COURSE NO. 432  INSTRUCTOR  Mr. Hamalainen

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History 432 explores major social, political, economic and cultural trends in the Scandinavian countries (Norden) and the 19th and 20th centuries starting with the Swedo-Finnish and the Dano-Norwegian states and the emergence of Finland and Norway as autonomous political entities in association respectively with Russia and Sweden.

There will be an effort to discuss the historical institutions, structures, and developments in the Nordic countries within a comparative framework. This approach should clarify those features which are common to Nordic history as a whole as well as serve the purpose of emphasizing the more unique aspects of the evolution of the different northern societies. The relationship of significant characteristics of the Nordic experience to general European history will also be explored.

LECTURES

Lectures two time per week.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

The undergraduates are expected to write two book reviews and the graduate students five book reviews based on supplementary reading. Both the mid-term and final examinations will consist of essay questions -- the mid-term examination is optional but if a student chooses to take it, the examination counts toward the course grade.

GRADING SYSTEM

The course grade is largely decided by the results of the examinations -- if the student chooses to take the mid-term examination it will count for about 30% of the course grade. The books reviews can swing the course grade in borderline cases.

REQUIRED READINGS

Appropriate sections of the works mentioned below will be required reading for all students in the class. In addition there will be supplementary reading, which the students can choose from a book list furnished by the instructor.

Steven Koblik, Sweden’s Development from Poverty to Affluence, 1975
Following topics will be discussed in the lectures:

Introductory comments

Political and territorial realignments

Old and new political institutions

Problems of nationalism

Romanticism and nationalism

Cultural nationalism in Finland

Cultural nationalism in Norway

The Schleswig-Holstein problem

Pan-Scandinavianism

Agrarian and demographic problems

Emigration

The process of industrialization

Rise of liberalism

Rise of the Social Democratic movements

Cultural national romanticism

The democratic breakthrough

Independence struggles and social conflict

The Finnish revolution and Civil War and its heritage

Territorial disputes

Ethnic conflict in Finland

The depression

Evolution of welfare states

Failing security arrangements and the eve of the Second World War

The Finno-Russian Winter War

German occupation of Denmark and Norway

The Finno-Russian Winter War

Postwar reconstruction and search for security

Political realignments

Norway and Denmark in NATO

Swedish neutrality

The Finno-Soviet relationship

Nordic cooperation

Scandinavia, EFTA and EEC