

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

2021-2022 NORW 111 [53238, A1: *Beginners' Norwegian*]
(Fall Term, September 1-December 7, 2021)

Instructor: Dr. John F. Eason III Time: MWF, 10:00am-10:50am (in person); TR (self-study)
Office: 316-B Place: HC 2-11
E-mail: easoniii@ualberta.ca Office Hours: Mondays, 2:00pm-3:00pm
or by appointment

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:

No prerequisites, however, native, and near-native Norwegian speakers are not allowed.

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 (Please specify)
- NA

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

Beginners' Norwegian is designed to develop ability in reading and writing Norwegian with a strong emphasis on the development of comprehension and oral and written communication. Activities consisting of individual, paired, and small group work are designed to give you ample opportunity to actively practice your speaking ability and to develop your language skills for real-life situations. Moreover, the inclusion of music and film will offer a unique approach to enhance your awareness of Norwegian culture while aiding in the practice of communication skills. At the end of this course, you should be able to communicate in Norwegian about everyday life, studies, jobs, leisure activities, interests, family, friends, food, and more. In addition, you should be able to use spoken Norwegian in a variety of situations. You should be able to write complete sentences and short paragraphs, be comfortable with spoken Norwegian used in the classroom and be able to read short texts emphasizing various aspects of Norwegian culture.

Course Format: Objectives will be learned via in person meetings as well as self-study. This is referred to "blended learning."

"What is blended learning?" you ask.

"Blended learning" is an approach to language instruction that incorporates various types of teaching methods in both classroom and virtual settings. Its objective is to combine real time communication and self-study with the aid of technology. The course will in person Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:00am-10:50am. Tuesdays and Thursdays are your self-study days.

"What does this mean for me as a student in this course?"

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays will be our "face-to-face days." These "face-to-face days" or "in person days" will be devoted to activities and exercises that stress communication and interaction with others. On these days you will have the chance to connect with other students in the class and the instructor.

Tuesdays and Thursdays will be our "virtual days." These "virtual days" or "online days" will be devoted to exercises you can do on your own and at a time that works best for you---though on the day they are assigned (Tuesday or Thursday)! The exercises are straight-forward and complement in-class lessons. Most exercises will be done and checked online.

Texts:

The textbook for the course, *Sett i gang*, meaning 'Begin,' is available both at the university bookstore and Amazon as an eBook. You may use either hardbound or eBook depending on your preference. In this course a textbook portal <https://settigang.com/> will be used. To access the portal which includes audio files, practice exercises, and assignments you will need to create a login. Your login must consist of your name (first and last) followed by UALBERTA, e.g.,

JohnEasonUALBERTA. It is important that you follow this format, so that I can find you in the portal.

Additional Course Fees

Yes

No

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

First Day of Class: September 1, 2021

Add/Delete Date: September 15, 2021

50% Withdrawal Date: October 4, 2021

Withdrawal Date: November 30, 2021

Last Day of Class: December 7, 2021

Midterm Exam Date: Friday, October 29, 2021, 10:00am-10:50am

Final Exam Date: Tuesday, December 21, 2021, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

Please consult the following site:

<https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=34&navoid=10107#examinations-exams>

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	15%	Attendance, participation, oral
Written Assignments (total 3)	10%	Writing
Self-study Day Assignments	15%	Online and textbook work
October Midterm	30%	Friday, October 29, 10:00am-10:50am
December Final	30%	Tuesday, December 21, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

General:

Announcements about written assignments, homework, online exercises, and exams will be posted on eClass under “Announcements.” Everything with respect to what you must do will be posted daily, so it is imperative that you visit it often. All assignments will stem from either the textbook or the portal <https://settigang.com/>. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check eClass for the assignment. Preparedness is your responsibility, so please have all necessary texts and materials when attending class. To succeed in this course, it is highly recommended that you devote a minimum of one hour per day to the study of Norwegian.

Attendance and participation – 15%:

Attendance, Participation, and In-class Assignments 15%:

Regarding attendance, you are expected to attend class regularly and punctually. Please note, that 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**. Only in the most extreme cases will exceptions to this be made, so please do not miss. For more detail, please consult the section *Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components* below.

If you must miss a class, contact another student to find out what was done that day. During the first week of class I will give you the opportunity to exchange email addresses with a few classmates. It is your responsibility to make up work and learn the material for classes you miss, so you want to make sure you have some contacts.

If you have a question about the material, i.e., something you don't understand, please contact me, and I will get back to you as soon as I can. As I usually stop checking email after 5pm, you may not get a response until the next day. In the meantime, do the best you can.

In-class participation is vital to your success in this course. Regarding participation, your percentage will be based on the degree to which you:

- Attend class regularly, arrive on time, and remain for the entire duration
- Are engaged and focused during both pair/group and individual work
- Demonstrate you have studied the material and completed all written homework to the best of your ability
- Show respect for your classmates' contributions to class
- Take responsibility to ask for clarification of an assignment when necessary

Film and documentary screenings are required. If you fail to attend a film screening or leave in the middle, you will be counted absent.

In summary, the grade you earn for this component is based on a holistic assessment of your overall performance with respect to the criteria.

Written Assignments (total 4) 10%:

This portion of your final grade will be based on short written assignments you do on your own and submit to me via eClass (I'll explain how to do this later). These will be marked, given a letter grade, and there will be a total of four. These written assignments will be posted on eClass under "Announcements," and you will usually have about a week to complete them.

Self-study Day Assignments for Virtual Days 15%:

These exercises will be done on <https://settigang.com/> on your self-study days. Textbook work will also be required but will contribute toward your participation mark. What distinguishes "Online Exercises" from the "Written Assignments" above is that "Online Exercises" will have points assigned to them. These exercises will be marked immediately, and scores will be recorded. It is your responsibility to do these exercises when they are assigned. Doing them at a time other than when they are assigned (either before they are assigned or later) defeats their purpose which is to help reinforce the material learned in class and thus is strongly discouraged.

Moreover, you have two attempts per exercise, and I will record the highest score of the two. As with other assignments, these will be posted on eClass under “Announcements.” Exercises not completed on time will be given a “0.”

Note: For “open ended” exercises where you are asked to select “I have completed this exercise,” you should do so only after either writing or typing whatever the exercise calls for. In most cases these exercises will not be submitted to me but will be incorporated into a real-time class activity.

Midterm 30%:

The midterm will cover material taken up from day one of the course and will count as 30% of the final grade. The midterm will be written during class Friday, Oct. 29, 2021, and you will have the entire 50 minutes. The midterm is not open book.

Final 30%:

The final exam will cover material taken up since the midterm and will count as 30% of the final grade. The final will be written Tuesday, December 21, 2021, 2:00pm. You will have two hours to complete the exam. This date will not change. The final is not open book.

Cell Phones & Laptops:

Use of cell phones and laptops is permitted for classroom activities only. Such activities include note taking and accessing readings from eClass. Surfing, texting, or using either as a listening device is forbidden.

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, student/instructor communication is important. When a student is absent, his/her level of participation in class cannot be assessed. The 15% allotted for attendance and class participation is based on effort and active engagement shown when in attendance. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to contact a classmate to find out what you missed.

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 **just one time** throughout the course with no penalty. However, if a second excuse will be granted for

late assignments half of the mark assigned for this work will be deducted. Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline. Any assignment not handed-in in time or unexcused late assignments will not be given any marks. Late excuses will **not** be accepted for any reason.”

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](#).

Language and Translation Courses:

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that the use of on-line translation to complete assignments constitutes a form of cheating as the student’s own understanding and work is therefore not reflected. Also, students in language courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, excessive editorial and creative help in assignments is considered a form of cheating that violates the Code of Student Behaviour.

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).

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>.

[The Academic Success Centre](#) provides professional academic support to help students maximize their academic success and achieve their academic goals. We offer appointments, advising, group workshops, online courses, and specialized programming year-round to students in all university programs, and at all levels of achievement and study.

They also administer the University of Alberta's [Duty to Accommodate procedure](#) for students and works with students, instructors, campus units, Faculties and departments, community and government agencies, and on and off-campus service providers to coordinate students' disability-related accommodation needs for participation in university programs.

For general information and to register for services visit the [Academic Accommodations](#) webpage.

[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.

[The First Peoples' House](#) provides an environment of empowerment for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit learners to achieve personal and academic growth.

[Health and Wellness Support for Students](#) outlines available mental and physical health resources that are offered on-campus and in the community.

[The Office of the Student Ombuds](#) is a confidential service that strives to ensure that university processes related to students operate as fairly as possible. We offer information, advice, and support to students, faculty, and staff as they deal with academic, discipline, interpersonal, and financial issues related to student programs.

Learning and working environment:

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

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>

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.

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

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	%
<p>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.</p>	A+	4.0	95-100
	A	4.0	90-94
	A-	3.7	86-89
<p>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.</p>	B+	3.3	82-85
	B	3.0	75-81
	B-	2.7	70-74
<p>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.</p>	C+	2.3	66-69
	C	2.0	61-65
	C-	1.7	58-60
<p>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.</p>	D+	1.3	55-57
	D	1.0	50-54
<p>Failure.</p>	F	0.0	0-49

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