



Department of Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies

Välkommen to the Scandinavian and Nordic Program!

SCAN 336: Scandinavian Crime Fiction (in English)

Term 2 Winter Session 2022/2023

subject to change

Updated on January 5, 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 336 **Section:** 001 **Credit Value:** 3

Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 1:00-2:00 pm

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

Meeting Locations: Buchanan D 317

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 3:00-3:30pm or by appointment

PREREQUISITES

None.

DISCLAIMER

The material 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 also deal with sensitive issues, such as suicide, racism, and sexual abuse.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITIES

The aim of this course is to introduce the student to Scandinavian crime literature, film and TV-series and to learn about the Nordic countries since the crime genre offers the potential of mirroring contemporary society in a particularly effective manner. We will highlight such recognizable themes as global issues, migration problems, environmental concerns, and gender roles as well as stylistic analysis of the individual works and the genre in general. Observe that there will be a lot of pages since many of the novels are long so it's recommended that you familiarize yourself a bit with the material ahead of the course start.

For each Module, I will post a PPT with relevant background information and links to videos/readings related to the material. After reading the books/watching the films, you will be expected to discuss the material, for example in groups in class, or in Discussions on Canvas. Students are encouraged to comment on each-others' contributions. We will also have summary lectures with text and scene analyses etc. including Q&A.

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

- Read the syllabus in its entirety and familiarize yourself with our Canvas page too <https://students.canvas.ubc.ca>
- Always come to class, unless you are sick, and keep your work up to date (watch the audiovisual resources, PPTs, etc.). It's crucial that you read the novels and watch the films before we meet in class to discuss them!
- Participate as much as you can especially now that we are finally face-to-face. Remember that you are part of a learning community!
- Communicate with your classmates and support each other.
- Contact me for questions (this class has an ongoing discussion board for Q&A) 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 every second Wednesday between 4:00-5:00pm in CENES Lounge (Room 910), Buchanan Tower.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Identify major influences and authors in the field of Scandinavian crime fiction from the 1960s to the present
- Gain an awareness of contemporary Scandinavian society and its dominant interests through crime fiction (i.e. using crime fiction as a cultural lens)
- Identify themes like migration, gender roles, landscape and crime and how they inflect the texts/films in question
- Reflect critically on both the Scandinavian culture and society and your own
- Recognise (stereo)typical traits of Scandinavian literature and film
- Develop your critical thinking skills by requiring you to construct and defend your own interpretations of texts/films in oral and written form
- Continue studying other Scandinavian courses

Learning about Scandinavian literature and 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.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

For Canvas and on-line part of this course, you 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

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/>

NETIQUETTE

It's important to have a safe, relaxed and fun learning environment in the classroom. When we meet online, the same rules will apply. 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 :)

LEARNING MATERIALS

Texts (required, available at UBC Bookstore):

Lapidus, Jens: *Easy Money (Snabba Cash)*, 2006

Sjöwall, Maj & Wahlöö, Per: *The Locked Room (Det slutna rummet)*, 1972

Sigurðardóttir, Yrsa: *The Legacy (DNA)*, 2014

Films and TV-series:

*Baltasar, Kormákur: *Jar City (Mýrin)*, 2006

*Oplev, Niels Arden: *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (Män som hatar kvinnor)*, 2009

**The Bridge (Bron/Broen)*, 2011–2017

**Deadwind (Karppi)*, 2018-

**Snabba Cash*, 2021-

*Note: Only excerpts of the films and TV-series will be shown in class. Students will be encouraged to watch the entire film on their own time.

Additional material:

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 each Module).

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND CLASSES (subject to change)

Module 1 (Week 1-2: Mon Jan 9- Fri Jan 20) ***Scandinavia in Transformation***

Introduction to contemporary Scandinavia and the Scandinavian Crime genre.

The loss of innocence, the crumbling welfare state and the making of the flawed anti-hero. Sjöwall and Wahlöö's *The Locked Room*.

Module 2 (Week 3-5: Mon Jan 23- Fri Feb 10) ***Breaking the Genre- Women*** (1st reflection)

Gender roles and women protagonists in Scandinavian crime fiction and film. Excerpts from *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, *The Bridge* and *Deadwind*. Group presentations.

Module 3 (Week 6+8-9: Mon Feb 13- Wed Feb 15, Asynchronous class Fri Feb 17, Mon Feb 27- Fri Mar 10) ***The Dark Side of the Urban North*** (2nd reflection)

Stockholm Noir from the perspective, and in the language, of the criminals in the wake of globalization. Lapidus' *Easy Money* and the TV-series *Snabba Cash* loosely based on the novel.

Mid-term break (Week 7 Feb 20-24)

Module 4 (Week 10: Mon Mar 13- Fri Mar 17) **Exam + prep for Culture Sharing Project deadline.**

Module 5 (Week 11-14: Mon Mar 20- Wed Apr 12, UBC closed for Easter Apr 7- 11) ***Iceland: Revenge by DNA*** (3rd reflection)

The obsession with history and genes. Kormákur's film *Jar City* and Sigurðardóttir's *The Legacy*. Course Summary. **Culture Sharing Project deadline on Wednesday March 22 and Peer feedback on Monday April 3.**

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING

Grade breakdown:

Attendance, Preparation and Participation	20
Reflections (x3)	15
Exam	30
Close reading/Scene Analysis with Peer Review	20 (15+5)
Culture Sharing Project	15
<hr/> Total	<hr/> 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 in daily classroom work and demonstrated familiarity with readings and screenings, as well as their overall engagement with the material. **Make sure to read the novels/watch the films before the scheduled discussions.** Unexcused absences will negatively affect your grade. Punctuality is also appreciated. Repeated tardiness will also negatively affect your participation grade. Absences will be excused at the instructor's discretion, based on UBC and departmental policy.

Reflections (15%):

You will be asked to submit 3 personal reflections (on Canvas or in class) on a specific topic relating to the course material. These will often be used as starting points for class discussions. Length and format info later on Canvas.

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. Essay on one (of a few) given course related topics.

More info later in a pdf on Canvas.

Close reading/Scene Analysis (20%):

1. Analyze a specific part from one of the novels or a particular film scene of your choice (15%).
2. Give peer review to a class mate's analysis (5%) on Canvas.

See Rubric on Canvas for more specific instructions.

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.

Culture Sharing (15%)

1. In discussions on Canvas, you will all share something you find interesting about the Nordic region **(10%)**, either individually, in pairs or in groups of maximum 3. It could be to present another crime writer, some intriguing cultural phenomena or highlight a diverse and inclusive perspective of Nordic cultures, including Indigenous, LGBTQ+ among others. Sharing options could be a short PPT; a comic; a short film, podcast, vlog, or series of Instagram posts etc. You can post anytime during the term but **no later than on Wednesday March 22**. See Rubric on Canvas for more specific instructions.

2. In point form, give feedback on two of your peers' Canvas posts **(5%)** in discussions. However, I strongly encourage you to take time to enjoy all your course-mates' posts! Please submit your peer feedback **no later than on Monday April 3**. See Rubric on Canvas for more specific instructions.

Assessment Content and Format

Before the Exam and Scene Analysis, 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 336, 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 Nordic Studies <https://cen.es.ubc.ca/undergraduate/scandinavian-studies/scandinavian-minor/>
- Study (more) 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&req=1&dept=SCAN>
- Read our brochure about the Nordic Program here <https://cen.es.ubc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/25/2022/09/SCAN-Brochure-2022-sm.pdf> or access it at the bottom of this page <https://cen.es.ubc.ca/undergraduate/scandinavian-studies/>
- Join the Scandinavian and Nordic Cultural Association (the SCAN/NORD student club at UBC) ubcscandinaviannordic@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/SNSAofUBC>
<https://www.instagram.com/ubcsnsa/?hl=en>
- 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