

NORDIC STUDIES

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The Nordic studies program enables students who enter St. Olaf with advanced competence in Norwegian (or another Nordic language) or those who wish a more interdisciplinary approach than that offered by the Norwegian major an opportunity to pursue their interest in Nordic language, culture, and society.

Overview of the Concentration

The Nordic studies concentration at St. Olaf College is designed to meet the needs of students who wish a more interdisciplinary study of the Nordic cultures than that offered through the Norwegian major. The Nordic studies concentration is an interdisciplinary study of the language, literature, history, and culture of the Nordic countries. It is a self-designed combination of courses, approved by the Director of Nordic Studies, who is also the chair of the Norwegian Department.

Intended Learning Outcomes for the Concentration (<http://wp.stolaf.edu/curriculum-committee/nordic-studies-concentration-ilos>)

Special Programs

The Norwegian Department sponsors many speakers and activities relevant to the Nordic studies concentration such as the annual Christmas service and Seventeenth of May celebration and provides students with the opportunity to live in a language house with a native speaker assistant. The Norwegian-American Historical Association, a rich source of information on Norwegian immigration, is housed in Rølvaag Memorial Library. Many students choose to study in a Nordic country on a variety of programs such as the Oslo International Summer School (<http://catalog.stolaf.edu/archive/2016-2017/international-domestic-off-campus-studies/other-semester-year-long-programs/#scandinavia>) and the St. Olaf-sponsored programs in Norway (<http://catalog.stolaf.edu/archive/2016-2017/international-domestic-off-campus-studies/other-semester-year-long-programs/#scandinavia>) and Denmark (<http://catalog.stolaf.edu/archive/2016-2017/international-domestic-off-campus-studies/other-semester-year-long-programs/#scandinavia>). Norwegian professors also participate in the Foreign Language Across the Curriculum (FLAC) (<http://catalog.stolaf.edu/archive/2016-2017/academic-programs/foreign-languages-across-curriculum>) program, collaborating with disciplinary professors to offer students the opportunity to use their foreign language skills in selected courses in other departments.

Requirements

The Nordic studies concentration consists of five courses. At least two of the five courses must have a focus on at least one Nordic country other than Norway.

One Norwegian language course beyond FOL-N:

NORW 232	Intermediate Norwegian II (or above) ¹	1.00
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Select one or two other courses from Norwegian department offerings selected from the following: 1.00-2.00

NORW 130	Nordic Film Today
NORW 140	Norway: Continuity and Change
NORW 224	Topics in Contemporary Nordic Literature: A Window on Society
NORW 244	The Sámi: Traditions in Transition
NORW 253	Advanced Conversation and Composition
NORW 282	Ibsen
NORW 371	Norwegian Literature: An Overview
NORW 372	Topics in Norwegian Literature/Culture

Others, as approved by the director

Two or three courses from other departments, such as: 2.00-3.00

HIST 222	Modern Scandinavia
PHIL 233	Kierkegaard and Existentialism
Other courses with significant content relating to the Nordic countries	

Up to three courses from study abroad programs such as DIS, HECUA: The New Norway, and university direct-enroll programs may be counted toward the Nordic studies concentration 3.00

One course may be taken S/U.

¹ Or advanced intermediate knowledge of a different Nordic language

To become a Nordic studies concentrator, contact the Director of Nordic Studies and inform the registrar by filling out the form at the Registrar's Office.

Courses

Examples of Courses from Outside the Norwegian Department

HIST 111 Viking and Medieval Scandinavia

HIST 169 From Fjord to Frontier: Norwegian-American History in Literature

HIST 222 Modern Scandinavia

Music Performance: Hardanger Fiddle Lessons

PHIL 233 Kierkegaard and Existentialism

PSCI 283 European Social Democracy

PSCI 382 Seminar: The Geopolitics of Eurasian Energy

REL 213 Lutheran Heritage (if paper deals with Scandinavian Lutherans)

Faculty

Director, 2016-2017

Kari Lie Dorer

Associate Professor of Norwegian

Norwegian language and culture; applied linguistics; Sami studies;
Nordic film.

J. Patrick Dale

Associate Professor of Political Science

comparative politics; European politics and economics; central
European thought

Todd W. Nichol

Professor of History

Scandinavian history; Norwegian-American history

Bjorn Nordfjord

Visiting Associate Professor of English

American cinema; world cinema; crime fiction; adaptation and
narrative theory

Margaret Hayford O'Leary

Professor of Norwegian, Associate Dean of Humanities

Norwegian language, literature, and society; Nordic crime fiction