

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2020-2021 SCAND 326

[42861, B1: Scandinavian Children's Literature]

(Winter Term)

Note: Remote Delivery via Zoom

Instructor: Dr. John F. Eason III

Time: Tuesday and Thursday 2pm-3:20pm (Zoom)

Office: REMOTE

Place: REMOTE

E-mail: easoniii@ualberta.ca

Office Hour: Wednesday 2pm-3pm or by apt. (Zoom)

Bachelor of Arts / Major in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies/undergraduate-program-information/prospective-undergraduate-students>

Course Prerequisite: None

Technology requirements (minimum):

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate technology for the course. For security purposes Zoom meeting links will be provided on eClass.

<https://www.ualberta.ca/covid-19/students/computing-recommendations.html>

In order to participate in SCAND 326 *Scandinavian Children's Literature*, you will need a computer/laptop/tablet with Internet access, a microphone and a camera for participation in class.

Experiential Learning Component

- this course has a significant experiential learning component (15% or more of the course grade)

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

- Yes No, not needed, no such projects approved.

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

- Exam registry – Students' Union
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class
- Other (posted on eClass)
- NA

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

This course offers the opportunity to study the narrative and pictorial tradition of Scandinavian children's literature from the 17th century to the present. The stories will be discussed in their historical, pedagogical and social contexts, from the pre-WWII focus on moral and religious themes to the 20th and 21st centuries' focus on the child as an individual needing to adapt to an increasingly diverse and multicultural society. The emphasis of this course will be on analysis and interpretations of texts and pictures in their esthetic, political and social contexts. Recent picture books will be analyzed in terms of their pictorial-narrative techniques, themes and how they reflect the child's position in society with regard to ethnicity, gender and power constellations.

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. understand and discuss the structures and changing conventions of children's literature in Scandinavia in their historical, pedagogical and social contexts
2. approach children's literature with a critical/analytical eye towards environmental, gender, ethnicity and power issues
3. demonstrate skills in interpreting, writing about and presenting children's literature

Texts: (available at University of Alberta Bookstore)

Hans Christian Andersen. *The Complete Fairy Tales and Stories*.

Selma Lagerlöf. *The Wonderful Travels of Nils*.

Astrid Lindgren. *Pippi Longstocking*.

Astrid Lindgren. *Ronia, the Robber's Daughter*.

Tove Jansson. *Tales from the Moomin Valley*.

Maria Gripe. *The Glassblower's Children*.

Additional readings on eClass

Course Format:

Objectives will be learned via remote Zoom meetings. The course will be delivered synchronously Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2pm-3:20pm. The Zoom link will be posted on eClass.

Additional Course Fees

Yes No

Important Dates: [See Academic Schedule in current Calendar](#)

First Day of Class: January 11, 2021

Add/Delete Date: January 22, 2021

50% Withdrawal Date: February 10, 2021

Winter Term Reading Week: February 16-19, 2021

Withdrawal Date: April 9, 2021

Last Day of Class: April 16, 2021

Final Exam Date: 9am, Wednesday, April 28, 2021

Deferred Final Examination: For information on how to apply for a deferred exam see [“I Missed my Final Exam, Now What?”](#)

Components of Course Grade (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Attendance/Participation	25%	Attendance, participation in discussions
Midterm (take-home 24-hour exam)	25%	Thursday, March 4, 2021
Book Review (900-1500-word)	25%	Due Thursday, April 22, 2021
Final (take-home 24-hour exam)	25%	Wednesday, April 28, 2021

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Participation and in-class assignments 25%:

The course utilizes a combination of lecture and discussion and requires your presence and active participation at each class meeting. It is expected that you will show through class discussion and small group work in class that you have read the material and given careful thought to the meaning of the readings. The importance of in-class participation cannot be overstressed. It is vital to your success in this course, and this is also true for the remote environment for this winter term. For *Scandinavian Children’s Literature*, this means we will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays via Zoom video conference. The Zoom link will be posted on eClass. During video conferencing sessions, you are expected to participate just like in a regular classroom: interacting with your classmates and the instructor. You will need a microphone, and to ensure attendance as well as to facilitate our online community, cameras must be switched on. You will need to register before each Zoom session. This will allow me to track attendance.

Your daily participation grade is based on the degree to which you:

- Attend class regularly and arrive at class on time;
- Are engaged and focused during lectures, group work and class discussion;
- Demonstrate you have read the material through your contribution of well-informed and reflective interpretations, comments and questions in class;
- Show respect for your classmates’ contributions to class;
- Take responsibility to ask for clarification or further discussion of an assignment when necessary;

NOTE: More than **two** absences during the semester for other than emergencies will result in a reduction in your final grade by a half letter grade for each additional absence above two.

Note: a “reading schedule” will be posted on eClass at the start of the semester; please be aware, however, that this schedule may need tweaking depending upon how the course develops.

Midterm 25%:

The midterm will consist of short answer and essay questions. The midterm will be posted on eClass Thursday, March 4, 2021 @4pm, and you will have 24 hours to write and submit it to me via email easoniii@ualberta.ca.

Book Review 25%:

You will write a 900-1500-word book review of a work of juvenile fiction, i.e., a novel written by one of the authors dealt with in this course though not the same work as the one read for the course. Your review should provide readers with a critical analysis and demonstrate your knowledge of the material covered in this course. A set of guidelines will be posted on eClass well in advance. The book review should be submitted to me via email easoniii@ualberta.ca no later than Thursday, April 22, 2021.

Final 25%:

The final will consist of two 1000-word reflection essays (with prompts). It will be posted on eClass Wednesday, April 28, 2021, and you will have 24 hours to write and submit it to me via email easoniii@ualberta.ca. The focus will be the treatment of a single issue (e.g., childhood, eco-criticism, individualism) in multiple works.

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.”

Student Responsibilities:***Academic Integrity:***

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The

Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is

inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department. For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

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Territorial Statement:

“The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.” (*from the beginning of the Calendar*).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

In this course, attendance and participation are required and will be tracked via Zoom registration. What this means is that you will need to register to enter each and every Zoom session.

Attendance, Participation, and In-class Assignments:

more than **three** absences during the semester will result in a reduction of your final participation mark by one letter grade for each additional absence above **three**.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Students who consult in advance with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension.

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

Accessibility Resources: (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

The Academic Success Centre: (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

The Centre for Writers: (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

Health and Wellness Support: There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds:

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class"

(University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	A+	4.0	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	B+	3.3	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	C+	2.3	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	D+	1.3	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
Failure.	F	0.0	0-59

Notes on Grades:

According to the UAPPOL Grading Procedure Policy pre-determined quotas of letter grades in courses are not permitted, though Faculties may recommend grade distributions. Accordingly, on *March 11, 2015*, Arts Faculty Council debated and approved the following motion “The Faculty of Arts recommends that the class average in each undergraduate course fall in a range around the Faculty historical average grade for that course level . . .” The complete policy can be found on the Faculty of Arts intranet, but in summary the effective range for each level will be:

CLASS LEVEL	RANGE FOR CLASS AVERAGE
100	2.48 - 3.08
200	2.63 - 3.23
300	2.72 - 3.32
400**	2.98 - 3.58

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