

THE UNIVERSITY *of* York

The Norwegian Study Centre in the United Kingdom



STUDY PROGRAMME 2011–2012



THE NORWEGIAN STUDY CENTRE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM



From left to right: Felicity Jones, Megan Roughley, Anka Ryall, Tim Vicary, Beck Sinar, Lisbeth Mathers and Lalita Murty

The Norwegian Study Centre (NSC) in the United Kingdom was established in cooperation with the University of York. It serves primarily, but not exclusively, Norwegian institutions of higher education, and is financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research through the University of Bergen. The NSC is under the management of a Norwegian Board of Studies and has a Norwegian-based Director, but is otherwise staffed by British university lecturers and administrative personnel.

The NSC functions as a permanent Study centre for students from Norwegian universities and colleges. In addition, it offers in-service courses

for practising teachers of English at all levels. Courses for various groups from the public and private sectors may also be available on request.

The NSC is affiliated to the Department of English and Related Literature at the University of York, and has offices and teaching rooms on the main campus. Accommodation on campus, consisting of 40 single rooms, is reserved for NSC short course participants.

YORK



York Minster

One of England's most beautiful and colourful cities, York is situated in North East England, amidst countryside which is rich in cultural and historical features. An important city in Roman times, it has also preserved to an unusual degree the stamp of its medieval heritage. The city is encircled by the white stone city walls with their impressive gateways, while the imposing Minster, one of Europe's largest medieval cathedrals, towers over

the countryside. Countless buildings of historical and architectural interest stand cheek by jowl in streets which appear to have changed little in 500 years, while old market places offer scenes of lively town life and a wide variety of goods. But York is also a modern city with good facilities for today's town-dweller. The city has cinemas, theatres, concert halls and exhibition centres, as well as museums which are among the most notable in Britain.

York is an excellent starting point for the study of many aspects of British life and culture. The city lies in the Vale of York, traditionally an agricultural region, but the large urban sprawls and industrial towns of Northern England – Leeds and Bradford in particular – are barely an hour away. Also close at hand are the beautiful and sparsely populated Yorkshire Dales and North Yorkshire Moors. Interested students will therefore find all they could wish for, from

rare geological formations to large industrial areas and mining communities, specialised intensive farming and sheep farms in isolated valleys. York – or Jorvik as it was then called – was once a Viking city, the most important centre of the Norsemen's western settlements, and countless place-names bear witness today to the intimate connections which existed in earlier times between Scandinavia and this part of Great Britain.

THE UNIVERSITY OF YORK



Central Hall and Lake

The University of York was established in 1963 and was awarded University of the Year for 2010. The main campus is about three kilometres from the centre of York and the total student population is now more than 13,000. The University is organised around eight colleges, most of which have their own teaching rooms and laboratories, common room, cafeteria, dining room, bar and residential rooms with small kitchens. All students are allocated to a particular college,

and will live there for a large part of their university career unless they prefer off-campus accommodation. The University also has a large Sports Centre (a small fee is applicable) and three concert halls. Norwegian students are free to use the facilities in any college on campus.

ACADEMIC CONTENT OF COURSES AT THE NSC

A. English *fordypning* at 200 level

The NSC, in cooperation with the Department of English and Related Literature at the University of York, offers a three-module course programme in English *fordypning* at 200 level and 100 level. The courses at both levels are offered twice a year and are recognised as contributing 30 study points in English towards a bachelor degree in Norway.

The 200-level course is open to students who have completed one year of full-time study in English in Norway (at least 50 study points), preferably including courses in English literature, language and culture. This course will give general admission to Masters studies in English in Norway, but students should be aware that universities and colleges in Norway have individual entrance requirements. The 100 level course is open to students who have completed study in English in Norway, equivalent to 30 study points. Students wishing to take this course as part of a one-year course in Norway should check that this is acceptable with the college/university which they are enrolled at.

The content of the two courses (100 and 200 level) is similar, but the assignments given reflect a difference in depth required by the two levels of study, placing slightly lower demands on the 100 level students. The courses have the following three modules, each carrying 10 study points:

1. Linguistics

2. Culture

3. Literature

Up to 26 students may be accepted each semester. The deadlines for application are 15 October for the spring courses and 1 May for the autumn courses. Further details and application forms are available from your home department of English, or from the NSC website: www.york.ac.uk/inst/nsc/Fordypning.htm

Students taking a course at either level may apply, while they are at the NSC, to stay on to take a second course the following semester.

Students on this course programme do not pay any tuition fees in York, but must, of course, meet their own living expenses. Successful applicants to the programme are entitled to funding (loan and grant). For more information see Lånekassen's website: www.lanekassen.no. A travel grant is available to cover travel costs to and from York. The NSC will help provide accommodation for students on this programme.



The River Ouse

B. Masters studies

In the spring term of 2012, the NSC will administer two 30-study point Masters programmes, one taught by the Department of English and Related Literature and the other by the Department of Language and Linguistic Science. These are for students registered in an English Masters programme in a Norwegian institution. Prospective applicants should have completed their *fordypning/ mellomfag* or 30 study

points at 200 level. A high grade from the Bachelors degree is required.

The teaching period is from early January to the middle of May. Successful applicants may choose two MA courses offered by either department, and will be integrated with the British and other international MA students.

On application, students who are accepted for this study programme will be given various kinds of financial support from Lånekassen. See www.lanekassen.no. Further details and application forms are available from the NSC and the Norwegian universities. See also the NSC website: www.york.ac.uk/inst/nsc/masters.htm

C. Short courses (www.york.ac.uk/inst/nsc/Short.htm)

The NSC offers two main types of short courses:

1. Courses of two weeks duration for students of English at Norwegian universities and colleges.

Most of the teaching will focus on English literature, English language in use, and British culture/current affairs. Teaching-related topics may be chosen. The NSC attempts to use the English-speaking environment to do in York what cannot easily be done in Norway, often through project work and visits to appropriate venues.

Teaching at the NSC is generally a combination of small-group seminar teaching (in groups of up to 15–20) and lectures, from NSC staff and, on occasion, from outside experts. English is used at all times, and small group work is integral to the teaching and learning style. Students are encouraged to participate as actively as possible. Project work will usually involve an



The City Walls

involved, well in advance of the course. The goal is to make the course in York a central and integrated part of the study programme in Norway, and the NSC presupposes high motivation and, where necessary, preparation from the students who come to York. A certificate, which is dependent on good attendance and satisfactory academic work, is awarded at the end of each course.

2. In-service courses (one to two weeks duration) for teachers working in the Norwegian school system. In addition to topics on language and British culture, these courses normally include one or two sessions on teaching methodology by one or two external lectures in accordance with the principles of K2006 and the needs of the participants.

The content of short courses will vary according to the needs of the user groups, but consistently takes a serious academic approach.

ACCOMMODATION

All participants will be placed in single bedrooms in Eden's Court on campus. Where large groups are concerned, some will be accommodated in twin- or triple-bedded rooms in a guest house.

Most courses will provide accommodation from Sunday to Friday (second week). Only in special circumstances can additional nights be added for a fee, and even then only if cleaning can be provided by the campus staff.

It is easier to make arrangements for arrival a day or two before the course starts than to stay on after the course has finished.

TRAVEL

If travelling by air, there are several options available. One may travel to Newcastle, Stansted, Heathrow, Manchester or Leeds/Bradford. Onward travel to York is possible by both coach and rail.

oral presentation at the end of the course and in some cases, will be written up in Norway as an assignment for the home institution.

It is not normally possible for students on these short courses to take classes offered to British degree students.

To achieve the best possible results, it is essential that the Norwegian tutor(s) in charge of each group of participants discuss their needs with their students and the NSC well in advance of their course, and that the content and aims of the course should be carefully planned at the Norwegian institution, in close cooperation with the NSC. An information pack on the NSC's study programme, with details of administrative procedures, is sent to the institutions



Charles XII pub, Heslington Village

Travel by train in Britain is more expensive than by coach. The NSC can book coach transport to and from the appropriate airport for groups who are travelling together provided two weeks notice is given of numbers and arrival times.

Groups should plan their journey so that they do not arrive in York between **12 midnight and 6am**. Approximate coach journey times are as follows: 4 hours from Stansted to York; 5 hours from Heathrow to York; 2–2.5 hours from Newcastle; 2.5 hours from Manchester; 1 hour from Leeds/Bradford.

Please note that all travel must be arranged and paid for in good time. Travel insurance is essential.

Travel details are correct at the time of writing but should be checked before making arrangements.

FEES AND FUNDING (short courses only)

Students normally pay the cost of study fees and travel themselves. In some cases, the English department of the appropriate institution offers funding. Information on this is available from your home institution.

Lånekassen has special provision to offer loans to students taking short courses at the NSC. Applications should be sent collectively and must be vouched for by the Norwegian institution. Please consult Lånekassen's website: www.lanekassen.no for updated information.

Fees for 2011–2012 are as follows:

- NOK 1.600 per student per week (ie from Sunday to Friday) for all students whether staying at Eden's Court or sharing twin or triple rooms in guest houses due to overflow in Eden's Court.
- NOK 1.700 per student per week for teacher trainee students who opt for school visits. Included in this fee are costs for the school visits and transport to and from the schools. (If the course is for one week only then the fee will increase to NOK 1.800.)
- NOK 2.800 per week for shared accommodation in guest houses. This is for students who choose guest houses even when Eden's Court is available, and for in-service students who want a better standard. (Add NOK 200 if school visit is included.)

Special courses will pay the actual cost of the course and overheads.

Excursions can be arranged but these are not covered by the course fee. As it has become increasingly difficult to find schools willing to take visitors, we strongly advise that only

students who want to be teachers and teachers on in-service courses should be offered school visits. Please be aware that all students who visit schools must have a criminal records check before they arrive. **Even though we will do our utmost to arrange school visits for those who want them, they cannot be guaranteed.**

CANCELLATION CONDITIONS

If a course is cancelled, without rescheduling within four weeks of the original booking time, a cancellation fee will be imposed. Numbers have to be confirmed no later than 14 days before the start of the course.

Students staying in guest houses will have to pay the full cost of accommodation if cancelling less than 14 days before arrival.

Cancellation charges

Individual students (staying in Eden's Court):	0–2 weeks before starting date: NOK 250
Groups:	2–4 weeks before starting date: 25% of tuition fee 0–2 weeks before starting date: 50% of tuition fee

ENROLMENT AND PAYMENT

Participants should enrol through the English department at their university or college. Please note the closing dates for enrolment. Payment is made to the course coordinator in Norway.

Other payments should be made as follows:

- a) Payment for travel in Norway, or between Norway and Britain by the individual, or to the travel agency (where this is applicable).
- b) Study fees are to be paid collectively, directly to the NSC in York. The course leader will be presented with an invoice after arrival at the NSC, and payment should be made by bank transfer to the NSC account on the leader's return to Norway.
- c) All leaders' accommodation to be paid to the NSC in York.
- d) Other payments according to agreement with the group leader, directly to the NSC in York.

INFORMATION

Details of the NSC are available from the English department at your place of study, or contact:

Norwegian Study Centre
University of York
Heslington
YORK, YO10 5DD
UK

Tel: + 44 (0) 1904 323 235
Fax: + 44 (0) 1904 323 236

Email: nsc@york.ac.uk
Website: www.york.ac.uk/inst/nsc/

You can also contact the Chair of the NSC Board:

Kjetil Myskja
Tel : 700 75078 (direct line)
Email: kjetil.myskja@hivolda.no

