

EP.08.57
(Rev. 4/15/09)

STANDARD MINOR APPROVAL FORM

Title of the proposed minor: Minor in Scandinavian Studies

Sponsoring unit(s): Professor Anna Westerstahl Stenport, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, 3-1288, aws@uiuc.edu;

Associate Dean Ann Mester, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; 3-1350;
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Brief description of the program of study:

The Minor in Scandinavian Studies is designed to offer exposure to the literature, film, and culture of Scandinavia and could include some depth in language acquisition, such as intermediate-level Scandinavian language study, SCAN 103-104. The Minor is also intended to take advantage of UIUC's exchange program with Uppsala University to complement the offerings by the program.

Studying Scandinavian language, literature, film, and culture teaches students important skills in analyzing literature, film, and cultural expressions, as well as specific knowledge in those areas. The offerings of the Scandinavian Program lends itself very well to the Minor requirement, since it offers a broad array of courses in language, literature, film, and culture. Students completing a Minor in Scandinavian Studies will receive a broad exposure to Scandinavian Studies.

The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures offers a Minor in German, but since the Minor in Scandinavian consists of a completely different field, there should be no conflict of interest between the Minors offered by the department.

Justification:

The justification for the minor includes the following arguments:

The minor serves the University's interest in expanding student international experiences, a key component of LAS' and campus strategic plans.

The Scandinavian Studies program has extensively updated its course offerings and curriculum since August of 2006 when I became program director. Initiatives include a new LAS General Education class, "Vikings and Volvos," that immediately filled to capacity when offered for the first time this fall, as well as a modernized course on New Scandinavian Cinema that oversubscribed to a waiting list. The four General education and Discovery courses offered by the program in AY 06-07 all had very robust enrollments, which have generated added student interest in a minor. Increased emphases on publicity, marketing and outreach are continuing to make the program ever more visible on campus. Key external support for the program has in the last two years come from the Swedish Institute and the Fulbright Commission in Stockholm.

With a newly redesigned introductory language sequence that emphasizes Sweden's role and function in a globalized world, the program is seeing modest but critical gains in language course enrollments. This course development work has been generously supported by the European Union Center, CIBER, and the School of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages (see Appendix I). In the future, I see great potential for expanding student enrollment in Gen. Ed. courses, as well as in Swedish becoming an International Studies minor and major area of concentration. The program also sees excellent potential for pursuing short study abroad courses as integrated international experience segments, which is a critical initiative in LAS, as well as working closely with the new Translation Studies Center, funded at least partially from the Chancellor's office.

The Scandinavian Studies program seeks to have a minor established according to a previous request because

- a) Students are actively expressing interest in a minor. Both Andrea Golato, undergraduate advisor of German, and I receive many inquiries from students enrolled in language and Gen. Ed. classes who want to pursue a Scandinavian minor. These requests are substantiated by the number of students enrolled in concurrent SCAN-classes or who take SCAN-classes consecutively over several semesters.
- b) Having a minor leads to more majors. This development has been confirmed by Carl Niekerk, previous undergraduate advisor in German, who has seen the number of German majors almost double to 60+ students in the last five years, largely by working with minors and encouraging them to pursue further study in language and culture.
- c) A minor is an excellent transition to further study in foreign languages and cultures, which is of central importance to the University's mission.
- d) Having a minor attracts more students; those who may not be able to pursue a double major because of commitments in less flexible majors still find a minor valuable, whereas taking scattered courses with no 'label' attached to them is less attractive.
- e) No other department or program at this university offers any courses with an emphasis on Scandinavia. If not to overlook an important region of Europe, which often serves as a civic policy and public diplomacy model for other smaller countries in the world, the Scandinavian Studies program has a critical mission to reach students on this campus; having students complete a minor is a concrete, measurable way to achieve mission.
- f) LAS initiative of integrating international experience in course work is well-suited for a region like Scandinavia—accessible, safe, and international, yet off the beaten track and interesting to students, there is great potential to develop courses with a global/international component. Such courses would contribute further to an interest in a minor.
- g) The establishment of this minor in a department in LAS would strengthen applications for the renewal of the Title VI Center in European Union Studies.
- h) Comparable public peer-institutions offer a Scandinavian minor, and not always with greater faculty numbers or larger programs on the books. These range from

the University of Colorado, University of Texas, Ohio State University, University of Wisconsin, University of Washington, University of California at Berkeley and Los Angeles, and many more.

Budgetary and Staff Implications:

There are no foreseeable budgetary consequences to a Scandinavian Minor; the number is expected to remain within what can be managed well within current staff and administrative parameters. The courses required for the minor are all offered regularly anyway and the minor would thus have no budgetary implications for teaching.

Requirements:

18-22 hours of Scandinavian Studies are required, including

0-4 SCAN 102 Beginning Scandinavian II or equivalent.

18 Students can choose among the following courses for the minor (1)

- SCAN 103: Intermediate Scandinavian I
- SCAN 104: Intermediate Scandinavian II
- SCAN 215: Madness, Myth, and Murder
- SCAN 225: Vikings and Volvos
- SCAN 251: Viking Mythology
- SCAN 252: Viking Sagas in Translation
- SCAN 375: Scandinavian Sexualities
- SCAN 463: Ibsen in Translation
- SCAN 464: Strindberg in Translation
- SCAN 490: The Films of Ingmar Bergman
- SCAN 492: New Scandinavian Cinema
- SCAN 494: Special Topics in Scan Languages
- SCAN 496: Special Topics in Scan Studies

(1) At least 6 of the required 20 credits must be taken on the 300- or 400-level.

Expected enrollment in the minor: Approximately 5 students.

Admission to the minor: The faculty member responsible for the Scandinavian Studies program will monitor the admission process for the minor. A form will be available from the LAS Student Academic Affairs Office and will be reviewed by the Scandinavian Studies program faculty member.

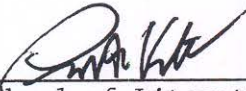
Minor advisor: The faculty member responsible for the Scandinavian Studies program will advise students.

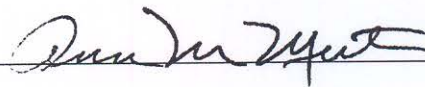
Certification of successful completion: The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures will review the students' records in collaboration with the Scandinavian Studies program faculty member to ensure that each student fully satisfies the requirements for the Minor in Scandinavian Studies. The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures will report completions to the appropriate College Office(s).

CLEARANCES: (signatures and dates)

Mara R. Wade 23 October 2007

Mara Wade, Head of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures


School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics


College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Chair, Senate Educational Policy Committee:

Program of Study Entry

Minor in Scandinavian Studies

The Minor in Scandinavian Studies offers students exposure to the study of a Scandinavian language and broad knowledge of Scandinavian culture, literature, film, art, and history. Prerequisite: SCAN 101 or the equivalent.

E-mail: german@uiuc.edu

Web address for department: <http://www.germanic.uiuc.edu>

Hours	Requirements
0-4	Scan 102: Beginning Scandinavian II
18-22	Any of the following, with at least 6 credits on the 300- or 400-level
	SCAN 103: Intermediate Scandinavian I
	SCAN 104: Intermediate Scandinavian II
	SCAN 215: Madness, Myth, and Murder
	SCAN 225: Vikings and Volvos
	SCAN 251: Viking Mythology
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