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**The Viking Age. An Introduction**

**Course description:**

The course is an easy introduction into the early history of Scandinavia during the Viking Age. It is designed for any students in the Humanities regardless of previous knowledge on the topic. The official language of the course is English, and one of the primary aims is to help students in the History Department to develop language skills by listening to academic presentations. Regarding the requirements, students are expected to read *one* of the fresh overviews on the Viking Age (Winroth or Price) and prepare for an oral exam, where they will present the reading(s).

**Readings:**

*Sources:*

Page, R. I.: *Chronicles of the Vikings*. London: The British Museum. 2015.

Somerville, A. Angus and R. Andrew McDonald: *The Viking Age. A Reader*. Readings in Medieval Civilizations and Cultures, no. XIV. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. 2010.

*Secondary literature:*

Price, Neil: *Children of Ash & Elm. A History of the Vikings*. Allen Lane, New York. 2020.

Winroth, Anders: *The Age of the Vikings*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2014.

**Themes:**

1. Introduction
2. Scandinavia before the Vikings
3. Society I.
4. Society II.
5. Diaspora I. Vikings in the West
6. Diaspora II. Vikings in the East
7. Religion
8. Warfare
9. Everyday life
10. Christianization and state building
11. Overview and discussion
12. Exam