

SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES

Contact information

Coordinator

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Academic Director

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Scandinavian Studies

Scandinavian Studies Programme is a 32 ECTS credit **introductory level programme** that is organised every fall semester (Sept-Dec). It has been developed in co-operation with the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG), USA, and is designed to give the participants a broad overview of Scandinavian history, culture and everyday life. The courses (6 ECTS, 3 US semester hours each) include studies in the fields of History, Social Studies, Cultural Studies, Arts, Literature, and Natural Sciences. Participants include international students from different countries.

This provides an excellent opportunity for intercultural interactions with people from different cultures and backgrounds. American university students may be assured of direct credit transfer through the collaboration with UNCG.

Practical information

Applications must reach the University of Oulu by May 31st. The application form can be found at www.oulu.fi/intl. For further information, contact the Scandinavian Studies Coordinator, or talk to the Coordinator of International Programmes in your home university.

The syllabus and schedule for the fall will be available on the Programme website in August.

Learning outcomes of the programme

Upon completing the programme, the student will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of various aspects of Finnish and Scandinavian culture, including nature, history, political systems, literature, music, architecture and everyday life.

Study Units

Subject	Scandinavian Studies
code	683701P
name	Geo-Politics and Societies in Scandinavia
extent	6 ECTS credits
timing	Autumn semester
objective	
learning outcome	A) The student will be able to describe the political systems of Finland and the Scandinavian countries and assess their similarities and differences with those of other countries. B) The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the development of Finland and the Scandinavian countries during the Viking Age and the Middle Ages.
content	A) Political Systems in Finland and Scandinavia (lectures) B) Viking Age and the Middle Ages in Scandinavia and Finland (lectures)
working methods	Lectures
target group	Exchange students at the University of Oulu
prerequisites	
study materials	Notes, handouts
assessment methods	Continuous assessment, written exams
grading	Numerical assessment 1-5
responsible person	Coordinator of Scandinavian Studies
other information	
language of instruction	English

subject	Scandinavian Studies
code	683702P
name	Indigenous Cultures of the Polar Region
extent	6 ECTS credits
timing	Autumn semester
objective	
learning outcome	The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of various aspects of traditional and contemporary Sami culture.
content	A) Sami Culture (lectures): origin, population, identity, languages, livelihoods, art, etc. B) Study Trip to Lapland
working methods	Lectures, study trip
target group	Exchange students at the University of Oulu
prerequisites	
study materials	Notes, handouts
assessment methods	Continuous assessment, essay
grading	Numerical assessment 1-5
responsible person	Coordinator of Scandinavian Studies
other information	A separate meeting will take place before the study trip. During the meeting, all students will receive a trip schedule and further information on minor costs and on how to prepare for the trip in general.
language of instruction	English

subject	Scandinavian Studies
code	683703P
name	Cultural Heritage in Scandinavia: History and Culture
extent	6 ECTS credits
timing	Autumn semester
objective	
learning outcome	<p>A) The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Finnish history from the Middle Ages to the present as well as of the history of Oulu. He/she will be able to describe how Finland and Finns have seen themselves as a part of Scandinavian culture.</p> <p>B) The student will be able to recognize and evaluate various aspects of Scandinavian classical, folk and pop music with emphasis on Finland.</p> <p>C, D) The student will be able to describe the urban development of Helsinki and Stockholm. He/she will be able to identify the most important monuments of these cities and their stylistic characteristics, understanding them in their historical context.</p>
content	<p>A) Introduction to Finnish History and Culture, History of Oulu (lectures)</p> <p>B) Music in Scandinavia (lectures)</p> <p>C) Architecture (lectures)</p> <p>D) Study Trip to Helsinki, Stockholm and Turku</p>
working methods	Lectures, study trip
target group	Exchange students at the University of Oulu
prerequisites	
study materials	Notes, handouts
assessment methods	Continuous assessment, essays, presentation, exam
grading	Numerical assessment 1-5
responsible person	Coordinator of Scandinavian Studies
other information	A separate meeting will take place before the study trip. During the meeting, all students will receive a trip schedule and further information on minor costs and on how to prepare for the trip in general.
language of instruction	English

subject	Scandinavian Studies
code	683704P
name	Finnish and Scandinavian Literature in Translation
extent	6 ECTS credits
timing	Autumn semester
objective	
learning outcome	The student will be able to describe and analyze Scandinavian literature and the most acknowledged Scandinavian authors of the 19th and 20th centuries.
content	Insights into Scandinavian literature (lectures and discussions)
working methods	Lectures and discussions in a web-based learning environment
target group	Exchange students at the University of Oulu
prerequisites	
study materials	Lecture notes, samples of chosen texts
assessment methods	Continuous assessment, seminar work, essay
grading	Numerical assessment 1-5
responsible person	Coordinator of Scandinavian Studies
other information	
language of instruction	English

subject	Scandinavian Studies
code	683705P
name	Nordic Nature and Environment
extent	6 ECTS credits
timing	Autumn semester
objective	
learning outcome	A) The student will be able to identify and explain reasons why various aspects of nature in the North differ from those of his/her home area. B) The student will be able to analyze the hard living conditions in the North, along with related possibilities, restrictions and challenges.
content	A) Field Course at the Oulanka Research Station An overview of Scandinavian and Finnish nature with forests, peatlands, streams and lakes. A survey of the flora and fauna of Scandinavia and an examination of different ecosystems such as forests, mires and lakes. Ecological questions, issues on the renewable resources of the northern nature, man and nature relationship, and other environmental issues. B) Human Conditions in the Circumpolar North (lectures) Physical characteristics of the arctic and sub-arctic North together with possibilities, restrictions and challenges of human activity in the Old and the New World.
working methods	Field course, lectures
target group	Exchange students at the University of Oulu
prerequisites	
study materials	Notes, handouts
assessment methods	A) Continuous assessment, logbook containing a report of the field course and answers to some special questions given by the teachers B) Report on a selected topic
grading	Numerical assessment 1-5
responsible person	Coordinator of Scandinavian Studies
other information	Suggested reading: Economic geography and structure of the Russian territories of the Barents region. Arctic Centre Reports 31. The polar regions – a political geography. Sanjay Chaturvedi. Living Arctic. Hugh Brody.
language of instruction	English

subject	Scandinavian Studies
code	683706P
name	Orientation to Scandinavian Studies
extent	2 ECTS credits
timing	Autumn semester
objective	The course aims to introduce exchange students to the Finnish academic system, the University of Oulu and the Scandinavian Studies Programme, to inform how to prepare for an exchange period in Oulu, and to help students to cope with the most common everyday situations in Finnish.
learning outcome	<p>A) The student will get to know other exchange students, the Finnish academic system, the University of Oulu and the Scandinavian Studies Programme.</p> <p>B) The student will be able to understand and use some very common everyday expressions and phrases, and he/she will be able to locate informational content in simple texts and messages. The student will also know the basic characteristics of Finnish language and Finnish communication styles.</p>
content	<p>A) Orientation in Oulu Information on cultural adaptation, the Finnish academic system and the University's services for international students. Registration and housing matters.</p> <p>B) Survival Finnish Some useful everyday phrases, some general features of the vocabulary and grammar, and the main principles of pronunciation.</p>
working methods	Tutoring, lectures
target group	Exchange students at the University of Oulu
prerequisites	
study materials	Notes, handouts
assessment methods	Regular and active participation, home work assignments, written exam
grading	Numerical assessment 1-5
responsible person	Coordinator of Scandinavian Studies
other information	
language of instruction	English and Finnish