of COVID-19. Further, according to the provincial mandate, masks are required in all indoor public spaces including lobbies, hallways, stairwells, elevators, classrooms and labs. There may be students who have medical accommodations for not wearing a mask. Please maintain a respectful environment.

DISCLAIMER

The material in this course includes content that might be offensive and upsetting to some readers, such as strong language, reference to and consumption of alcohol and drugs, violence, graphic and sexual imagery. Some also deal with sensitive issues, such as suicide, death, racism, and sexual abuse.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITIES

The aim of this course is to introduce the student to Scandinavian culture and to teach them about the Nordic countries through much used topics presented through Scandinavian fiction and children's literature. We will highlight such recognizable themes as environmental concerns and gender roles, but also less researched themes like anxiety, dealing with death and folklore through genre and media analysis, and in-depth analysis of individual works.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course (i.e. with active attendance and participation, completion of reading and writing assignments, and exams) students will be individually and cooperatively able to:

- **Describe** cultural tendencies in Scandinavian literature and culture production from the 19th century to today, and **asses** their impact on cultural and intellectual life.
- **Define** important concepts and **identify** historical and cultural contexts surrounding their emergence and development.

- **Recognize** aspects of gender, sexuality and social standing in the periods and cultural products discussed.
- **Analyse** texts in context (i.e. to genre, topic, media etc.) and **compare** their content and cultural contexts with other cultural products.
- **Respond** concisely to thematic questions in clear and concise form.

ASSESSMENT

Participation	10%
In-class presentations (and feedback)	10%
Assignments (and peer review)	30 % (15% per assignment)
In-class exam	20%
Term paper	30%

LEARNING MATERIALS

Texts (required, available at UBC Bookstore):

Sjón (2013). *The Blue fox*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Torseter, Øyvin (2016). *The Heartless Troll*, trans. Kari Dickson, Enchanted Lion Books

Lunde, Maja (2020) *The End of the Ocean*, trans. Diana Oatley, HarperCollins

Ibsen, Henrik (2016) *A Doll's House*, trans. Deborah Dawkin and Erik Skuggevik, Penguin Classics

COURSE STRUCTURE (subject to change)

The course is divided into 6 modules, spanning 2-3 weeks, each focusing on a different topic essential to the Scandinavian literary canon. Within each topic we will be examining one or more children's literary works, such as picture books, poetry, or children's fiction, as well as either a piece of 'regular' poetry, adult fiction or drama. Each topic will be concluded with either an assignment or a group presentation day.

There will be an in-class exam mid semester (date TBA) and a final term paper (6-8 pages analytical essay).

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND CLASSES (subject to change)

Start week: Introduction

Monday 09.06: Labour day, no class

Wednesday 09.08: Course orientation

Reading: Syllabus

Friday 09.10 What is Scandinavian studies?

Module 1: Scandinavian folktales (week 1-3)

Week 2

Monday 09.13: Introduction to Scandinavian Folktales

Reading: *The Heartless Troll, The troll's daughter/King Lindorm, Three Billy Goats Gruff (available on canvas)*

Wednesday 09.15: Scary Pictures – The Scandinavian picture book

Reading: Torseter, Øyvind (2016). *The Heartless Troll*, trans. Kari Dickson, Enchanted Lion Books (*Mulegutten*)

Friday 09.17: Performativity of the folktale in a multimedial context

Reading: Torseter, Øyvind (2016). *The Heartless Troll*, trans. Kari Dickson, Enchanted Lion Books* (*Mulegutten*)

Week 3

Monday 09.20: Traces of the folkloric: Skugga-Baldur and the modern folktale

Reading: Sjón (2013). *The Blue Fox*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux* (*Skugga-Baldur*)

Wednesday 09.22: The fantastic or magical realism: perspectives on reading folklore

Reading: Sjón (2013). *The Blue Fox*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux* (*Skugga-Baldur*)

Friday 09.24: Class discussion: Functions of the folktale today

Reading: Sjón (2013). *The Blue Fox*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux* (*Skugga-Baldur*)

Torseter, Øyvind (2016). *The Heartless Troll*, trans. Kari Dickson, Enchanted Lion Books (*Mulegutten*)

Assignment Write a genre analysis of either *The Blue Fox* or *The Heartless troll* (date TBA)

Module 2: Anxiety (week 4-5)

Week 4

Monday 09.27: Introduction to the topic of Anxiety

Reading: Kierkegaard, Søren. “§5 The Concept of Anxiety” in *The Concept of Anxiety: A Simple Psychological Orienting Deliberation on the Dogmatic Issue of*

Hereditary Sin, Ed. Tomte, Reidar and Anderson, Albert. B., Princeton University Press (available on Canvas)

Wednesday 09.29: Tom Kristensen - introduction

Reading: Kristensen, Tom (2018). 'Anxiety' in *Havoc*, NYRB Classics (available on Canvas)

Friday 10.01: Tom Kristensen in a modern setting

Reading: Kristensen, Tom. 'Anxiety' in *Havoc*, NYRB Classics, 2018 (available on Canvas)

Spez, Kasper. 'Angst' in *Rødder*, Mixed Ape Music, 2014 (available on Canvas with translation)

Listen to: Spez, Kasper: *Angst* (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtGcbB_9nLw)

Week 5

Monday 10.04: Anxiety in children's books

Reading: Jansson, Tove. *Moominsummer Madness* (excerpt, available on Canvas)

Wednesday 10.06: Anxiety as a theme (group presentation and class discussion)

Presentation: group 1

Module 3: Eco-criticism (week 6-7)

Friday 10.08: Introduction to Scandinavian eco-criticism

Week 6

Monday 10.11: Thanksgiving, no class

Wednesday 10.13: Eco-critic children's literature

Reading: Nilsson, Frida (2017). *Ice Sea Pirates*, Gecko Press (excerpt, available in Canvas)

Friday 10.15: The eco-friendly child

Reading: Nilsson, Frida (2017). *Ice Sea Pirates*, Gecko Press (excerpt, available in Canvas)

Week 7

Monday 10.18: Political literature: environment, capitalism and dystopia

Reading: Lunde, Maja (2020). *The End of the Ocean*, trans. Diana Oatley, HarperCollins* (*Blå*)

Wednesday 10.20: The case of Norway: can oil be green?

Reading: Lunde, Maja (2020). *The End of the Ocean*, trans. Diana Oatley, HarperCollins* (*Blå*)

Friday 10.22: Signe and Magnus: Capitalism and Nature (group presentation day)

Reading: Lunde, Maja (2020). *The End of the Ocean*, trans. Diana Oatley, HarperCollins*

Presentations: Group 2 and 3

Module 4: Death (week 8-9)

Week 8

Monday 10.25: Introduction to the topic

Wednesday 10.27: Moomin and death

Reading: Jansson, Tove: *Moominland Midwinter* (excerpt, available on Canvas)

Friday 10.29: Tove Ditlevsen - introduction

Reading: Jensen, Lise Busk. "The Labyrinth of Memory" *The History of Nordic Women's Literature*, 2012
(<https://nordicwomensliterature.net/2012/01/20/the-labyrinth-of-memory/>)

Week 9

- Monday 11.01: Tove Ditlevsen and dealing with death
Reading: Ditlevsen, Tove: 'To My Dead Child', *Pigesind*, 1939 (translated by Gaye Kynoch) (<https://nordicwomensliterature.net/2012/01/20/the-labyrinth-of-memory/>)
- Wednesday 11.03: Tove Ditlevsen and the will to live
Reading: Ditlevsen, Tove: *The Faces* (excerpt, available on Canvas)
- Friday 11.05: Death as a theme (Group presentation and class discussion)
Presentation: group 4

Module 5: The independent woman (week 10-13)

Week 10

- Monday 11.08: Introduction to the topic / midterm in-class exam?
- Wednesday 11.10: Midterm Break, no class
- Friday 11.12: Midterm Break, no class

Week 11

- Monday 11.15: Introduction to the topic
- Wednesday 11.17: The free girls of Astrid Lindgren
- Friday 11.19: Pippi Longstocking
Reading: Lindgren, Astrid: *Do You Know Pippi Longstocking* (excerpt, available on Canvas)

Week 12

- Monday 11.22: Ronja the Robber's Daughter
Reading: Lindgren, Astrid: *Ronja the Robber's Daughter* (excerpt, available on Canvas)

Wednesday 11.24: Class discussion / in-class exam?

Friday 11.26: Henrik Ibsen: *A Doll's House*

Reading: Ibsen, Henrik (2016). *A Doll's House*, trans. Deborah Dawkin and Erik Skuggevik, Penguin Classics* (*Et dukkehjem*)

Week 13

Monday 11.29: Henrik Ibsen: *A Doll's House*,

Reading: Ibsen, Henrik (2016). *A Doll's House*, trans. Deborah Dawkin and Erik Skuggevik, Penguin Classics* (*Et dukkehjem*)

Wednesday 12.01: Henrik Ibsen: *A Doll's House*

Reading: Ibsen, Henrik (2016). *A Doll's House*, trans. Deborah Dawkin and Erik Skuggevik, Penguin Classics* (*Et dukkehjem*)

Friday 12.03: Class Discussion: The development of Nora

Assignment Analyse Nora's character development, bring it to our class discussion (due Wednesday 12.01, 6 pm).

Module 6: Christmas (week 14)

Week 14

Monday 12.06: Scandinavian Christmas

Reading: H.C. Andersen // Astrid Lindgren // something else?

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions.

Details of the policies and how to access support are available on [the UBC Senate website](#)

Academic Code of Honour

Academic honesty and integrity are essential principles of the University of British Columbia. All UBC students are expected to behave as honest and responsible members of our academic community and to uphold the highest standards of ethics and academic integrity. As a student of the Scandinavian Studies Program, you will be required to abide by the principles and policies of the University with respect to academic honesty and integrity, and affirm a pledge to uphold them.

Academic Integrity

“Students are responsible for informing themselves of the guidelines of acceptable and non-acceptable conduct for graded assignments established by their instructors for specific courses and of [...] examples of academic misconduct [...]” (<http://bit.ly/2aIaXji>). “All work submitted by students (including, without limitation, essays, dissertations, theses, examinations, tests, reports, presentations, problem sets, and tutorial assignments) may be reviewed by the University for authenticity and originality. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, such review may include the use of software tools and third party services including Internet-based services such as [TurnItIn.com](#). By submitting work, students consent to their work undergoing such review and being retained in a database for comparison with other work submitted by students. The results of such review may be used in any University investigation or disciplinary proceedings” (<http://bit.ly/2aIaZaN>).

Anything you use in your written work, directly or indirectly, must be cited (e.g., if you are paraphrasing or using a quotation, if you are using class notes or lecture slides, etc.). Not citing and making reference to the quotation and the original source constitutes academic dishonesty. **Cases of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will receive zero credit and will be forwarded to the Dean’s Office, in accordance with UBC policy.** No excuses. Unless otherwise stated by the professor, you must work individually (i.e., not with other students) to produce the written work that you submit.

It is your responsibility as a student to fully and carefully read the information contained in the following web links, which offer detailed information concerning plagiarism:

Plagiarism Resource Centre For Students

Academic Regulations

<http://help.library.ubc.ca/planning-your-research/academic-integrity-plagiarism/>

According to the UBC Academic Calendar, "Plagiarism, which is intellectual theft, occurs where an individual submits or presents the oral or written work of another person as his or her own...when another person's words (i.e. phrases, sentences, or paragraphs), ideas, or entire works are used, the author must be acknowledged in the text, in footnotes, in endnotes, or in another accepted form of academic citation."

To sum it up, plagiarism is taking the words or ideas of another person and submitting them without the proper acknowledgement of the original author.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Attendance

In accordance with UBC Policies and Regulations, students are expected to attend class regularly and to be on time. Arriving late or leaving early is disruptive to the class and will be subject to a reduction in the participation grade. Those students who are unavoidably absent from scheduled classes must report the reason for their absence to their instructor immediately upon their return to class. Students may be granted concession for their absence either by their instructor or, in the case of an extended absence, by the Academic Advising Services of the Faculty of Arts. In the Scandinavian Studies Program, a student without concession, whose attendance falls below 60% of the scheduled instructional hours, will be excluded from the final examination.

Students must contact me via email as soon as you are aware you may need an in-term concession. I will adjudicate the request. Please include a Student Self-Declaration form, found on the Arts Advising website. If you require a second concession, Arts Students must contact Arts Advising. Please review their website for concession criteria as well as process to follow. Students in other Faculties should contact their Faculty advising office for direction.

Electronic Devices

Computers, cell phones and other electronic devices are to be used only as required for class-related activities. Failure to do so is considered disrespectful and may be subject to a reduction in the participation grade.

COPYRIGHT

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Students are not permitted to record the SCAN classes.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTER TAKING THIS COURSE?

- Pursue a minor in Scandinavian Studies <https://cenes.ubc.ca/undergraduate/scandinavian-studies/scandinavian-minor/>

- Study Swedish or Danish
<https://cenes.ubc.ca/undergraduate/scandinavian-studies/scandinavian-languages/>
- Take more Scandinavian-related courses at UBC
<https://courses.students.ubc.ca/cs/main?pname=subjarea&tname=subjareas&req=1&dept=SCAN>
- Read our brochure about the Scandinavian Program here <https://cene.cms.arts.ubc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/25/2021/08/SCAN-Brochure-2021-5.pdf> or access it at the bottom of this page <https://cenes.ubc.ca/undergraduate/scandinavian-studies/>
- Join the Scandinavian and Nordic Cultural Association
ubcscandinaviannordic@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/SNCAof>
- Study in Scandinavia, www.students.ubc.ca/global/
- Contact the Scandinavian Undergraduate Advisor, Lena Karlström, with questions or for more information (lenak@mail.ubc.ca)