

Course Evaluation
SASH64 Swedish History in a Nordic Perspective

Teacher: Anna Walleste

Number of students: 47, total number of evaluation answers: 28

A few comments in italic.

Teacher's note:

A very satisfying course evaluation for this beginner's course in history. There is usually a high student completion on this course, even with three-hour sessions every week for ten weeks. There is usually a decent attendance in class without the need for mandatory seminars.

Fewer lectures held by the teacher and more time for group discussion seemed to have worked fine this year – even if the commitment in student preparation for these group discussions and seminars might have faltered from time to time. Next year, less time will be given for discussion in smaller groups, and more for class discussion.

The articles on the literature list were well read, and only a few voices suggested eliminations of different articles. The same applies for the textbooks – although Sawyer & Sawyers' *Medieval Scandinavia* seem to be a bit harder to read than the other two textbooks. In the oral course evaluation, suggestions for keeping Sawyer & Sawyer on the literature list as recommended reading were given.

The weekly quizzes went down well, and so did a more individual paper as a home examination. The same goes for the information package – very detailed package with reading instructions, grading criteria and instructions for exam and seminars – all of this information is also available at the course learning platform Luvit. Some students felt a heavy workload in the last two weeks, and perhaps the home examination seminar can be placed earlier in the semester than late September for a deadline a month later – but otherwise this has more to do with the students' own time management. Giving feedback on essays before dead-line is a concept this teacher appreciates – but since the course has been reduced in time this is no longer possible.

No major changes are necessary.

/Anna W

1. What is your general evaluation of the course

15 Excellent	13 Good
0 Ok	0 Unsatisfactory

*I learned more about Sweden than I thought. Also I learned about Scandinavia. I learned a lot.
The teacher has a lot of energy. Enjoyable and interesting. Amazing course overall.
Very comprehensive lectures, interesting material and helpful teacher. Never boring.
Learned a lot without being bombarded with dates and names. It was my favorite class!
Great opportunity for exchange students to learn Swedish history.
Could be a written assignment on the readings each week*

2. Compared with the description of the course, and the learning outcomes in the syllabus, has course met your expectations?

15 Excellent 12 Good
1 Ok 0 Unsatisfactory

3. Did you find the information package, with the grading criteria, useful?

22 Yes 3 No
3 I never looked at the info-pack

Well-structured and complete

Too long and too detailed

4. What do you think about the course literature in general

6 Excellent
16 Good
4 Ok
0 Unsatisfactory

8 Too much to read
7 Enough to read
0 Too little to read

The course structure gives no incentive to read it.

Well balanced throughout the weeks

5. Would you like to keep or delete any of the textbooks?

Sanyer: too difficult

Keep all (several students)

6. Would you like to keep or delete any of the articles?

Some articles too academic

Keep all (several students)

7. What do you think about the lectures?

17 Excellent 9 Good
2 Ok 0 Unsatisfactory

Needed to do the reading before the lectures.

Always interesting

Informative and interesting.

Engaging lecturer.

A bit boring.

The lecture on the European migration crisis especially interesting.

8. What do you think about the seminars?

3 Excellent 14 Good
9 Ok 2 Unsatisfactory

Weren't organized very well (...) groupmates did not prepare.

Not all members were prepared.

Too much time (...) got off topic easily.

More time for discussion. Unnecessary.

Good way of learning more.

Good for international students to compare their backgrounds.

9. **Has the teacher given you the support you needed?**

25 Yes, fully 3 Yes, partly
0 No, not really 0 No, not at all

Very helpful. Quick to respond on e-mails.

10. **What do you think of the assignments (group assignments, seminars, quizzes and home-examination)?**

11 Excellent 13 Good
4 Ok 0 Unsatisfactory

I liked the idea of weekly quizzes, but they should be included in the grading.

Freedom of choice with regards to the home-exams questions is a big plus.

I wish the home exam had a little more direction. More time for the assignments (2 students)

Well spread out. Loved the freedom to choose (3 students) Quizzes and presentations not necessary.

11. **Suggestions for improvements?**

Please include something about ...

Roma in Sweden

More Norse mythology

Swedish economy

Feedback on essay before deadline

Earlier history of Scandinavia

Please remove ...

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