



Swedish as a Second Language

## SFSU03, Swedish for Registered Healthcare Professionals, 37.5 credits

*Intensivutbildning i svenska för hälso- och sjukvårdspersonal, 37,5 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 2021-10-17. The syllabus comes into effect 2021-10-17 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.

The course is partly identical to the course SFSUV2, 45 credits. Participants in the course SFSUV3 start on module 2, as they are assumed to have knowledge in Swedish equivalent to SVA1 in municipal adult education (Komvux).

*Language of instruction:* Swedish

### Learning outcomes

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

#### Knowledge and understanding

##### 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 in 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 use
- 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 formulation of different types of text
- account for different registers in 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 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
- using 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 long 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 the names of 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 an extended 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 2*

- discuss the difference between language used in healthcare and general language

### *Module 3*

- evaluate and interpret new information about health-related issues 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 healthcare 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 Intensive Course in Swedish for Healthcare Staff is intended for new arrivals who are registered with the Swedish Public Employment Service and who want to work in healthcare in Sweden, but who do not yet have sufficient knowledge in Swedish to pass the National Board of Health and Welfare's examination. After 25 weeks of full-time studies and a passed final examination, the course provides a qualification for higher education 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 those who have a Pass grade from SVA 1 and who want to acquire a large vocabulary in healthcare-related Swedish, acquire solid linguistic tools for talking to patients and families about their illnesses and complaints, as well as knowledge of the difference between healthcare language 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 relating to fictitious medical records. In order for students to attain these language skills, the course also focuses on grammar and the 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 is identical to SFSUV2 apart from the exclusion of module 1. Students on SFSUV3 are assumed to have knowledge in Swedish equivalent to SVA1 in municipal adult education (Komvux) and for this reason there is no module 1.

The course consists of the following modules:

#### *Module 2, 7.5 credits*

The module aims to increase the student's Swedish vocabulary and to improve their verbal and writing abilities. 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 point-of-care 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 healthcare-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 point-of-care 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 long investigative and argumentative texts of a scientific nature continues. The students continue to deepen their knowledge of writing medical records and 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 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 sessions 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.

For admission to the course it is assumed that the students have knowledge in Swedish equivalent to SVA1 in municipal adult education (Komvux).

## **Further information**

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University
2. A Pass on SFSU03 meets the requirement of Swedish proficiency for admission to Swedish higher education.