Candidates for the master of arts in Scandinavian studies will specialize in one and only one of the following three fields: literature, philology, or area studies.

Scandinavian studies is in the oldest such department in the Americas, tracing its roots to 1875. Department faculty have received numerous awards and other marks of recognition for their teaching and scholarship. The department offers the master of arts and the doctor of philosophy in Scandinavian studies. A doctoral minor is also available. Graduate students must be fluent in one Scandinavian language and specialize in one particular area, but they may expect to gain a knowledge of the wider Nordic region during their studies. The program offers the possibility to attain a broad education in Scandinavian culture that has proven to be extremely useful in students’ professional careers. Students will become well-versed in theory and methodology as well as in cultural history. The department possesses particular strengths in Scandinavian literature, Old Norse philology, and Nordic folklore. Within these broader categories, students may pursue interests in such topics as mythology, Sami studies, saints’ lives, modernism, gender criticism, immigration studies, national identity—to name only a few. Languages offered in the department include Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian, Sámi, and Swedish. The department has an excellent record of placing its Ph.D. graduates in good positions in the field.

ADMISSIONS

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program’s admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program’s website. Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet the minimum requirements (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/) of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).

Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/).

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

FUNDING

SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES, M.A.

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

 Applicants should have a B.A. degree from an approved institution, a major in a field of humanities or social studies, and an outstanding record. Applicants are expected to have preparation equivalent to an undergraduate major in Scandinavian studies at UW–Madison, and must either have taken three years of a Scandinavian language or must demonstrate (by examination) equivalent competence in one Scandinavian language or Finnish. A GPA of 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) is required for admission; students with a GPA below 3.25 but above 3.00 may be considered for admission on probation. All applicants must submit Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores.

MODE OF INSTRUCTION DEFINITIONS

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.
CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirements Detail

Minimum Credit Requirement

- Minimum 30 credits
- Minimum Residence Credit Requirement: 16 credits
- Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement: Half of degree coursework (15 credits out of 30 total credits) must be completed graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide (https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/).

Overall Graduate GPA Requirement: 3.25 GPA required. GPA of 3.0 or above may be considered for admission on probation.

Other Grade Requirements: No other requirements.

Assessments and Examinations: All M.A. tracks require a comprehensive written and oral examination. The literature and area studies tracks offer a thesis option.

Language Requirements: All tracks require an advanced competency in a modern Scandinavian language. If the modern Scandinavian Language is Finnish or Icelandic, a working knowledge of Norwegian, Swedish, or Danish is required.

For all tracks a minimal competency (e.g., ETS score of 525) in German or another research language approved by the department is required.

The philology track requires two semesters of Old Norse or its equivalent. For the literature track a competency in Old Norse is encouraged.

REQUIRED COURSES

Each track has specific course requirements to be met.

Literary and Cultural Studies Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCAND 401</td>
<td>Contemporary Scandinavian Languages</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCAND 401</td>
<td>Introductory Old Norse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCAND 430</td>
<td>The Vikings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCAND 435</td>
<td>The Sagas of Icelanders in English Translation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCAND 431</td>
<td>History of Scandinavia to 1815</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCAND 432</td>
<td>History of Scandinavia Since 1815</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Philology Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCAND 401</td>
<td>Contemporary Scandinavian Languages</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCAND 407</td>
<td>Introductory Old Norse</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCAND 408</td>
<td>Intermediate Old Norse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCAND 410</td>
<td>Introduction to Scandinavian Linguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.
Select one of the following: (3 credits)

SCAND ST 496 The Scandinavian Heritage in America

Select a course that includes professional development: (3 credits)

SCAND ST 630 Fundamentals of Bibliography and Research

GNS 700 Graduate Seminar in Professional Development

Total credits: 21

Other recommended Courses:

SCAND ST/ HIST 431 History of Scandinavia to 1815 3
SCAND ST/ HIST 432 History of Scandinavia Since 1815 3
SCAND ST/ LITTRANS 435 The Sagas of Icelanders in English Translation 3
SCAND ST/ FOLKLORE 440 Scandinavian American Folklore 3
SCAND ST/ FOLKLORE 443 Sami Culture, Yesterday and Today 4
SCAND ST/ MEDIEVAL 444 Kalevala and Finnish Folk-Lore 4
SCAND ST/ FOLKLORE/ MEDIEVAL 446 Celtic-Scandinavian Cultural Interrelations 3
SCAND ST 496 The Scandinavian Heritage in America 3

Possible courses of interest:

FOLKLORE 320 Folklore of Wisconsin 3
FOLKLORE/ RELIG ST 359 Myth 3
FOLKLORE 451 The Supernatural in the Modern World 3
FOLKLORE 460 Folk Epics 3
FOLKLORE/ GEN&WS 467 Women and Politics in Popular Culture and Folklore 3
FOLKLORE/ ANTHRO 520 Ethnic Representations in Wisconsin 4
FOLKLORE/ COM ARTS 522 Digitally Documenting Everyday Communication 3
FOLKLORE/ MUSIC 535 American Folk and Vernacular Music 3
FOLKLORE/ ANTHRO/MUSIC/ THEATRE 539 The Folklore of Festivals and Celebrations 3
FOLKLORE 540 Local Culture and Identity in the Upper Midwest 3
ART HIST 364 History of American Art: Art, Material Culture, and Constructions of Identity, 1607-present 3-4
ART HIST 601 Introduction to Museum Studies I 3
ENGL/HISTORY/ RELIG ST 360 The Anglo-Saxons 3
ENGL/ MEDIEVAL 427 Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales 3
GEOG 342 Geography of Wisconsin 3
GERMAN 650 History of the German Language 3
GERMAN/ MEDIEVAL 651 Introduction to Middle High German 3
In order to encourage progress toward the degree and to determine the status of a student’s program, the department requests an annual activities report from all continuing students to be submitted by the end of January. In the case of first-year students, this report will, of course, only cover work done during the fall semester. A copy of this report will be placed in the student’s permanent file. Students are expected to consult regularly on their progress with their advisor.

**CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED**

15 credits

**TIME CONSTRAINTS**

The normal time for completing the requirements for the M.A. is three to four semesters, although more time can be allowed if a student is entering with deficiencies or has had teaching assistantships, which necessitate a lower credit load.

**GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS**

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/)
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (https://facstaff provost.wisc.edu/)
- Dean of Students Office (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- Employee Assistance (http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- Employee Disability Resource Office (https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- Title IX (https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances. They may also contact the L&S Academic Divisional Associate Deans, the L&S Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration, or the L&S Director of Human Resources.

**OTHER**

n/a
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES
Take advantage of the Graduate School’s professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Articulates, critiques, or elaborates the theories, research methods, and approaches to inquiry or schools of practice in the field of study.
2. Identifies sources and assembles evidence pertaining to questions or challenges in the field of study.
3. Demonstrates understanding of the primary field of study in a historical, social, or global context.
4. Selects and/or utilizes the most appropriate methodologies and practices.
5. Evaluates or synthesizes information pertaining to questions or challenges in the field of study.
6. Communicates clearly in ways appropriate to the field of study.
7. Possesses an advanced competency in a Nordic language and a serviceable master of an additional research language.
8. Recognizes and applies principles of ethical and professional conduct.

PEOPLE

Faculty: Professors Brantly, DuBois, and Wolf; Associate Professor Krouk; Assistant Professors Andersen, Roos, and Mier-Cruz; Faculty Associate Mellor