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

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 times 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 book 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.

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
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
Nordic Welfare Societies