



Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures

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December 6, 2008

Associate Dean Julia Watson
College of Humanities
114 University Hall
230 North Oval Mall
Campus

Dear Julia,

Attached please find a proposal for a new course, Scandinavian 710: Introduction to Old Norse-Icelandic, for consideration by the Colleges of the Arts and the Humanities Curriculum Committee. The course proposal was submitted by my colleague, Dr. Merrill Kaplan.

SCAN 710 would significantly enhance OSU's curriculum in Scandinavian, Germanic Languages & Literatures, and Medieval Studies.

Germanic Languages & Literatures presently offers several courses on Scandinavian topics including a survey of modern Scandinavian literature (SCAN 500), a course on the films of Ingmar Bergman (SCAN 520), and classes in Norse mythology (SCAN 222) and the Medieval Icelandic Saga (SCAN 513). However, while the Department offers several classes in Swedish – the language of Bergman – at both introductory and intermediate levels, there is no regular instruction in Old Norse-Icelandic – the language of the sagas and the Norse myths.

SCAN 710 would not duplicate any existing courses. To date, Old Norse-Icelandic language has been offered only as a special topic under the GERM 694 Group Studies rubric, taught most recently by me in autumn 2005. Since then, several students have inquired as to when Old Norse will next be taught and have been disappointed to learn that there is no regularly offered course they can plan into their courses of study.

As an important research tool for scholars, SCAN 710 would complement OSU's existing courses in Middle High German (Ger 801) and Old English (Eng 710). The three languages are related and their periods of use overlap. Establishing SCAN 710 would strengthen OSU's course offerings in older Germanic languages and in medieval studies as a whole and expand the opportunities available to linguists and medievalists as well as to students of German and Scandinavian.

SCAN 710 would have no budgetary impact; it would become part of the normal teaching load of current members of the faculty, in particular Dr. Kaplan. It would not replace an existing course. It would not affect any system of credits, as the Scandinavian program offers no Bachelor's or professional degrees.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Grotans', with a large checkmark-like flourish at the end.

Anna Grotans
Associate Professor of German
Chairperson
Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
grotans.1@osu.edu

The Ohio State University
Colleges of the Arts and Sciences New Course Request

Germanic Languages and Literatures

Academic Unit

Scandinavian

Book 3 Listing (e.g., Portuguese)

710 Introduction to Old Norse-Icelandic

Number

Title

Intro ON-Icelandic

U/G

5

18-Character Title Abbreviation

Level

Credit Hours

Summer

Autumn

Winter X

Spring

Year

Proposed effective date, choose one quarter and put an "X" after it; and fill in the year. See the OAA curriculum manual for deadlines.

A. Course Offerings Bulletin Information

Follow the instructions in the OAA curriculum manual. If this is a course with decimal subdivisions, then use one New Course Request form for the generic information that will apply to all subdivisions; and use separate forms for each new decimal subdivision, including on each form the information that is unique to that subdivision. If the course offered is less than a quarter or a term, please complete the Flexibly Scheduled/Off Campus/Workshop Request form.

Description (*not to exceed 25 words*): Introduction to the grammar of Old Norse-Icelandic language. Brief overview of Old

Norse literature and the context of its production.

Quarter offered: Winter

Distribution of class time/contact hours: 2 @ 2hrs 181hr 48 minutes

Quarter and contact/class time hours information should be omitted from Book 3 publication (yes or no):

Prerequisite(s):

Exclusion or limiting clause:

Repeatable to a maximum of _____ credit hours.

Cross-listed with:

Grade Option (Please check): Letter S/U Progress What course is last in the series? _____Honors Statement: Yes No GEC: Yes No Admission Conditions Course: Yes No Off-Campus: Yes No EM: Yes No Honors Embedded Statement: Yes No Service Learning Course: Yes No

Other General Course Information:

(e.g. "Taught in English." "Credit does not count toward BSBA degree.")

B. General InformationSubject Code 100502 Subsidy Level (V, G, T, B, M, D, or P) GIf you have questions, please email Jed Dickhaut at dickhaut.1@osu.edu.

1. Provide the rationale for proposing this course:

Students in GLL, English and other departments have expressed interest (several years back the course was successfully taught as a Group Studies under a 694). Dr. Kaplan is an expert in the field, one of the few in North America. With this course, OSU joins a handful of universities in North American that offer Old Norse.

2. Please list Majors/Minors affected by the creation of this new course. Attach revisions of all affected programs. This course is (check one): Required on major(s)/minor(s) A choice on major(s)/minors(s)

An elective within major(s)/minor(s) A general elective

3. Indicate the nature of the program adjustments, new funding, and/or withdrawals that make possible the implementation of this new course.
None

4. Is the approval of this request contingent upon the approval of other course requests or curricular requests?

Yes No List: _____

5. If this course is part of a sequence, list the number of the other course(s) in the sequence: No

6. Expected Section Size: 15-20 Proposed number of sections per year: 1




7. Do you want prerequisites enforced electronically? (see OAA manual for what can be enforced) Yes No N/A

8. This course has been discussed with and has the concurrence of the following academic units needing this course or with academic units having directly related interests (List units and attach letters and/or forms): Not Applicable

9. Attach a course syllabus that includes a topical outline of the course, student learning outcomes and/or course objectives, off-campus field experience, methods of evaluation, and other items as stated in the OAA curriculum manual and e-mail to ascurofc@osu.edu.

CONTACT PERSON: Kathryn Corl E-MAIL: corl.1@osu.edu PHONE: 292-2455

Approval Process: The signatures on the lines in ALL CAPS (e.g. ACADEMIC UNIT) are required.

1. Academic Unit Undergraduate Studies Committee Chair	 Kathryn Corl	12-5-08
2. Academic Unit Graduate Studies Committee Chair	 Barbara Becker-Cantarino	12/5/08
3. ACADEMIC UNIT CHAIR/DIRECTOR	 Anne Grotans	12/5/08
4. After the Academic Unit Chair/Director signs the request, forward the form to the ASC Curriculum Office, 4132 Smith Lab, 174 West 18 th Ave. or fax it to 888-5678. Attach the syllabus and any supporting documentation in an e-mail to ascurofc@osu.edu . The ASC Curriculum Office will forward the request to the appropriate committees.		
5. COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE	Printed Name	Date
6. ARTS AND SCIENCES EXECUTIVE DEAN	Printed Name	Date
7. Graduate School (if appropriate)	Printed Name	Date
8. University Honors Center (if appropriate)	Printed Name	Date
9. Office of International Education (if appropriate)	Printed Name	Date
10. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS	Printed Name	Date

Call number
TR 330-518
000 XXX Hall
5 credits

Professor M. Kaplan
464 Denney Hall
Office hrs M 9:30-11:00 and by appt.
tel: 247-8061
Kaplan.103@osu.edu

SCAN 710: Introduction to Old Norse-Icelandic

This course is an introduction to the grammar of the Old Norse-Icelandic language. Students will learn crucial aspects of morphology and syntax and prepare translations of excerpts from medieval Icelandic texts of assorted genres. In addition, students will present one individual short report on a topic related to Old Norse literature and the context of its production. Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to read normalized Old Norse texts of intermediate difficulty independently with the aid of a dictionary.

This course complements SCAN 222: Nordic Mythology and Medieval Culture, SCAN 513: The Medieval Icelandic Saga, and the Swedish language sequence beginning with Swedish 101.01. It may also be of interest to students of Old English and Middle High German language and literature.

Prerequisites:

Required:

E. V. Gordon, ed. *An Introduction to Old Norse*. 2nd ed. rev. A. R. Taylor. Oxford UP, 1983.

Geir T. Zoëga, ed. *A Concise Dictionary of Old Icelandic*. University of Toronto Press, 2004.

Course policies

• Grading and evaluation

- 40% Daily Quizzes (see description below)
 - 15% In-class presentation (10-15 minutes)
 - 20% Final translation exam
 - 25% Attendance and preparation/participation, translations
- Quizzes will test your assimilation of basic elements of grammar such as noun declension and verb conjugation. You will chiefly be asked to reproduce paradigms. Quizzes will be administered at each class meeting through March 5.
 - Each student will make a 30-minute presentation on one of the topics listed in the table below. The presentations are designed to provide you with knowledge of the context and breadth of Old Norse literary production. Sources will be provided by the instructor.

- The final exam will be given in class on the final day. You will be asked to translate one familiar and one unfamiliar text with the help of a dictionary.
- Your regular attendance and active participation in each class session, including having prepared your translation, are expected and required. Undocumented (i.e., without official documentation of illness or emergency) will be considered as unexcused and will result in a lowering of your class participation grade by 5% [or some amount] for each absence.

Much of the learning in this course will take place in class in a cooperative environment. You are also encouraged to memorize paradigms with a study partner if you find this helpful. However, your presentation as well as the translations you present in class must be the result of your individual effort.

Class Cancellation Policy: If, due to emergency, class must be cancelled, I will ask that a note on department letterhead be placed on the door. I will also contact you by e-mail. Meanwhile, please have completed the next reading assignment by the next class meeting.

- **Academic dishonesty:** It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp).
- **Disability Statement:** Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

Schedule of readings and in-class topics

All readings are in Gordon. See second table for grammar assignments

	Reading	In class lecture	Presentation
Jan. 6		Introduction: The language and its grammar. Using the glossary and supplemental references.	
8	Loki and Svaðilfari l. 1-15	"To be." Verb conjugation.	
13	Loki and Svaðilfari l. 16-34	Strong nouns and agreement. A little about the subjunctive and the middle voice.	Orality and Literacy
15	Loki and Svaðilfari l. 35-53	The suffixed article. Possessive pronouns. Important weak verbs. Patterns in adjectives and pronouns.	Runes
20	Ari inn fróði's <i>Libellus Islandorum</i> l. 1-38	Strong and weak adjectives.	Accounts of the Settlement: <i>Íslendingabók</i> and <i>Landnámabók</i>
22	<i>Libellus Islandorum</i> l. 39-76	The subjunctive in weak verbs. Noun class and weak nouns.	Greenland and Vinland
27	<i>Libellus Islandorum</i> l. 77-107	Weak adjectives.	The Conversion and <i>Kristni þáttur</i>
29	<i>Libellus Islandorum</i> l. 108-138	Auxiliary verbs. Preterite-present verbs.	Law and legal texts
Feb. 3	<i>Grettis saga</i> l. 1-44	Strong verb classes I and II. Mutation.	Sagas of Icelanders: <i>Íslendingasögur</i>
5	<i>Grettis saga</i> l. 45-85	Strong verb class III. V before round vowels.	Histories and pseudo-histories
10	<i>Grettis saga</i> l. 86-108	Verbs with prepositions.	Legendary sagas: <i>fornaldarsögur</i>
12	<i>Grettis saga</i> l. 109-142	Interrogatives. Suffixed pronouns. Strong verb class IV.	King Hákon Hákonarson and romance (<i>riððarasögur</i>)
17	Auðun vestfirzka l. 1-42	Strong verb classes V and VI. Syntax in dialogue.	Tales of Icelanders: <i>Íslendingaþættir</i>
19	Auðun	Strong verb class VII.	Kings' sagas:

	l. 43-79		<i>konungasögur</i> and <i>Heimskringla</i>
24	Auðun l. 80-118	Comparative and superlative of adjectives. Gerunds and past participles as adjectives.	Sagas of bishops and saints: <i>biskupasögur</i> and <i>heilagra manna sögur</i>
26	Auðun l. 119-159	Summary of strategies for parsing.	Learned literature
Mar. 3	Auðun l. 160-196	Syntax in eddic poetry.	Snorri Sturluson and the <i>Prose Edda</i>
Mar. 5	<i>Þrymskviða</i> and skaldic verse TBA	Syntax in skaldic poetry	Eddic poetry and the <i>Poetic Edda</i>
10		A few notes on Modern Icelandic. Review for final exam.	The Manuscript Affair: <i>Handritamálið</i>
12		Final exam	

Schedule of Grammar Assignments

Assignments are due on the day listed.

Memorize					Note
	ARTICLES, ADJECTIVES, &C.	NOUNS	VERBS	PREPOSITIONS AND ADVERBS	ÝMIST'
Jan. 8	§112: Freestanding definite article: <i>(h)inn</i> – <i>(h)in</i> – <i>(h)íð</i> §109 third person pronoun: <i>hann</i> – <i>hon</i> – <i>þaf</i> with <i>þú</i> , <i>frá</i> , <i>um</i> .			Prepositions: <i>þí</i> , <i>frá</i> , <i>um</i> Adverbs: <i>ekki</i> , <i>eiði</i>	Verbs: <i>vera</i> , <i>gæra</i> , <i>biðja</i> , <i>koma</i> , <i>ganga</i> , <i>sefja</i> , <i>mæla</i> , <i>skulu</i> , <i>tá</i> , <i>segja</i> , <i>draga</i> , <i>þykki</i> a. See handouts.
Jan. 13	§108: First and second person pronouns, singular and plural (not dual): <i>ek</i> , <i>þú</i> , <i>vér</i> , <i>þér</i>		§146ii: "To be" <i>vera</i> indicative present and past (i.e., First column. Hint: Learn it with the pronouns: <i>ek</i> , <i>er</i> , <i>þú</i> <i>ert</i> , <i>hann</i> <i>er</i> , &c.		§90: <i>r</i> -stem nouns: <i>faðir</i> , <i>bróðir</i> , <i>móðir</i> , <i>systir</i> , <i>dóttir</i> NB: <i>þá</i> = then, when; <i>er</i> = when or <i>er</i> = relative pronoun
Jan. 15	§111: Demonstrative pronouns: <i>sá</i> , <i>sú</i> , <i>þar</i> , <i>sjá</i> / <i>þessi</i> , <i>sjá</i> / <i>þessi</i> , <i>þetta</i>	Strong nouns: <i>hestir</i> , <i>borg</i> , <i>land</i> . Hint: Learn with the demonstratives: <i>sá</i> <i>hestir</i> , <i>sú</i> <i>borg</i> , <i>þetta</i> <i>land</i>	§146ii: <i>vera</i> subjunctive present and past: <i>þó</i> <i>ek sé</i> , <i>þó</i> <i>þú sér</i>		§§159-162: Prepositions: <i>af</i> , <i>frá</i> , <i>gegn</i> , <i>hjá</i> , <i>naer</i> , <i>ör</i> , <i>undan</i> ; <i>á</i> , <i>at</i> , <i>epfir</i> , <i>í</i> , <i>fyrir</i> , <i>með</i> , <i>um</i> , <i>undir</i> , <i>við</i> , <i>yfir</i> §168: Subjunctive

Jan. 20	<p>Indeclinable possessive pronouns: <i>hans, hennar, þess, þeirra</i></p> <p>§110: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd-person reflexive possessive pronouns: <i>minn, þinn, sinn</i></p> <p>NB: <i>minn hestur</i> but <i>hesturinn minn</i></p>	<p>Strong nouns with suffixed article: <i>hesturinn, borgin, landit</i></p>	<p>Weak verbs: <i>gera, hafa</i>, §141 <i>kalla</i> in past and present indicative active</p>	<p>§152: Local adverbs: <i>hér- hingað-þáðan, þar-þangað-þaðan</i></p>	<p>Middle Voice: <i>gera, hafa</i>, §141 <i>kalla</i> in past and present indicative middle voice</p> <p><i>finna – finnask</i> <i>skíra – skírask</i> <i>byggja – byggjask</i> §170</p>
Jan. 22	<p>§96: Adjectives, strong declension: <i>langur, garrall</i></p> <p>Hint: Learn with nouns: <i>langur hestur, um langan hest, garrall bogi, tíl gamals boga</i></p>		<p>Two important verbs: §118: <i>gera</i> (active indicative present and past) §148: <i>vilja</i></p>		<p>§107: Ordinals five and up <i>hvertveggja</i></p>
Jan. 27	<p>§107: Ordinals <i>tvöir, þrjár, fjögur</i></p> <p>§116: <i>báðir, báðar, bæði</i></p>	<p>§§92, 93: Weak nouns: <i>bogi, rekkja, hjarta</i></p>	<p>Weak verbs in the subjunctive: <i>gera, hafa, kalla</i> in past and present (<i>þó ek geri, þó þú gerir...</i>)</p>		<p>§151: Enclitic negatives <i>-k, -t</i></p>
Jan. 29	<p>§102: Adjectives, weak declension: <i>hinn langi, inn garrall</i></p> <p>Hint: learn with articles, pronouns, definite nouns: <i>sá garrall hestur, hesturinn garrall</i></p>	<p>Weak nouns: <i>þóndi, gefandi</i>, <i>saga</i> with and without definite article</p>			<p>§115: Indefinite pronouns: <i>nókkurr, einhverr</i></p>
Feb. 3			<p>§§144, 145, 146, 147: Preterite present verbs: <i>eiga, mega, skulu, kunna, munu, vilda</i></p>		<p>§116: <i>engi</i></p>

Feb. 5		More strong nouns: m. stacr, f. höll §87	§127: Strong verbs I: búa, bíða §128: Strong verbs II: bjóða		
Feb. 10		More strong nouns: m. vdlfr, skýðldr	§129: Strong verbs III: verða, finna, vanna		
Feb. 12		Still more strong nouns: m. macr, fófr, f. mófr, bókr			
Feb. 17	§114: Interrogative pronouns: hverr, hvárr. Note use of dative hví.		§130: Strong verbs IV: bera, koma		§108: suffixed þú
Feb. 19		Another strong feminine: §83: f. grófr	§131: Strong verbs V: gefa, sjá §132: Strong verbs VI: fara, taka		
Feb. 24			§133: Strong verbs VII: hefja, búa, fá, ganga, láta		
Feb. 26	§106: Irregular comparative and superlative adjectives §108 Dual pronouns: vit, (þ)it				Regular comparative and superlative adjectives. §108 on -k as suffixed ek §148 on earlier forms of vera
Mar. 3-10	Topics as needed based on student questions				