Course Description

The course will explore the role of the Scandinavian or
the Nordic states in international relations both as active
agents in their own right and as objects of the policies of
other powers. It will emphasize their role in the major inter­
national issues and conflicts of the twentieth century, their
security policies and their participation and impact in the
international organizations.

Organization of the work

The class will be conducted as a colloquium. It will meet
once a week to hear and to discuss presentations of either an
introduction to a general topic or a report on a topic of a
more specific nature which falls within the boundaries of the
general topic to be explored at the weekly meeting. After
having completed the general introductory core reading required
of all participants in the course, students are expected to
concentrate on topics of their choice. They are expected to
prepare brief reports on the topics of their choice which will
serve as a basis for subsequent discussion in class. These
reports should raise questions and issues which will stimulate
an exchange of views. The students will also serve as commen­
tators on each others reports. The course will involve no
examination, the grading is based on the quality of the
reports, their presentation, and general participation in
class.

Introductory readings

Bengt Sundelius, ed., Foreign Policies of Northern Europe,

Week I    -    pp. 9-32
Week II   -    pp. 33-72
Week III  -    pp. 73-142

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The machinery for making foreign policy in Scandinavia
The First World War and Scandinavian neutrality
Finland’s Civil War of Independence
Territorial disputes
  - Aland Islands question
  - The Schleswig question
  - The Eastern Karelia question
  - The Spitzbergen question
  - The Greenland case
Scandinavia and the League of Nations
Security and disarmament in the 1920’s
Renewed search for security in the 1930’s
Security and military strength in the 1930’s
The Second World War and Scandinavia
  - The Finno-Russian Winter War
  - The Anglo-French Expeditionary Corps
  - German invasion and occupation of Denmark and Norway
  - Swedish neutrality
  - The Finno-Russian Continuation War
  - Iceland and Greenland in the War
Economic consequence of the War
Scandinavia and the economic blocs
Postwar patterns of Scandinavian foreign trade
Search for postwar security
  - Economic and military strength
  - The abortive Scandinavian defense alliance
  - Swedish armed neutrality
  - Denmark, Norway and Iceland choose NATO
  - The Finno-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance
Defense policies
Scandinavia and the United Nations
Scandinavia and European integration
Inter-Scandinavian cooperation
Scandinavia and the EEC
Scandinavia and nuclear weapons and power
Scandinavian security and military strength
Scandinavia and a surprise attack
Soviet-Scandinavian relations
Keflavik
Kola Base System
Soviet Northern Fleet
Northern Seas
Environment