

# SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES, PH.D.

The Ph.D. degree is offered in the fields of literature, folklore, and philology. The basic requirements for all students entering the Ph.D. program correspond to the requirements for the M.A. degree in Scandinavian Studies with concentration in literature, area studies, or philology, as appropriate. Every incoming graduate student should consult with the general graduate advisor upon arrival at UW–Madison. They will discuss the student's academic and career plans, and between them will decide which faculty member will most appropriately act as a committee chair.

Scandinavian studies is 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, Sámi studies, saint's lives, modernism, sagas, 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

### GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic degree programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet requirements of both the program(s) and the Graduate School. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (<https://grad.wisc.edu/admissions>).

Requirements	Detail
Fall Deadline	January 2
Spring Deadline	November 15
Summer Deadline	The program does not admit in the summer.
GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)	Required.
English Proficiency Test	Every applicant whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English must provide an English proficiency test score and meet the Graduate School minimum requirements ( <a href="https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency">https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency</a> ).

Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)	n/a
Letters of Recommendation Required	3

Students applying directly for the Ph.D. program should have a related M.A. from this or another program. New Ph.D. students will be expected to acquire competencies equivalent to the M.A. in Scandinavian Studies, and this will be assessed at the time of the preliminary exam.

As in the case of admissions to the M.A. program, 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.

## FUNDING

### 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 processes related to funding.

### PROGRAM RESOURCES

The department has a number of scholarships, fellowships, teaching assistantships, and readerships at its disposal and makes a serious effort to provide qualified students with adequate financial assistance and teaching experience throughout their graduate careers.

## REQUIREMENTS

### MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

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

### MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

#### MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

#### Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Evening/Weekend:** These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses

and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

**Online:** These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules.

Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.

**Hybrid:** These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

**Accelerated:** These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

## CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirements Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	51 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	Half of degree coursework (26 credits out of 51 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 ( <a href="http://my.wisc.edu/CourseGuideRedirect/BrowseByTitle">http://my.wisc.edu/CourseGuideRedirect/BrowseByTitle</a> ).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.25 GPA required.
Other Grade Requirements	Ph.D. candidates should maintain a 3.5 GPA in all core curriculum courses.

If a student's grades drop below the average indicated, the GPA must be brought up to the minimum by the end of the following semester.

The grade C is regarded as unsatisfactory.

Incompletes must be removed within the following semester or summer session of residence.

Assessments and Examinations	All Ph.D. tracks require a comprehensive written and oral examination. All tracks require a dissertation.
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**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 and another research language approved by the department is required or advanced competency (e.g., and ETS score of 675) in German or another research language.

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

Doctoral Minor/Breadth Requirements	All doctoral students are required to complete a minor. All tracks require a doctoral minor of 10–12 credits taken in another field. These courses should be selected in consultation with the candidate's advisor.
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## REQUIRED COURSES

Each track has specific course requirements to be met.

### Literary and Cultural Studies Track <sup>1</sup>

Code	Title	Credits
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The following are departmental guidelines for candidates for the PhD degree in literary and cultural studies. Though ultimately everything must be approved by the graduate advisor, these requirements are in addition to the M.A. requirements:

1. A minimum of 21 credits beyond the M.A. degree. If a student enters the PhD program with an MA from another program, then additional classes may be required in order for the candidate to attain a sufficiently broad background in Scandinavian Studies.

2. A Ph.D. minor of 10-12 credits in another field.

Required courses (if not already taken as part of the MA degree – 15-17 credits):

SCAND ST 401	Contemporary Scandinavian Languages	3
Select one of the following: (3-4 credits)		3-4
SCAND ST/MEDIEVAL 407	Old Norse	
SCAND ST 429	Mythology of Scandinavia	
SCAND ST/MEDIEVAL 430	The Vikings	
SCAND ST 435	The Icelandic Sagas	
Select one of the following: (3-4 credits)		3-4
SCAND ST/HISTORY 431	History of Scandinavia to 1815	
SCAND ST/HISTORY 432	History of Scandinavia Since 1815	
SCAND ST/HISTORY 577	Contemporary Scandinavia: Politics and History	
Select one of the following, depending on individual circumstances and determined in consultation with the graduate advisor. (3 credits)		3
SCAND ST 901	Seminar in Special Topics	
SCAND ST 634	Survey of Scandinavian Literature: 1500-1800	

SCAND ST 635	Survey of Scandinavian Literature: 1800-1890	
Select a course that includes professional development. (3 credits)		3
SCAND ST 630	Fundamentals of Bibliography and Research	
GNS 700 Graduate Seminar in Professional Development		
Total Credits:		15-17
Other recommended courses:		
SCAND ST 419	Scandinavian Children's Literature	4
SCAND ST 420	The Woman in Scandinavian Literature	4
SCAND ST 422	The Drama of Henrik Ibsen	4
SCAND ST 423	The Drama of August Strindberg	4
SCAND ST 424	Nineteenth-Century Scandinavian Fiction	3-4
SCAND ST 426	Kierkegaard and Scandinavian Literature	4
SCAND ST 427	Contemporary Scandinavian Literature	4
SCAND ST/ LITTRANS 428	Memory and Literature from Proust to Knausgard	3
SCAND ST 433	The Scandinavian Tale and Ballad	4
SCAND ST 434	The Art of Isak Dinesen/Karen Blixen	4
SCAND ST/ FOLKLORE/ MEDIEVAL 446	Celtic-Scandinavian Cultural Interrelations	3
SCAND ST 450	Scandinavian Decadence in its European Context	3-4

<sup>1</sup> 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.

**Philology Track <sup>1</sup>**

Code	Title	Credits
The following are departmental guidelines for a philology specialization, though ultimately everything must be approved by the graduate advisor:		
1. A minimum of 21 credits beyond the M.A. degree, including at least two seminars. In ordinary circumstances, graduate students entering the program with a B.A. will be required to take the M.A. before they can proceed to the Ph.D.		
2. A Ph.D. minor of 10-12 credits in another field.		
Required courses (if not already taken as part of the MA degree – 18 credits):		
SCAND ST/ MEDIEVAL 407 & SCAND ST/ MEDIEVAL 408	Old Norse and Old Norse	6
SCAND ST 511	Paleography and Philology - Old Norse	3
Select one of the following (3 credits):		3

SCAND ST 415	History of the Scandinavian Languages II: Standard Languages	
SCAND ST 510	Topics in Scandinavian Linguistics	
SCAND ST/ MEDIEVAL 409	Survey of Old Norse-Icelandic Literature	3
Select a course that includes professional development (3 credits):		3
SCAND ST 630	Fundamentals of Bibliography and Research	
GNS 700 Graduate Seminar in Professional Development		
Total Credits:		18

<sup>1</sup> 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.

**Folklore Track <sup>1</sup>**

Code	Title	Credits
The following are departmental guidelines for the Ph.D. in Folklore, though ultimately everything must be approved by the graduate advisor:		
1. A minimum of 21 credits beyond the M.A. degree (16 in residence), including at least two seminars. In ordinary circumstances, graduate students entering the program with a B.A. will be required to take the M.A. before they can proceed to the Ph.D. In consultation with their advisors, graduate students should select a suite of courses that provide a detailed knowledge of the folklore of one Nordic culture and a general knowledge of Nordic folklore more generally, as well as a firm command of the folklore of Nordic Americans. Familiarity with the history, institutions and cultural history of the Nordic countries is fundamental to the degree.		
2. A Ph.D. Option B minor of 10-12 credits in Folklore, including <b>ONE</b> of the following courses:		
FOLKLORE/ L I S 490	Field Methods and the Public Presentation of Folklore	3
FOLKLORE 510	Folklore Theory	3
One course that includes professional development (3 credits):		
SCAND ST 630	Fundamentals of Bibliography and Research	3
GNS 700 Graduate Seminar in Professional Development		
Other Recommended Courses:		
SCAND ST 429	Mythology of Scandinavia	4
SCAND ST/ HISTORY 431	History of Scandinavia to 1815	3
SCAND ST/ HISTORY 432	History of Scandinavia Since 1815	3
SCAND ST 433	The Scandinavian Tale and Ballad	4
SCAND ST 435	The Icelandic Sagas	4
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 432	Multiculturalism and the New Museology	3-4
ART HIST 463	Topics in American Material Culture	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
GERMAN/ MEDIEVAL 755	Old Germanic Languages	3
HISTORY 359	History of Europe Since 1945	3-4
HISTORY 408	American Labor History: 1900- Present	3-4
HISTORY/ SCAND ST 577	Contemporary Scandinavia: Politics and History	3-4
HISTORY 929	Labor and Working Class History in the United States	3
HISTORY/L I S 976	Special Problems in Archives- Manuscripts Administration	3
LAND ARC 677	Cultural Resource Preservation and Landscape History	3

LAND ARC/ANTHRO/ ART HIST/DS/ HISTORY 764	Dimensions of Material Culture	4
RELIG ST/ FOLKLORE 352	Shamanism	3

<sup>1</sup> 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.

## POLICIES

### GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy>) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

### MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

#### GRADUATE PROGRAM HANDBOOK

A Graduate Program Handbook containing all of the program's policies and requirements is forthcoming from the program.

#### PRIOR COURSEWORK

##### Graduate Work from Other Institutions

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned ten years or more prior to admission to a doctoral degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

##### UW–Madison Undergraduate

No credits from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the degree.

##### UW–Madison University Special

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison University Special student. Coursework earned ten or more years prior to admission to a doctoral degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

#### PROBATION

If a student at any time fails to meet the above criteria for satisfactory progress, he/she is placed on probation. If, by the end of the following semester, progress has not been brought to a satisfactory level, a committee of three faculty members will be established to determine whether any circumstance exists that prevent the dropping of the student from the program.

#### ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

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 at 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 Ph.D. is five to seven semesters beyond the M.A., two of which, normally but not necessarily, are spent in Scandinavia. Ph.D. candidates will spend the last two to three semesters writing the dissertation.

A candidate for a doctoral degree who fails to take the final oral examination and deposit the dissertation within five years after passing the preliminary examination may be required to take another preliminary examination and to be admitted to candidacy a second time. Requests for exceptions, detailing special circumstances, should be submitted to the graduate advisor, who will then determine whether to seek an extension from the Graduate School.

## 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 research problems, potentials, and limits with respect to theory, knowledge, or practice within the field of study.
2. Formulates ideas, concepts, and techniques beyond the current boundaries of knowledge within the field of study.
3. Creates research and scholarship that makes a substantive contribution.
4. Demonstrates breadth within their learning experiences.
5. Advances contributions of the field of study to society.
6. Communicates complex ideas in a clear and understandable manner.
7. Possesses an advanced competency in a Nordic language and a serviceable mastery of one or more research languages.
8. Fosters ethical and professional conduct.

## PEOPLE

**Faculty:** Professors Brantly, DuBois, and Wolf; Assistant Professors Andersen and Krouk