



Department of Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies

Välkommen to the Scandinavian Program!

SCAN 337: Scandinavian Cinema (in English)

Term 2 Winter Session 2021/2022

subject to change

To be updated on January 24, 2022

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 Cinema **Code:** SCAN 337 **Section:** 001 **Credit Value:** 3

Meeting Times: Mondays & Wednesdays from 3:00-4:30pm (PT)

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

Meeting Locations:

Until January 24: Classes on Zoom. You will find the links on Canvas <https://students.canvas.ubc.ca>

After January 24 (depending on UBC decision): Buchanan B 303

CONTACTS

Instructor, Scandinavian Program Director and Undergraduate Advisor: Lena Karlström

Contact: Make sure to check Announcements on Canvas regularly. This will be our main tool to communicate but you can also email me at lenak@mail.ubc.ca

Office: Buchanan Tower Room 921

Office Hours: M and W 1:00-1:30pm or by appointment

Fika (Swedish word for having coffee/tea together): Drop-in Wednesdays 4:00-5:00pm in CENES Lounge (Room 910), 9th floor, Buchanan Tower **starting January 26:**

<https://cenes.ubc.ca/events/event/fika/>

PREREQUISITES

None.

DISCLAIMER

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

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS LIVING OUTSIDE CANADA

During this pandemic, the shift to online learning has greatly altered teaching and studying at UBC, including changes to health and safety considerations. Keep in mind that some UBC courses might cover topics that are censored or considered illegal by non-Canadian governments. This may include, but is not limited to, human rights, representative government, defamation, obscenity, gender or sexuality, and historical or current geopolitical controversies. If you are a student living abroad, you will be subject to the laws of your local jurisdiction, and your local authorities might limit your access to course material or take punitive action against you. UBC is strongly committed to academic freedom, but has no control over foreign authorities (please visit <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,33,86,0> for an articulation of the values of the University conveyed in the Senate Statement on Academic Freedom). Thus, we recognize that students will have legitimate reason to exercise caution in studying certain subjects. If you have concerns regarding your personal situation, consider postponing taking a course with manifest risks, until you are back on campus or reach out to your academic advisor to find substitute courses. For further information and support, please visit: <https://academic.ubc.ca/support-resources/freedom-expression>.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Students will need a computer or tablet with a microphone that has the capacity to view and/or download documents from Microsoft Word (including PPT), video and audio capacity, a keyboard, and headphones. Preferable is also a quiet environment and a stable Internet connection.

All questions and problems regarding technical equipment should be directed to the Learning Technology Hub: it.hub@ubc.ca

If you encounter technical issues while using Canvas, please contact the UBC Information Technology Service Centre for assistance, using their online form. For more general information see: <https://keeplearning.ubc.ca/>

COURSE STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITIES

The aim of this course is to introduce students to (mostly) contemporary Scandinavian film and to discover the multifaceted aspects of Nordic cinematic cultures. Although the production from this region is often considered to rely on a very realistic (or even hyper-realistic) approach to film making and story telling, it will become clear that there are some very unique directorial approaches which will broaden our expectations of what the Scandinavian cinematography has to offer. We will highlight such recognizable themes as social structures, gender equity, environmental concerns, and transnationalism as well as stylistic analyses of the individual works and the genres in general.

Due to Covid-19, this course will temporarily be offered online with synchronous classes and some asynchronous activities. We will spend approx. 2-3 class meetings on each film. In addition to film screenings, there will be PPT with relevant background information and links to videos/readings related to the film. All films that are not available on any streaming services will be uploaded to Canvas. After watching the film, you will be expected to discuss it, for example in groups in breakout rooms on Zoom, or written under Discussions on Canvas. Students are encouraged to comment on each-others' contributions. We will also have summary lectures with scene analyses etc. on Zoom including Q&A. For our scheduled class times there will be a Monday and a Wednesday classroom on Zoom. All links can be found on Canvas.

NETIQUETTE

It's important to have a safe, relaxed and fun learning environment in the classroom even when online. Please read the following guidelines: <https://distancelearning.ubc.ca/learner-support/communicating-online-netiquette/>

We will have to tweak the advice to "avoid jokes and sarcasm" slightly to fit my teaching style :)

HOW TO DO WELL IN THIS COURSE AND WITH ONLINE-LEARNING

- Always watch the films before we meet in class to discuss them!
- Participate as much as you can even during the online part of this course. Remember that despite of not being face-to-face you are part of a learning community!
- Keep your work up to date (again watch the audiovisual resources, PPTs, readings etc.).
- Communicate with your classmates and support each other.
- Contact me for questions (this class has an ongoing discussion board for Q&A in each module) and if there is anything that may be affecting your learning or performance please reach out via email.
- Join me and other students in the Scandinavian program for a casual *Fika* (Swedish word for having coffee/tea together) on Wednesdays between 4:00-5:00pm in CENES Lounge (Room 910), Buchanan Tower.
- Read some additional tips here: <https://learningcommons.ubc.ca/resource-guides/online-learners/>

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course you will be able to:

- Identify major influences, genres and directors in the field of Scandinavian cinema from the late 1990s to the present
- Gain an awareness of contemporary Scandinavian society and its dominant interests through film (i.e. using cinema as a cultural lens)
- Identify themes like class, gender roles, landscape and how they inflect the films in question
- Reflect critically on both Scandinavian and your own culture and society
- Recognise (stereo)typical traits of Scandinavian film
- Develop your critical thinking skills by requiring you to construct and defend your own interpretations of films in oral and written form

Learning about Scandinavian film will expose you to modes of thought and behavior outside your own language and culture. It will make you curious about other types of societies and make you ask questions about your own. It will also prepare you for further studies of literature, film and culture courses.

LEARNING MATERIALS

Films:

Abbasi, Ali: *Border (Gräns)*, Sweden 2018

Andersson, Roy: *You, the Living (Du levande)*, Sweden 2007

Erlingsson, Benedikt: *Woman at War (Kona fer í stríð)*, Iceland 2018

Kaurismäki, Aki: *The Other Side of Hope (Toivon tuolla puolen)*, Finland 2017

Kernell, Amanda: *Sami Blood (Sameblod)*, Sweden 2016

Trier, Joachim: *Thelma*, Norway 2017

Vinterberg, Thomas: *The Celebration (Festen)*, Denmark 1998

Note: The films that are not available on streaming services will be uploaded to Canvas. Students will be asked to watch the entire film BEFORE the student discussions.

Readings/viewings:

TBA (You can find most links to background readings/viewings, interviews, reviews etc. in the PPT presentations that will be posted on Canvas in conjunction with the screenings of each film)

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND CLASSES (subject to change)

Week 1 (Mon Jan 10, Wed Jan 12) **Intro to the course and Scandinavia/Nordic countries**

Week 1-2 (Wed Jan 12, Mon Jan 17, Wed Jan 19) **Dogma & the Dysfunctional Drama: Thomas Vinterberg**

Week 3-4 (Mon Jan 24, Wed Jan 26, Mon Jan 31) **The Sami Indigenous Population and Colonization: Amanda Kernell**. Director class “visit” TBA.

Week 4-5 (Wed Feb 2, Mon Feb 7) **Benedikt Erlingsson: Ecological Rescuer or Terrorist?** (1st reflection)

Week 5-6 (Wed Feb 9, Mon Feb 14, Wed Feb 16) **Conformity and Compassion: Aki Kaurismäki**

Week 6-8 (Wed Feb 16, Mon Feb 28, Wed March 2) **Auteur in Absurdism: Roy Andersson** (2nd reflection)

Week 7 (Feb 21-25) **Mid-term break**

Week 9 (Mon March 7, Wed March 9) **Exam**

Week 10-11 (Mon March 14, Wed March 16, Mon March 21) **Sexuality and the Supernatural: Joachim Trier** (3rd reflection)

Week 11-13 (Wed March 23, Mon March 28, Wed March 30, Mon April 4) **New Narrative through Traditional Tales: Ali Abbasi**. Troll “fantast” Ann-Kathrine Havemose visits class!

Week 13 (Wed April 6) **Summary of course**

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING

Grade breakdown:

Attendance, Preparation and Participation (including Reflections)	20
Exam	30
Scene Analysis with Peer Review	10 (5+5)
Paper	40
Total	100

Attendance, Participation, Preparation (20%):

Presence in class is mandatory, and your active participation (oral and written) is requested and appreciated. Participation grades will be based on the instructor’s assessment of students’ involvement with on-line work and demonstrated familiarity with screenings, written reflections as well as their overall engagement with the material. **Make sure to watch the films before the**

scheduled discussions. Unexcused absences will negatively affect your grade. Punctuality is also appreciated, so make sure your Internet connection, platforms/programs etc. work before class. Repeated tardiness will also negatively affect your participation grade. Absences will be excused at the instructor's discretion, based on UBC and departmental policy.

Exam (30%):

The exam will consist of three sections:

1. Identify quotes by director and title and explain briefly their function in the works.
2. Short answers.
3. Short essay on one (of a few) given course related topics.

Scene Analysis (10%):

1. Analyze a specific scene of your choice from one of the films we have watched (5%).
2. Give peer review to a class mate's scene analysis (5%) on Canvas.

Paper (40%):

Two copies of your term paper will be required (dates TBA but usually last day of classes):

1. One copy sent to me by email to lenak@mail.ubc.ca
2. One electronic copy via Turnitin.com. UBC has provided instructions for you online: <http://elearning.ubc.ca/toolkit/turnitin/for-students/>.

Note that Turnitin's information is stored on servers in the United States. To protect your privacy, follow all of the steps on the instruction sheet. If you choose to create an alias to upload your assignments, you must let me know what your alias is.

The Class ID is: TBA

The Enrollment Password is: cinema (all lower case)

Individual term paper consultation in class, per email or on Zoom available by appointment. If you need feedback, make sure to contact me before you start writing your paper.

General guideline:

Students must propose a topic themselves, following these guidelines.

- I do not provide topics (but I give suggestions and share former students' topics). You are welcome to come and talk to me about your suggested topic during office hours.
 - The topic must be related to SCAN 337. You can add other material, but the paper must at least in part (minimum one film, maximum two works in total) deal with in-class material.
- If you like to incorporate other Scandinavian material please talk to me.
- No pure history or social science research papers. No creative writing.
 - The topic must be original: No rehash of in-class discussions.
 - **Don't write a paper on the same topic as your exam essay**

Format:

- Papers should be no less than 6 and no more than 8 double-spaced pages (12-pt. font) in length (not including Works Cited).
- **NO title page**; include your title and your name in the header of all pages.

- Please give page numbers.
- Use MLA or Chicago citation guidelines (see <http://www.liunet.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citation.htm> or <http://help.library.ubc.ca/evaluating-and-citing-sources/how-to-cite/>)
- Please read this article before you start: <https://www.princeton.edu/pr/pub/integrity/pages/cite/>
- Carefully proofread and edit your work before submission. Submit work that is free of typos, repetition, redundancies and is as free of grammatical errors as possible.

Assessment Content and Format

Before the exam and the paper, students will receive detailed information about content and format. The content of the exam is consistent with the instructional content of the course and can be found in the “Learning Material” section in this outline.

The grading criteria are consistent with the criteria established by the Faculty of Arts see: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,42,96,0>

Assessment Policies

In order to successfully complete the requirements for SCAN 337, students must achieve a total grade of at least 50% for the course.

In accordance with University regulations, cheating and plagiarism is subject to disciplinary action. Students in the Scandinavian Program must write, correct and/or revise all their assignments independently; that is, with no assistance of any kind from another person. The use of electronic aids and devices is also strictly prohibited; however, students are permitted to consult a Swedish-English dictionary, their textbook and/or a grammar book. See: <http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/citing-sources-is-about-more-than-just-following-the-rules/>

The paper must be submitted, on the original due date. 1% of the assigned grade will be deducted for every late day. An extension may be granted in case of illness or a recognized UBC activity. The request for an extension must be accompanied by supporting documentation.

Exams are normally to be taken on the day set by either your instructor, the program coordinator, or by General Faculties Council. Make-ups for quizzes and exams are permitted only in cases of documented illness, where travel for recognized University activities conflicts with the test dates, or for the observance of a religious holiday. In case of illness, written authorization is required from UBC Health Services. In the instance of a recognized University activity, authorization must be obtained from the University official responsible for the activity. In accordance with UBC policy, students who wish to observe a religious holiday must notify their instructor two weeks in advance of the religious holiday they wish to observe. In all cases, it is the student’s responsibility to locate the instructor and to arrange a make-up. Rewriting a test or redistributing the grade percentage values as allocated in the Grade Breakdown will not be permitted.

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 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/2alaXji>). “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/2alaZaN>).

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.

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

All materials of this course are the intellectual property of the instructor or licensed to be used in this course by the copyright owner. That includes materials uploaded to Canvas by the instructor and shared with students on Canvas and are for the use of those students registered in that class, and only by them, and are not to be down-loaded, uploaded and shared elsewhere. Redistribution of these materials by any means without permission of the copyright holder(s) constitutes a breach of copyright and may lead to academic discipline.

Students are not permitted to record the Scandinavian classes.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTER TAKING THIS COURSE?

- Pursue a minor in Scandinavian Studies <https://cen.es.ubc.ca/undergraduate/scandinavian-studies/scandinavian-minor/>
- Study Swedish or Danish <https://cen.es.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®=1&dept=SCAN>
- 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)