



**William R. Short** (right) and **Reynir A. Óskarson** (left) have spent decades researching and analyzing how Vikings fought and used their weapons. William holds a Doctor of Science degree from MIT and is the manager of Hurstwic, LLC, a group that uses science-based research to explore Viking-related topics. Reynir is a native of Iceland and holds instructor degrees in a number of combative arts and has trained extensively in many forms of combat. Together, they have created a holistic picture of Viking combat through their scientific research, presented in a newly published book *Men of Terror: A Comprehensive Analysis of Viking Combat* (Westholme, September 2021). A few of our recent escapades are listed here.



Media Appearances

- Rás 2 (Icelandic national radio)  
[interview](#) (in Icelandic)
- Hringbraut (Icelandic television interview about glíma)  
[interview](#) (in Icelandic)
- Morgunblaðið (Iceland's major daily newspaper)  
[text](#) (in Icelandic)
- Community Advocate  
[story](#) (in English)
- Landinn (Icelandic television piece on our iron-smelting research)  
[story](#) (in Icelandic, with portions in English)
- Interview with Jackson Crawford, Old Norse scholar  
[interview 1](#) (Hurstwic research in English)  
[interview 2](#) (Viking naval combat in English)  
[interview 3](#) (*Men of Terror* in English)



Lectures and Presentations



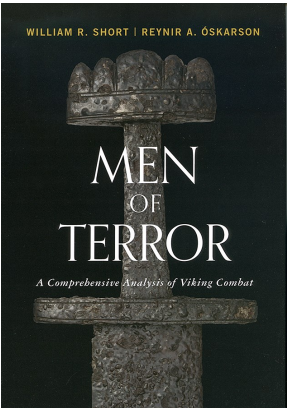
- University of Reykjavík (Háskólinn í Reykjavík)  
*Just one part of what you presented could be a master's thesis...*
- Háskóli Íslands (University of Iceland)  
*...this will now become an annual event...*
- Háskólasætur Vestfjarða (University Centre of the Westfjords)  
*...we need you to come back...*
- Þjóðminjasafn Íslands (National Museum of Iceland)
- Society for Historical Archaeology annual conference
- Icelandic Society of Archaeologists (Félag fornleifafræðinga)
- Mystic Seaport Museum  
[lecture](#) (in English)
- Ashokan Bladesmith Conference
- Worcester Art Museum
- Massachusetts Archaeological Society  
[lecture](#) (in English)



Consultants on Viking-age topics

- Vísindavefurinn (The Science Website of the University of Iceland)  
[text 1](#) (in Icelandic) [text 2](#) (in Icelandic)
- Application for *Glíma* to be included in the UNESCO list of intangible cultural heritage  
[text](#) (in English) [text](#) (in Icelandic)
- Discussion of *Men of Terror* with [Guðni Th. Jóhannesson](#), president of Iceland.

Reviews and Notices for *Men of Terror*

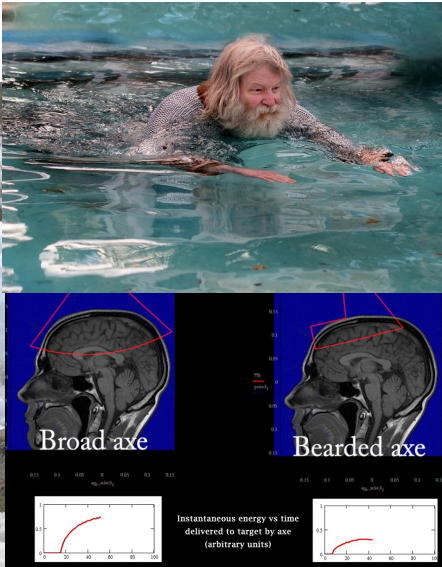


- New York Times Book Review  
[text](#) (in English)
- Reader reviews on Amazon.com  
☆☆☆☆ This book will be THE reference work on the topic for decades to come.  
☆☆☆☆ I highly recommend this book!
- Blog reviews on-line  
Jordan M. Poss [text](#) (in English): *This is a selfless, genuinely openminded approach to understanding a long-departed culture, and it's one of the things that makes Men of Terror especially good. ... I highly recommend it if you have any interest in the Viking Age or medieval military history at all.*
- Odin's Warrior Tribe [text](#) (in English): *This densely packed work ... is a necessary addition in the personal library for every Viking reenactor, Viking combat student, and many heathens who want to be better informed about the Viking era.*

- Advance reader comments  
Lee A. Jones (author of *Swords of the Viking Age*): *Neither a rehash of later medieval fight manuals or of fanciful stage combat, this new book provides a fresh and informed look at actual Viking-Age combat.*
- Margrét Hrönn Hallmundsdóttir (archaeologist): *It's an essential book to all people researching the Viking age, and to all people interested in that time period.*
- Svana Hrönn Jóhannsdóttir (chairman of Glíma-samband Íslands, the Icelandic Wrestling Association): *Their research has been so extensive, that I, as president of the Glíma association, have embraced it.*
- Robin Cooper (U.S. Army Special Forces, retired): *I realized that this unique and diverse group was able to break barriers and cast-off preconceived beliefs and look for the unbiased truth.*

Hurstwic® Viking Combat Training and Research

[Hurstwic](#) researches, practices and teaches the combative methods of the Vikings.



[contact us at Hurstwic, LLC](#)