

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**
www.mlcs.ualberta.ca

**2015-2016 SCAND 551 A1: Old Norse Grammar
(Fall Term)**

Time: TR 11:00am-12:20pm

Place: T 1 104

Instructor: Dr Natalie Van Deusen

E-mail: vandeuse@ualberta.ca

Office: Arts 316-D

Office Hours: TR 10:00am-11:00am or by appt.

Telephone: (no office phones)

Fax: 780-492-9106

Course Prerequisite: None

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed, no such projects involved

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

Exam registry – Students’ Union

http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services_and_businesses/services/infolink/exams

See explanations below

Document distributed in class

Other (please specify)

NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

This course, together with its continuation in the winter term, is designed to give you a good reading knowledge of the literary language of medieval Iceland and Norway, including a functional understanding of its grammar and an elementary vocabulary. Old Norse takes a great deal of practice to master, therefore you will be expected to participate in class by taking part in daily readings (beginning in week 5), answering short review quizzes at the beginning of most class days, and by answering two tests, as well as a comprehensive final examination that will test you on all subjects covered during the quarter.

Texts:

- Jesse L Byock, *The Viking Language 1*. Available at the University of Alberta bookstore or online (<http://www.vikingnorse.com/viking-language-series>)
- Additional materials provided by instructor.

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Grammar/Vocabulary Quizzes (13 total, 2% each)	26%
Readings (daily, weeks 5-10, 9 total, 2% each)	18%
Test 1: October 1 (focused on grammar/vocabulary)	18%
Test 2: November 5 (focused on reading)	18%
Final Examination: December 14, 9:00am (comprehensive)	20%

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable): February 12, 9:00am

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Quiz Grades: A quiz gets 2/2 if 80% or more of the inflectional forms and vocabulary items are correct, 1/2 if 70-79% are correct, 0/2 if 0-69% are correct, rounded to the nearest whole number.

Reading Grades: You get a 2/2 for a reading grade if you translate every part of a text that you are asked to and can identify the inflectional form of the words therein that you would be reasonably expected to know (you get the benefit of the doubt on reasonable efforts). You get a 1/2 if you take a pass on any given section that you are asked to translate, or if you cannot identify the inflectional form of words therein that you would be reasonably expected to know. You get a 0/2 if you pass on translating more than once in a given day, or if you pass once plus cannot identify the inflectional forms you are asked to.

Test Grades (including the final): You are graded directly in proportion to the number of inflectional forms and translations you get entirely correct (where applicable, such as in a reading section, misidentification of a word’s inflectional form and mistranslation of it count as two separate errors). I.e. if you get 75% of the inflectional forms and translated words entirely correct on a test worth 18 points, then you get 14 points.

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University calendar.”

Academic Integrity:

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at

<http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards>

[rds/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx](#)) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment safe and free of discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels this policy has been or is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that directs discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the student ombudservice (<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/>).

Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110>

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Office of Judicial Affairs](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.”

Students in languages courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of

potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1)) <http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.3.html#23.3>) and 23.5.6 (<http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.5.html#23.5>) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

In this course, attendance and participation are absolutely necessary. The use of electronic devices in class (cell phones, tablets, laptops) is prohibited unless explicitly stated otherwise for a particular activity, or under special circumstances.

Ultimate responsibility for all class material, and for familiarity with this syllabus, rests with the individual student.

Policy for Late Assignments:

There are no “redos” or make-ups for quizzes, readings, or tests. However, you do get one free missed daily grade (i.e., one dropped daily 2% grade, either one quiz or one reading grade but not both). Otherwise I will need reasonable evidence that you had an emergency or a crisis (e.g. a doctor’s note) in order to let you make up for an assignment (especially a test).

You are graded on the quality of work that you turn in, not simply on the fact that you turned something in. Points are awarded based solely on the criteria outlined in the syllabus. I do not award alternative or extra credit.

Specialized Support & Disability Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB www.ssd.ualberta.ca).

Grading:

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below (“**MLCS Graduate Grading Scale**”). The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

MLCS Graduate Grading Scale

A+	97-100	Excellent
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A	93-96	Excellent
A-	90-92	Excellent
B+	87-89	Good
B	79-86	Good
B-	74-78	Satisfactory
C+	68-73	Satisfactory
C	63-67	Failure
C-	58-62	Failure
D+	54-57	Failure
D	50-53	Failure
F	00-49	Failure

Note: Bursaries of \$150.00 will be provided by the Norwegian service club *Sons of Norway-Torskeklubben* to students who have successfully completed a Scandinavian Studies course (incl. SCAND 551) with a minimum grade of B-.

Course Schedule: Due to the fact that each class moves at its own pace, there is no set weekly schedule. Readings and homework for the next class will be announced at the end of each session, and then posted to eClass.