



Swedish as a Second Language

SFSU02, Swedish for Registered Healthcare Professionals, 45 credits

Intensivutbildning i svenska för hälso- och sjukvårdspersonal, 45 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2021-09-28. The syllabus comes into effect 2021-09-28 and is valid from the autumn semester 2021.

General information

The course is offered as a contract education course on behalf of Region Skåne, the Swedish Public Employment Service and the County Administrative Board.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

Module 1

- account for some key aspects of the structure of modern Swedish with regard to morphology and syntax
- account for a main subject in current Swedish healthcare debate
- describe at least one selected Swedish literary text and its author

Module 2

- account for some key aspects of the structure of modern Swedish with regard to morphology and syntax

- account for some current events in Swedish mass media within different social and health related fields
- account for the anatomy of the human body in Swedish
- at a very basic level, account for the difference between language in healthcare and general language
- at a very basic level, account for the terminology used in Swedish healthcare

Module 3

- account for key aspects of the structure of modern Swedish with regard to morphology and syntax
- at a basic level, account for different registers in Swedish language
- account for current events in Swedish mass media in different social and health-related fields
- at a basic level, account for the terminology used in Swedish healthcare
- at a basic level, account for how Swedish healthcare is organised

Module 4

- account for different functional differences between different syntactic structures
- account for text structures, text patterns and linguistic features, primarily in investigative and argumentative texts
- account for the terminology used in Swedish healthcare
- at a basic level, account for the typical linguistic features of the language used in medical records
- account for common abbreviations in Swedish medical records

Module 5

- provide a basic account of how context and communication situations influence both the choice of terminology and the stylistic design of different types of text
- account for different registers of Swedish language use
- provide an advanced account of the terminology used in Swedish healthcare
- account for the typical linguistic features of the language used in medical records

Module 6

- account for how the Swedish healthcare system is organised
- account for how medical records, referrals and certificates are formulated in Swedish healthcare
- provide an advanced account of the typical linguistic features of the language used in medical records

Competence and skills

Module 1

- give a simple prepared presentation on a familiar subject
- write clear detailed texts about several subjects
- understand and give an account of simple factual information as regards both general content and specific details
- with a satisfactory level of understanding, account for simple factual texts in a familiar field

Module 2

- state the reasons for and against a particular position and explain the advantages and disadvantages of different positions
- give an oral presentation on a familiar health related subject
- with good sentence structure, write clear detailed texts on several subjects and compile and evaluate information and arguments from different sources
- comprehend and provide an account of a longer oral presentation with a medical focus
- read and provide an account of articles and reports on current issues
- use a limited number of common and key medical concepts and phrases that are important in communication with patients, families and other staff
- use key vocabulary, in speech and in writing, that covers language domains in different social areas
- satisfactorily pronounce common diseases and ailments

Module 3

- account for and clearly support opinions by providing relevant explanations and arguments
- carry out discussions in given fields and give an oral presentation

- comprehend and provide an account of a longer oral presentation
- comprehend a complex oral argument
- use a number of common and key medical concepts and phrases that are important in communication with patients, families and other staff
- write reviews of texts on a broad range of subjects using varied sentence structure and correct reference and citation techniques
- use a broad range of Swedish vocabulary, in speech and in writing, that covers language domains in both health related and social areas
- understand and provide arguments using articles and reports that express attitudes and opinions
- discuss and provide information fluently and with ease to ensure that misunderstandings arise only in exceptional cases

Module 4

- participate in debates and discussions in Swedish within a given field
- write well organised investigative and argumentative texts using varied sentence structure and cohesion techniques
- in speech and in writing, use advanced vocabulary that covers language domains in both health related and social areas
- use very common and key medical concepts and phrases that are important in communication with patients, families and other staff
- understand and account for the main points in complex speech with regard to content and language
- search for requested information in a complex factual text
- at a basic level, provide simple and patient-adapted descriptions of medical problems

Module 5

- write investigative and argumentative texts of a scientific nature using good sentence structure and cohesion techniques
- interpret and comment on facts, diagrams and tables in Swedish texts
- in speech and in writing, use extensive Swedish vocabulary that covers language domains of both medical and social issues and apply knowledge of argumentative and discussion techniques
- use common and key medical concepts and phrases that are important in communication with patients and other staff
- at a basic level, write medical records, certificates and referrals according to Swedish practice
- provide clear and patient-adapted descriptions of medical problems

Module 6

- understand the main points of complex speech as regards content and language relating to abstract and complex subjects
- assimilate large volumes of text with a medical focus through skimming and scanning
- write medical records, certificates and referrals according to Swedish practice
- without preparation, discuss, question and provide information fluently and with ease so that the student is able to interact with others in a professional way
- in an advanced way, use key medical concepts and phrases that are important in communication with patients, families and other staff

Judgement and approach

Module 1

- evaluate and interpret information in, for example, simple Swedish newspaper texts

Module 2

- discuss the difference between language used in health care and general language

Module 3

- evaluate and interpret new information about health related questions in, for example, the daily press

Module 4

- make justified and nuanced reflections on their own language use and that of others and confidently use different strategies to develop their own learning

Module 5

- discuss how to convey information in a health care conversation without offending or discriminating

Module 6

- discuss how conversations with patients and colleagues are adapted in accordance with their need for integrity and respect

Course content

The course Swedish for Registered Healthcare Professionals is aimed at recent arrivals wishing to work in health care in Sweden but who are yet to acquire sufficient knowledge of Swedish to pass The Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare's examination. Following 30 weeks of full time study and a Pass on the final examination, the course provides university entry qualification in Swedish i.e. knowledge equivalent to a Pass on the TISUS test or C1 according to CEFR (the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). The course enables students to improve and deepen their knowledge in oral and written communication, listening comprehension and reading comprehension.

The course is suitable for students who have completed the SFI programme and wish to acquire a larger vocabulary within Swedish health care, solid linguistic tools to be able to talk with patients and families about their diseases and ailments and knowledge of the difference between language use in health care and general language. In the concluding components of the course, participants are provided with linguistic tools to interpret, write and dictate medical records according to Swedish practice. The course also includes dictation and listening comprehension of fictional medical records. In order for students to attain these language skills, the course also focuses on grammar and teaching of pronunciation. In addition, upon passing the final examination, students should be able to assimilate large volumes of text with medical content and vocabulary.

The course consists of the following modules:

Module 1, 7.5 credits

The module includes components that strengthen and develop the student's Swedish language ability in different ways. An overview of the distinctive features of Swedish grammatical and phonological systems is provided alongside the skills training. The course also provides the student with in-depth knowledge of the Swedish healthcare system and Swedish culture. Through the reading of texts, the student improves their active general and health related vocabulary. Students improve their ability to engage in discussions and conversations and to carry out short presentations. Writing proficiency is improved through different written assignments. The course has a strong focus on the teaching of pronunciation and word comprehension.

Module 2, 7.5 credits

The module aims to increase the student's Swedish vocabulary and to improve their oral and written ability. Through skills training, the course presents a systematic overview of the distinctive features of Swedish grammatical and phonological systems. Swedish cultural and social life is also covered. Through reading, the student builds up their receptive and productive vocabulary. Thematic and near-patient medical focus areas permeate the work on oral and written communication, listening comprehension and the teaching of pronunciation. There is also a strong emphasis on prosody in the pronunciation practice.

Module 3, 7.5 credits

The module aims to increase the student's Swedish vocabulary and ability to adapt their Swedish to different general and health related communication situations and to give the student the opportunity to develop their ability to speak grammatically correct and varied Swedish. The distinctive features of Swedish grammatical and phonological systems are covered alongside the skills training. Written language proficiency is improved through different written assignments with a focus on writing referrals and an introduction to writing medical records. In this module, thematic and near-patient medical focus areas also permeate the work on oral and written communication in both the reading comprehension and the teaching of pronunciation. The teaching of pronunciation permeates this module as well.

Module 4, 7.5 credits

The module aims to develop the student's Swedish vocabulary and their ability to adapt their Swedish to different communication situations and to give the student ample linguistic tools to communicate with patients and families about diseases and appropriate forms of treatment. The work on writing well organised argumentative and investigative texts continues. The students broaden their knowledge of how to write and dictate medical records according to Swedish practice. Furthermore, the module problematises how caregivers should express themselves in medical records that are to be read by healthcare colleagues, patients and their families. Pronunciation practice permeates this module as well.

Module 5, 7.5 credits

In this module, the work to develop the students' ability to write longer investigative and argumentative texts of a scientific nature continues. The students continue, on the one hand, to deepen their knowledge of writing medical records and, on the other, to develop their knowledge of how to express clear and patient-adapted descriptions of medical issues. Furthermore, strong emphasis is placed on how the employee in a healthcare conversation can communicate information in a way that does not offend or discriminate. The students' work on pronunciation practice continues.

Module 6, 7.5 credits

In this module, students increase their ability to read large volumes of text with a medical focus in preparation for the Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare's examination. Students are provided with knowledge of how to use different reading strategies in according to the purpose of the reading, for example, detailed comprehension, general understanding or information retrieval. In addition, students continue to practise how to talk, question and provide information to others with ease and without preparation in a professional manner.

Course design

The course is offered as a distance learning course using an online learning platform with scheduled online lectures. Students are required to participate according to these conditions, and to have access to a computer with an internet connection. The department provides information on the technical requirements for participation in teaching and assessment.

Assessment

The assessment of each module is based on an invigilated written examination or a camera monitored written examination using real-time streaming and an oral examination at the end of the course.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
The grade for a non-passing result is Fail. For a Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded at least the grade of Pass on all modules. The grade awarded for Module 6 constitutes the final grade on the whole course.

Entry requirements

The course is aimed at applicants with qualifications in relevant regulated professions e.g. medical doctors, nurses, radiographers, physiotherapists, midwives or dental practitioners. In addition, a validation decision from The Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare is required.

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University
2. A grade of Pass on SFSU02 meets the requirement of Swedish proficiency for admission to Swedish higher education.