

Viking Mythology and Religion: Old Norse Summer School at Aarhus University

The imaginary world of the Vikings is a vast and amazing landscape that continues to puzzle us. Their myths abound with powerful, tricky and enigmatic gods, forceful giants and an array of supernatural beings, large and small, which seem hard for the modern mind to grasp. This course in Viking mythology and religion focuses on the myths and legends, histories and tales of the Viking world. We will investigate the great variety of textual and archaeological sources to the Viking Age and explore the worldview, beliefs and ethics of the Vikings. We will treat the difficult issues of the source material: that the originally oral mythology and legends are mainly preserved in medieval literature. We will investigate the relationship between archaeological finds from the Viking Age and the medieval sources, and by employing a wide range of disciplines, such as history of religion, folklore, history, archaeology and literary analysis, we will

provide a critical overview of the field of Viking mythology and religion, as well as the necessary analytic tools for any student interested in this field.



Image: Annie Cúglas Humphrey

Lecturers:

Margaret Clunies Ross (Sydney), Judith Jesch (Nottingham),
Steven A. Mitchell (Harvard), Jiří Stáry (Prague), Jens Peter Schjødt (Aarhus),
Luke John Murphy (Aarhus), Mathias Nordvig (Aarhus), Rolf Stavnem (Aarhus).

Period: 16th-31st of July 2014
Open for: BA and MA students
Credits: 15 (BA), 10 (MA)
More information: <http://vikingoldnorse.au.dk/>
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