



The Richard and Margaret Beck Lectures on Icelandic Literature

2025 Lectures (January – March)

University of Victoria, Clearihue A207

Sunday, January 19, at 2:00 pm

Trauma, Healing, and Poetry in the Icelandic Sagas

In this lecture, Torfi Tulinius will discuss the dialectics of revenge and poetry in thirteenth-century life and literature and its relationship to the trauma of loss, both personal and collective.

Sunday, February 9, at 2:00 pm

Mixed Emotions: The Trouble with Royal Blood in *Laxdæla saga*

*Through an analysis of the plot of *Laxdæla saga*, especially in its relationship to the competition between overlords in Iceland during the Sturlung period (mid-thirteenth century), Torfi Tulinius will propose a new reading of the saga based on medieval ideas of royal blood.*

Sunday, March 16, at 2:00 pm

The Stranger. Who is the Criminal in Arnaldur Indriðason's stories?

This Beck lecture provides an exploration of Arnaldur Indriðason's Erlendur novels from a psychoanalytic perspective.

Speaker's Bio

Torfi Tulinius is Professor of Medieval Icelandic Studies at the University of Iceland. He is the author of *Les sagas islandaises - enjeux et perspectives* (2023), *The Enigma of Egill: The Saga, the Viking Poet, and Snorri Sturluson* (translated by Victoria Cribb, 2015), and co-editor of *Egil, the Viking Poet: New Approaches to 'Egil's Saga'* (Toronto Old Norse-Icelandic Series, Book 9), among many other publications.

January–April 2025 Course

Dr. Torfi Tulinius will be teaching a course on crime in the sagas and in Icelandic crime fiction today.

GMST 369: From Crime in the Sagas to Crime Fiction in Today's Iceland

In the medieval Icelandic sagas, crime is problematized in a different way from modern crime fiction. Nevertheless, crimes occur, some of them are hidden and need to be investigated.

Building on this, this course will focus on some of the Icelandic authors that have been translated to English, as well as crime films and television series from Iceland, looking for what they have in common with the saga writers, notably in their use of dreams, the paranormal and the role of the landscape.

Information for community members interested in auditing a course at UVic:

<https://www.uvic.ca/students/undergraduate/course-registration/auditing/index.php/>.