

Old Scandinavian Script

Fritz Juengling Ph.D., AG®

This course is designed to give family history researchers who read little or no Danish/Swedish/Norwegian and have had no experience with vital records from those countries a basic working knowledge of such records.

Objective:

Patrons will be able to read basic vocabulary in old Scandinavian script.

One of the greatest challenges of reading records in the Scandinavian languages is deciphering the script. Even if the researcher can read a Scandinavian language, that does not mean he or she will be able to read an old record. In addition to the script problem, each scribe had his own way of making letters, so that adds another level of difficulty. As with any skill, practice is necessary to gain a level of competence in reading old Scandinavian records.

Old Scandinavian script, developed centuries ago and was used in various forms into the 20th century. It was also used in countries outside Scandinavia, e.g. the Netherlands and Germany.

A short glossary. This is a mixture of languages with a variety of spellings!

Birth & baptism	Marriage	Death & burial	Relationships
født	copulerede	døde	oäkta
född(e)	gift	död	hustru/hstr
natus	vigde	dog	pige/pigan
døbt(e)	vigsel	dött	ungkarl
døpt/døbet	egteviede	omkommen	datter/sönn
dop/dåp/daap	vielse	begravelse	föräldrar
döpelse	bröllop	begravet	fader/moder
kristnad/t			dreng(en)/dräng(en)

For more extensive vocabulary lists, see:

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Danish_Word_List

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Swedish_Genealogical_Word_List

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Norwegian_Word_List

For articles on Scandinavian language, including numbers and names, see:

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Denmark_Language_and_Languages

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Sweden_Language_and_Languages

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Norway_Language_and_Languages

Nordic Names Wiki. https://www.nordicnames.de/wiki/Main_Page

For further study about handwriting, including links to video tutorials:

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Denmark_Handwriting

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Sweden_Handwriting

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Norway_Handwriting

EXERCISE #1
LETTERS and TWO-LETTER COMBINATIONS

- | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. <i>or</i> | 16. <i>M</i> | 31. <i>f</i> | 46. <i>T</i> | 61. <i>N</i> |
| 2. <i>j</i> | 17. <i>g</i> | 32. <i>f</i> | 47. <i>T</i> | 62. <i>nf</i> |
| 3. <i>l</i> | 18. <i>R</i> | 33. <i>L</i> | 48. <i>n</i> | 63. <i>G</i> |
| 4. <i>A</i> | 19. <i>O</i> | 34. <i>L</i> | 49. <i>n</i> | 64. <i>L</i> |
| 5. <i>z</i> | 20. <i>L</i> | 35. <i>N</i> | 50. <i>n</i> | 65. <i>Az</i> |
| 6. <i>i</i> | 21. <i>F</i> | 36. <i>G</i> | 51. <i>o</i> | 66. <i>D</i> |
| 7. <i>f</i> | 22. <i>f</i> | 37. <i>F</i> | 52. <i>no</i> | 67. <i>DD</i> |
| 8. <i>g</i> | 23. <i>A</i> | 38. <i>T</i> | 53. <i>r</i> | 68. <i>f</i> |
| 9. <i>n</i> | 24. <i>P</i> | 39. <i>R</i> | 54. <i>i</i> | 69. <i>f</i> |
| 10. <i>v</i> | 25. <i>U</i> | 40. <i>B</i> | 55. <i>r</i> | 70. <i>C</i> |
| 11. <i>b</i> | 26. <i>O</i> | 41. <i>B</i> | 56. <i>Lf</i> | 71. <i>y</i> |
| 12. <i>rr</i> | 27. <i>H</i> | 42. <i>L</i> | 57. <i>G</i> | 72. <i>yx</i> |
| 13. <i>m</i> | 28. <i>T</i> | 43. <i>I</i> | 58. <i>JT</i> | 73. <i>D</i> |
| 14. <i>yz</i> | 29. <i>O</i> | 44. <i>X</i> | 59. <i>H</i> | 74. <i>DJ</i> |
| 15. <i>yx</i> | 30. <i>J</i> | 45. <i>H</i> | 60. <i>S</i> | 75. <i>A</i> |

The Gothic Alphabet (Variations)

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Anders | 12. Peter |
| 2. Boel | 13. Pippa |
| 3. Elna | 14. ^{Anna} Agnes |
| 4. Jacob | 15. Benedict Larsson |
| 5. Helvig | 16. Odela ^{Yvonne} Johansson |
| 6. Christine | 17. Jane Guy ^{Jane} Jarosz |
| 7. Peter | |
| 8. Christopher Rehmeyer | 18. Christian |
| 9. Hilma Andersson | 19. Birgitha |
| 10. Olof Henricsson | 20. Gunnild Sophie |
| 11. Sefre Anderson | 21. Gudbrand |

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 22. Rønnow | 27. Olrik Mørk Jøthnø |
| 23. Christopher Larsen | |
| 24. Aalach | 28. Daarle |
| 25. Ellen Bentzvattra | 29. Johanne Hansd: |
| 26. Håigard Jøthnø | 30. Karthe |

Löre

Fodde

Døpte

Gjernedes

Copulerede

föräldrar

Madtrør

Dønn

drøvningar

Fodde

Omtale

Egningar

Baabun

Døde

Nadrør

Iattar

Pigan

ingdæl

Christening
Entry #1
NORWEGIAN

Den 13 Dec. 1807 født: Christopher Layen
Haukeboes og hysse-one Øfriðagfoss ðr
b. n. Berete fæðurr: Lars Layen
Vondahl, Jørgen og h. Haukeboe, Beder
Risørhusenibid.

Christening
Entry #2
SWEDISH

September
Födder år 1842
10. Husman Nils Jonsöns of deß hustru Mar-
garetha Olsöö vid N:o 2. Ö. Gårdstängagögle Lars
Fadd. Hüs. Ola Olsööns vid N:o 5
Ö. Gårdstänga hustru Elna Isaac Jr.
Hüs. Ola Olsöö.

Christening
Entry #3
DANISH

13 Jan 1761 født: jnoz. Pjønn
Mutter Maria Lundschott Hans
íægtn virtus. Pjønn. Den
Lounfæder blrs uðerat
Morður Pjønnin, fimmund i Mþring.