

ENG 461, Senior Seminar
Rhetorics of Crime
Dr. Rita Malenczyk

Spring 2018, Wednesdays 4:00-6:45

In this seminar we will consider how crime is constructed--and sometimes deconstructed--in our culture through books (both fiction and nonfiction), podcasts, newspapers, magazines, and other media. How does the media create heroes and villains? Subjects of study will include the novels of Tana French, Maj Sjowall, Per Wahloo and Sara Gran; TV series; nonfiction books and films; the podcasts *In the Dark* and *Criminal*. This first semester will be geared toward developing a proposal for your final senior project, which will be due at the end of ENG 462 in the fall. That project may be a work of fiction, a research paper, a play, a podcast...the list goes on. We will discuss final project possibilities throughout the semester.

NOTE: This course will expose you to a range of texts about crime and require you to confront a number of difficult issues: e.g., murder, child abduction. *Some of these texts are not works of fiction.* If you worry about your ability to grapple with the subject matter, for whatever reason, please speak with me before registering for the class.

