

COURSE DETAIL

BEING ICELANDIC 2: ICELANDIC FOLKTALES, BELIEFS, AND POPULAR CULTURE PAST AND PRESENT

Country

Iceland

Host Institution

University of Iceland

Program(s)

University of Iceland

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Anthropology

UCEAP Course Number

103

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

BEING ICELANDIC 2: ICELANDIC FOLKTALES, BELIEFS, AND POPULAR CULTURE PAST AND PRESENT

UCEAP Transcript Title

BEING ICELANDIC 2

UCEAP Quarter Units

8.00

UCEAP Semester Units

5.30

Course Description

The course introduces foreign students to Icelandic folk culture past and present: from the folk beliefs implied by the Icelandic sagas to the famous collection of folk tales concerning "hidden people", elves, magicians, seal-folk, ghosts and more which was published by Jón Árnason in 1862-64; the ballads and music enjoyed by the people in the countryside; and the beliefs, behavior, and lifestyles encountered by the somewhat dumbfounded and awe-inspired early foreign travelers to Iceland during the last century. Students are introduced to modern Icelandic traditions and beliefs, from the Christmas men to the "elf stones" that road builders avoid, to the eating of sheep heads, and the continual interest in the supernatural.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

ÞJÓ004G

Host Institution Course Title

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Host Institution Campus**Host Institution Faculty**

Faculty of Sociology, Anthropology and Folkloristics/Social Sciences

Host Institution Degree**Host Institution Department**[Print](#)