

# **Evaluation report: SAS2B (Scandinavian Literature – 20th and 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Scandinavian Area Studies) – Spring 2020**

## **About the course:**

The course, which is worth 15 ECTS credits, deals with 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century Scandinavian literature. It is intended for foreign exchange students at the undergraduate level. All texts are read in English translation and the course is taught in English. The original plan was for the course to consist of two two-hour lectures and seven three-hour lectures, but about halfway through the semester, due to the global Coronavirus pandemic, we had to switch to digital teaching methods, including a combination of pre-recorded lecture videos and real-time seminars through Zoom.

This semester, approximately 20 students were enrolled in the course. This number is slightly above average. Prior to the lockdown, about 14-15 of the students followed the class regularly, whereas the rest attended more sporadically. After the pandemic hit, several of the students were forced to return to their home countries. This is the probable reason why a few students dropped out of class. In the end, 16 of the students submitted the seven-day take-home exam (the second part of the examination, the oral exam, was cancelled). This semester, the students did exceptionally well: 5 received an A, 5 a B, 5 a C, and 1 a D.

## **How the course was evaluated:**

After the last lecture, an invitation to submit anonymous evaluation reports was sent out through Mitt UiB. 9 students replied.

## **Course coordinator's comments:**

Prior to the lockdown in mid-March, most of the students came across as active and eager to read and discuss the texts on the curriculum. After the lockdown, noticeably fewer students participated during the Zoom-seminars – on average 6-8 students took part in the digital lectures. I am not aware of what exactly caused this, but all of the 9 students who filled out the evaluation form seemed pleased with the regular as well as the digital teaching methods: 5 replied that they were “very satisfied” and 4 that they were “satisfied” with the regular lectures; 6 replied that they were “very satisfied” and 3 that they were “satisfied” with the digital teaching methods. For this reason, all things considered, I think it is fair to conclude that the class was quite successful.

Bergen, August 11, 2020

Anders M. Gullestad