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

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 and the St. Olaf-sponsored programs in Norway and Denmark. Norwegian professors also participate in the Foreign Language Across the Curriculum (FLAC) program, collaborating with disciplinary professors to offer students the opportunity to use their foreign language skills in selected courses in other departments.

Special Programs

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.

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>NORW 232</td>
<td>Intermediate Norwegian II (or above) (^1)</td>
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Select one or two other courses from Norwegian department offerings selected from the following:

- 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:

- 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.

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 completing the digital form found on the SIS (Student Information System).

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, 2018-2019**

**Kari Lie Dorer**
Associate Professor of Norwegian
Norwegian language and culture; applied linguistics; Sami studies;
Nordic film.

**David E. Jessup**
Adjunct Instructor of History
modern Nordic and Nordic-American history

**Bjorn Nordfjord**
Visiting Associate Professor of English
American cinema; world cinema; crime fiction; adaptation and
narrative theory