



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

LINB41, Linguistics: Human Language and Language Diversity, 15 credits

Lingvistik: Människans och världens språk, 15 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2026-01-30 (U 2026/80). The syllabus comes into effect 2026-01-30 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

General information

Subject: Linguistics

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can normally be included in a first or second cycle degree.

Language of instruction: Swedish

*Main field of
study*

Specialisation

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G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- account for the basic components of language
- account for basic aspects of human language ability and the most important properties of linguistic behaviour
- account for basic aspects of language use, language acquisition and language variation
- explain the link between the production of language sounds and language sound classification according to the IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet).

Competence and skills

- apply basic knowledge about the structure of language to linguistic material
- identify and analyse phenomena and patterns in authentic linguistic data
- use key linguistic concepts and models in written presentations
- execute a minor linguistic study based on linguistic theory
- use some common analytical methods to describe language phenomena in authentic linguistic data
- perform simple empirical studies of authentic linguistic material and account for their validity

Judgement and approach

- interpret and evaluate linguistic data based on different models
- provide a basic explanation of ethical approach in connection with linguistic data collection

Course content

The course provides a broad introduction to linguistics enabling the students to obtain an overview of the discipline, define and use its terminology and understand in general which issues and approaches are of relevance to research in linguistics. Students will become acquainted with a linguistic toolbox och practise a few basic linguistic analysis methods. Theoretical as well as practical components are used to address different aspects of language: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics, as well as how they form patterns i human language across the world. Furthermore, a selection of linguistic fields of application are covered, for example socio-, psycho and neurolinguistics as well as language acquisition, language processing and language change. The overall aim of the course is to provide students with a comprehensive view of the different fields of linguistics and their interaction. Students will become acquainted with a linguistic toolbox och practise a few basic linguistic analysis methods. They will also have the opportunity to write simple research texts. The overall aim of the course is to enable students to develop their understanding of linguistic theory through empirical work.

Course design

The course is offered as a distance learning course via the learning platform Canvas. The teaching consists of pre-recorded lectures, online laboratory sessions and individual exercises. The course is offered as a distance learning course using an online learning platform and digital tools. There are scheduled real-time components. It is assumed that the student participates under these conditions and has access to a computer with web camera and Internet connection. The department will provide information about the technical requirements.

Assessment

Assessment of the course is based on a camera monitored written exam, 2-3 written laboratory reports, 1 presentation assignment and 1 written take-home exam.

Camera monitoring of the written exam takes place in real time. No recording occurs. Monitoring in real time is required to be able to assess the students' knowledge without students having access to aids.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

Lab reports and the oral presentation are awarded the grade of Pass or Fail. Digital exams and take-home exams are awarded the grades of Pass with Distinction, Pass or Fail.

For the grade of Pass on the whole course, the students must have been awarded this grade on all modules. For a grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must have been awarded the grade of Pass with Distinction on the digital exam and take-home exam. For a grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must also have submitted the assignments within the given time frames.

Entry requirements

General requirements

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
- The course is suitable for language teachers who wish to apply for eligibility to teach the subjects Human Language 1 and 2 in Swedish upper secondary schools.
- The course replaces LINB40.
- The course content coincides with LINA15 module 1 Human language (= the course LINB24) 7,5 credits and module 3 Diversity of the World's languages (= the course LINB23) 7,5 credits; it also partially overlaps with LINB21 and LINA14.
- The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree.
- For further details, see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.