

SWE 1909

Sweden Here and Now – A Society in Change

Pitt in Sweden/Panther Program

FACULTY:

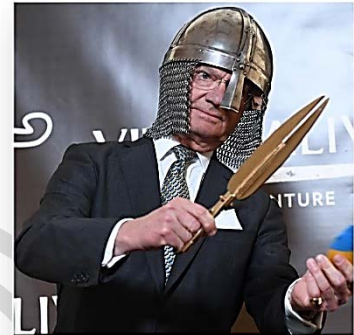
*Department of Linguistics
Less-Commonly-Taught-Languages Center*

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed for students who want to experience studying abroad and learn more about modern day Sweden. We will study the traditional culture and values of this previously homogenous country and try to understand just how much is changing in Swedish society as it struggles with multiculturalism and integration of its 'new Swedes'. Students will get a chance to experience first-hand how the underlying values of the Welfare State are changing and how society is dealing with culture clashes, integration and the wave of nationalism sweeping through Europe.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

After the end of the course students will

- have experienced life in Sweden today
- be able to compare and contrast life in Sweden with life in the US
- have a basic understanding of Swedish cultural norms and traditional Swedish values
- have a better understanding of the refugee crisis in Sweden and be able to describe the challenges Sweden is facing
- be able to account for the policy changes in its wake and the political ramifications
- have a basic knowledge of Swedish migration and minorities in Swedish history
- be able to describe how the Welfare state and gender equality become important issues to Swedes
- have compared and contrasted how immigrants and migrants are received in different places around the world
- have formulated personal beliefs how migrants and immigrants in a more and more globalized world should be received and included into their new societies

PREREQUISITES:

None.

COURSEWEB (CW), EMAILS AND BOX:

The course Sweden Here and Now – A Society in Change will be made available on CourseWeb. From there you can view announcements, send emails to me, download and print out course materials such as the syllabus and handouts, view extra materials, listen to audio files, etc. All communication from me to you will

be done through CourseWeb, which uses only Pitt email accounts. If you don't use Pitt accounts for email, you should go to accounts.pitt.edu to forward your Pitt email to the account you are checking most frequently **ASAP!**

Assignments, journals and final papers should be uploaded onto Box. A shared folder has been created for each student.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Johansson Robinowitz, and Werner Carr, Lisa Modern-Day Vikings: a practical guide to interacting with the Swedes; Boston: Intercultural Press, 2001.

All other materials will be provided by instructor and/or online. (Pending)

COURSE GRADING:

The course grade earned is based on the following:

20% Professionalism and decorum
25% In-Country Participation
5% Presentations
5% Discussion leader
20% Journal
25% Final paper
100%

Professionalism and decorum (20%)

Students will attend all classes and field trips and be aware of Swedish punctuality; buses, trains and lectures wait for no one! Late arrivals are a disruption for all and will result in disciplinary action. Students should present themselves appropriately, especially during field trips and visits, and be aware that they are representatives of the US and University of Pittsburgh. Clothing should be neat and not revealing. Students will not drink alcohol while class activities are in progress, even when those activities take place outside the classroom.

In-Country Participation (25%):

Students will be expected to keep up to date with readings, attend classes and fieldtrips and engage in class discussion of readings and fieldtrips. Students will be evaluated on (a) familiarity with the course material; (b) quality of contributions; (c) critical and creative approaches to course content; and (d) respect for the views of others, especially hosts and cultural norms. Reading quizzes will be used to evaluate preparedness.

Presentations (5%)

Students will give two 5-minute in-class presentations during the course. The first will be on **Norse Mythology** and the second on **Holidays, celebrations, social etiquette and culinary traditions**. Students will need to work outside of class to prepare these presentations to the class.

Discussion leader (5%)

On the last day of class, students will lead class discussions of covered course materials (texts, movies, visits, guest lectures and field trips). As discussion leaders, students will create 3 – 4 focus questions to serve as reflection and review of what they found most interesting/thought provoking/different, etc. Students will be assigned specific topics in Uppsala once itinerary is confirmed.

Journaling (20%):

Students will keep an online journal on Box and make a 1- page entry daily (combining Saturday and Sunday is accepted) during the in-country component of the course to help remember what they hear, read and experience. The journals will also serve as helpful guides when writing the final paper. Entries must be based on personal reflections and impressions of culture and language abroad. The journal must be completed no later than **June 3, 2018**.

Entries will be evaluated based on: (a) the completion and length of each post; (b) reference to language and/or culture in each entry; and (c) the ability to recognize and analyze relevant issues.

Final paper (25%)

Each student will develop a 7-8-page analysis report on a topic that focuses on a topic or issue of interest to the student. Students must seek approval of topic by second week of program. Essays will draw on the readings, materials presented in class, analysis of field trips and guest lectures and will include additional materials developed by the students either from independent research or interviews with Swedes. Due date: **June 15, 2018**. No late submissions accepted!

Formatting should be double-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12-point Times New Roman font. All external sources used should be cited in text and with a separate reference page.

GRADING SCALE:

A+	98-100	C+	78-80
A	94-97	C	74-77
A-	90-93	C-	70-73
B+	87-89	D	66-69
B	84-86	F	0-65
B-	81-83		



ACADEMIC HONESTY:

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services, 216 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890/412-383-7355 (TTY), as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

Students are to do their own work and acknowledge use of anyone else's work or ideas. Academic dishonesty includes: (a) copying another student's work or letting another student copy your work and (b) copying passages or ideas from another source and passing them off as your own, i.e. without properly referencing them. When scholastic dishonesty is suspected, instructor will turn the matter over to the Provost's Office for resolution.

For more information see: <http://www.pitt.edu/~provost/aistudcode1.html>

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:

If a student needs to miss class due to a religious holiday anytime during the program, the University requires that said student lets the instructor know about his/her planned absence as soon as possible. Absences for religious holidays will not be held against the student and s/he will be allowed to make up all missed work due to his/her absence.

SWE 1909 Tentative schedule summer**2018**

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Topic:</u>	<u>Prepare BEFORE class:</u>
May 9 Wed 10 - 12	<p><u>SWEDEN IN THE WORLD</u></p> <p>Overview of Sweden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • location • geography • demographics <p>Topics for Viking presentations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List - My 10 impressions of Sweden and Swedes • 3 questions I have I'd like answered while in Sweden
May 10 Thu 10 - 12	<p>Vikings and Norse Mythology; Viking echoes in today's society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viking history; facts and myths • Viking society <p>Swedish history – the abridged version</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Swedish Empire/Stormaktstiden • The great transformations • National pride 	<p>Modern-Day Vikings (M-D V)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pp. 1 – 15 • pp. 43 - 55
May 11 Fri 2 - 4	<p>Norse mythology presentations</p> <p>Norse vs. Greek mythology</p>	<p>Norse mythology presentations</p>
May 15 Tue 10 - 12	<p>The Rise of the Swedish Model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • Folkhemmet • The values of Folkhemmet • The individual vs the group • Self-sufficiency • System of programs • Social and economic challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M-D V pp. 17 – 28 • M-D V pp. 57 – 70 • WS The Swedish Model • Facts about Sweden - Healthcare in Sweden
May 16 Wed 10 - 12	<p>Equality for all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An equal society (class, gender, economic equality) • Gender equality and family friendly policies • Equality within the family; chores, children's rights • Equality in relationships and friendships • Same-sex marriages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M-D V pp. 97 – 109 • Facts about Sweden – Gender equality (CW) • 10 things that make Sweden family friendly (CW)
May 17 Thu 10 - 11	<p>Guest lecture;</p> <p>The development of gender equality, Ann-Sofie Lönngrén</p>	

<p>May 17 Thu 11 - 12</p>	<p>Children in Sweden – small adults</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s rights in society; Barnombudsmannen, BRIS • Divorcing your parents • The Swedish educational system • Hobbies and pastimes • How to parent like a Swede; negotiate, not punish 	<p>From Pippi Longstocking, Astrid Lindgren (CW)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pippi Moves In</i> • <i>Pippi goes to School</i>
<p>May 18 Fri 10 - 12</p>	<p>Swedish characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The untranslatable ‘lagom’ • Jantelagen • The 4 S’s 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M-D V pp. 29 – 42 • M-D V pp. 81 - 95 • Jantelagen / The Law of Jante
<p>May 21 Mon 2 - 4</p>	<p><u>THE WORLD IN SWEDEN</u></p> <p>A Parliamentary Democratic Monarchy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Politics and government of Sweden • Elections and referendums • Political parties • The monarchy today • Consensus; the Swedish decision-making process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facts about Sweden – Political parties in Sweden (CW)
<p>May 22 Tue 3 - 4</p>	<p>Swedish migration – part 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Great Emigration • ‘Utvandrarna’ • Joe Hill • Swedish traditions and customs in the US 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosqvist, Leif. The Emigrant Routes to the Promised Land in America. <i>“NewSweden”</i>. PDX Web Design Company. Web 9 Jan 2018. • “Immigration/Scandinavian”. Library of Congress. Web 9 Jan. 2018. • WS Swedish Emigration
<p>May 23 Wed 10 - 12</p>	<p>Swedish migration – part 2 Post WWII immigration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sweden’s part during WWII • Swedish neutrality • Raoul Wallenberg • Workforce immigration • Iraq-war and EU migration • The refugee challenge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How Sweden became an example of how not to handle immigration</i>, Tova Leventhal, Spectator 2016 + questions (CW) • Letter home
<p>May 24 Thu 10 - 12</p>	<p>Cultural/religious assimilation issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state church, free churches and separation of church and state • Church of Sweden historically and today • Other religions in Sweden • Holidays and celebrations • Decoding the unwritten rules; manners customs and social etiquette 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M-D V pp. 111 – 124

<p>May 28 Mon 10 - 12</p>	<p>On the way to a multicultural society –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration and assimilation issues • Minorities in Sweden - Protected or discriminated? (Sami, Roma) • Languages, education, integration • Communication with a Swede 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M-D V pp. 125 – 140 • Facts about Sweden - Sami in Sweden
<p>May 29 Tue 10 - 12</p>	<p>Holidays, manners and social etiquette presentations – hidden norms and cultural values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major holidays • Punctuality • A Swedish dinner party • Fika! • Food and culinary traditions 	<p>Presentations</p>
<p>May 30 Wed 10 - 12</p>	<p>Where does Sweden go from here? Review of course – discussion leaders</p>	<p>Focus questions for class discussion</p>
	<p>June 3 – Journals due June 15 – Final paper due</p>	