

## PhD Course in Old English and Old Norse poetry

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The University of Oslo, in collaboration with the University of Iceland, offers a PhD course in Old English and Old Norse poetry, which will take place at the University of Iceland (Reykjavík) from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2024. The course is open to PhD and graduate students and is free of charge. A basic knowledge of Old Norse and Old English is required. We will come back with a link for registration, but we wish to distribute preliminary information already at this point. Please, find the description of this year's course below. If interested, and for further information, please take contact with the course organizers, Prof. Mikael Males ([m.m.males@iln.uio.no](mailto:m.m.males@iln.uio.no)) and Dr. Bianca Patria ([bianca.patria@uio.no](mailto:bianca.patria@uio.no)).

### PhD Course, 21.–25. October, Háskóli Íslands

#### Textual Criticism in Early Germanic Poetry

Old English and Old Norse poetry are by far the largest and most varied corpora of early Germanic poetry. As such, they offer unique points of entry to the earliest preserved stages of Germanic literature, but they also pose a range of analytical challenges. Most notably, perhaps, manuscript witnesses to early poetry are often 300–400 years younger than the likely time of composition of the poems contained within them, and errors are likely to have multiplied in the process of transmission. Reconstruction is therefore necessary in order to study these poems as witnesses to their time of composition, but also to understand the dynamics of transmission.

This course aims to equip the student to meet relevant challenges. On completion of the course, the student will be better placed to distinguish scribal from authorial (or archetypal) forms. We work under the assumption that no method is universally applicable, but that every problem begs an appropriate method. Taking this assumption as our starting point, teachers and students will work in unison on selected problems.

The course will open with an overview of Germanic metre, given by Klaus Johan Myrvoll, and an introduction to textual criticism by Mikael Males. It will then be evenly shared between Old English and Old Norse, taught by Rafael Pascual (University of Granada), Nelson Goering (University of Ghent), Klaus Johan Myrvoll (University of Stavanger) and Mikael Males (University of Oslo).

Students will obtain 3 ECTS for participation to the course. 5 ECTS can be earned by submitting a 10 pages essay on a relevant topic agreed with the course instructors.

Oslo, 23.06.2024



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