

## **NODA13, Danish: Level 1, 30 credits**

*Danska: Grundkurs, 30 högskolepoäng*

**First Cycle / Grundnivå**

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2016-01-11 and was last revised on 2025-09-08 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2025/619). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2025-09-09 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

### **General information**

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

*Language of instruction:* Danish

*Main field of  
study*

*Specialisation*

Danish

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

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- account for the phonological and grammatical structure of the Danish language
- account for important trends in the history of the Danish language,
- account for key Danish vocabulary
- account for basic realia about Denmark and Danish society,
- describe Danish pronunciation
- describe and identify different oral and written genres in Danish,
- explain the most common terms in basic phonetics in a Danish context,

- recognise basic differences between Swedish and Danish pronunciation and reflect on pronunciation phenomena in their own and others' language learning,
- describe and analyse Danish grammar from a contrastive perspective,
- identify and describe different genres of written Danish communication,
- assess different evaluation criteria for the linguistic revision of texts,
- describe the main lines of social and cultural development in modern Denmark, from the Enlightenment to today's democratic welfare state,
- describe the key historical and political events that have shaped the modern Danish state,
- describe significant Danish popular movements and their social significance from the 19th century to the present day,

### **Competence and skills**

- read and understand written Danish
- understand basic spoken Danish (standard language),
- analyse a simple Danish text with regard to grammar, language history, vocabulary and phonetics as well as the relationship between writing and pronunciation,
- relate important aspects of the Danish language to Swedish,
- interact orally in Danish in a variety of everyday situations and authentic contexts with acceptable pronunciation,
- express themselves in simple Danish on current social issues and short stories,
- write comprehensible, coherent and correct Danish,
- write and explain key issues in Danish grammar using appropriate and relevant terminology in Danish,
- identify and write in different genres in Danish,
- critically analyse and discuss their own and other students' Danish texts in relation to vocabulary, grammar, genre, style and composition,
- diagnose weaknesses and opportunities in a Danish text and make constructive suggestions for improving the text, taking into account its purpose,
- use authorised Danish dictionaries, pronunciation dictionaries and grammar books,
- analyse beliefs and cultural expressions linked to the history and cultural context of Denmark,
- identify and compare selected social issues in Denmark and Sweden in different historical and cultural contexts,

### **Judgement and approach**

- discuss and provide perspectives on how gender, ethnicity and cultural diversity are expressed in contemporary Danish, especially in the texts covered in the course,
- identify their need for further knowledge in the subject,

- engage constructively and critically with source material and generative AI,
- reflect on the structure and use of the Danish language,
- reflect on and critically analyse historical and contemporary interpretations of national identity,
- problematise and discuss current social issues in Denmark based on historical currents of thought,
- discuss how colonial structures have affected the relationship between Denmark, the Faroe Islands and Greenland in a historical and contemporary perspective,
- evaluate key similarities and differences in the way social issues are dealt with in Denmark and Sweden from a historical and ideological perspective.

## Course content

The course provides students with an introduction to Danish grammar (morphology and syntax), phonetics, phonology and prosody, orthography, vocabulary, style, usage and history, in comparison with Swedish. Danish usage, language norms and language variation are analysed in a historical, social and cultural context. Fiction (novels and short texts) is an important component of the text study. Different forms of oral and written communication are addressed and the students have the opportunity to communicate in spoken and written Danish and provide feedback to fellow students on their communicative skills in Danish. Furthermore, the course deals with the main features of the social and cultural development of modern Denmark from the 1849 Constitution to a modern democracy and welfare state, and provides a sketch of the history of ideas background to the present-day public debate in Denmark. In addition, the construction and discussion of Danish national identity is interrogated.

The course consists of the following modules:

### **Module 1: An Introduction to Danish, 7.5 credits**

The Danish language system is studied with a focus on pronunciation, word classes, word inflection, vocabulary and history. This is done contrastively with reference to the Swedish language. Fiction and non-fiction are read and form the basis of work on the linguistic dimension, including grammatical analysis, vocabulary study and pronunciation.

### **Module 2: Spoken Danish, 7.5 credits**

The module includes two parts: oral skills training, i.e. practice in expressing oneself in Danish in various communication situations, and studies in basic Danish phonetics. The module contains practical exercises in oral presentation, conversation exercises and listening comprehension, oral language skills exercises, phonetics exercises, and reading and discussion of fictional and non-fictional prose.

### **Module 3: Written Danish, 7.5 credits**

The module deals with Danish grammar and grammatical problems that arise in connection with the students' own texts. Different contemporary Danish text genres are analysed. Students practise their ability to write Danish texts and become better at analysing and evaluating their own and others' texts in relation to vocabulary, grammar, genre, style and composition. What characterises a good text and how such a text is written is discussed in theory and practice. Different Danish genres are presented and texts are discussed from specific grammatical, stylistic and compositional perspectives. Students write texts in a variety of genres, such as news

articles, essays, application letters and stories.

### **Module 4: History, Society and Culture in Denmark, 7.5 credits**

This module deals with the social and cultural history of modern Denmark with a particular focus on the 1849 Constitution as a turning point in the development towards democracy and the welfare state. The period before 1849 is analysed in order to shed light on the ideas and social conditions that led to the constitution. National Romanticism, the rise of parliamentarianism and key movements such as the peasant, labour and women's movements are covered. Furthermore, the relations within the Danish Commonwealth between Denmark, the Faroe Islands and Greenland, as well as Denmark's colonial history, are dealt with, with the aim of creating a deeper understanding of how the nation's self-image has been shaped, how global relations have developed, and how these historical perspectives influence today's social debate.

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of lectures, exercises and seminars.

Module 1 includes three to five compulsory seminars and a compulsory written group assignment.

Module 2 includes five or six compulsory seminars.

Module 3 includes three to five compulsory seminars and three or four short compulsory writing tasks which are discussed in feedback groups.

Module 4 includes a compulsory component in the form of either an oral presentation in a group or an individual written assignment.

Absence from compulsory seminars will be compensated by written assignments except in module 2, where absence from a single compulsory seminar will be compensated by the student submitting an audio file according to the teacher's instructions. If the student is absent from more than one seminar in Module 2, he/she must repeat the course.

### **Assessment**

The module is assessed through a listening exercise together with a final oral examination.

Module 2 is examined through three to four written homework assignments carried out during the course and a final exam in two parts: an oral exam done in pairs and a short, written individual exam.

Module 3 is examined by a final written examination in two parts: a grammar test and a writing task.

Module 4 is assessed on the basis of a written exam.

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

For the grade of Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade for all modules. For the grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, students must also have been awarded this grade on at least 15 of the course credits.

For a Pass grade on module 2, a Pass grade is required on all assignments and the final oral and written exam. For the grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must also have been awarded this grade on the final written examination.

## Entry requirements

General requirements for university studies in Sweden

## Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
- Both modules in the course can also be taken as freestanding courses. NODB11 or NODB21 (Danish, an introduction), NODB16 (Spoken Danish), NODB04 (Written Danish) and NODB09 (History, society and culture in Denmark).
- 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.
- The course requires good knowledge of Swedish.
- For further details, see the current registration and information material.
- The module titles in Swedish:

1. Danska, en introduktion
2. Muntlig danska
3. Skriftlig danska,
4. Historia, samhälle och kultur i Danmark.