



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

SVEB28, Swedish: History of the Swedish Language, 7.5 credits

Svenska: Svensk språkhistoria, 7,5 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 2015-06-03 to be valid from 2015-06-03, spring semester 2015.

General Information

The course is offered as a freestanding course and as an elective component of the BA in Language Consultancy. It can normally be included in a first or second cycle degree.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of studies

Swedish

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- provide a basic account of Swedish phonology and phonetics
- describe the changes in written orthography, morphology and syntax that have led to present-day standard written Swedish
- account for and roughly date the changes in phonetics, phonology, morphology and syntax that have led to present-day standard spoken Swedish
- recognise fundamental features of Swedish dialects
- discern different chronological and social strata in the range of Swedish place names and personal names

Competence and skills

- interpret phonemic script and interpret and use phonetic script
- explain peculiarities of modern language from a historical perspective
- read and interpret Old Swedish and Modern Swedish texts and make observations about them of relevance to language history
- obtain information about language phenomena in handbooks of different kinds
- approximately date an unknown text on the basis of language criteria

Judgement and approach

- informed by knowledge of language history, insightfully discuss in speech and writing issues of language variation, language change and correctness from a present-day perspective

Course content

The course provides students with a short introduction to Swedish phonetics and phonology. It deals with the Swedish sound system in general and the students learn to write and interpret phonetic script. Furthermore, the course addresses the development of spoken and written Swedish from Runic Swedish to around 1900. The development in different registers and different written genres is studied in a selection texts from different periods. The mechanisms and driving forces of language change that may have caused the changes studied are highlighted. The course also deals with the Swedish range of personal and place names and the fundamental features of Swedish dialects.

Course design

The first week of the course provides students with an introduction to phonetics and phonology, consisting of both lectures and exercises. The language history component largely consists of lectures and text study about the history of Swedish. The students also engage in a problem-based study of a representative selection of texts from different periods and genres. The texts are studied individually or in groups and are discussed during the teaching sessions.

Assessment

The phonetics component is assessed on the basis of a written exam after a week of the course. The language history component is assessed on the basis of a written exam at the end of the course.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

To be awarded a grade of Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on both modules. To be awarded a grade of Pass with Distinction

on the whole course, the student must also have been awarded this grade on the language history exam.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have passed a level 1 course in Swedish, e. g. SVEA11 or SVEG11-14.

Further information

1. The course is coordinated with module 1 Phonetics, 1.5 credits, and module 2 Swedish language history, 6 credits, of SVEA20. 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, which means that SVEB28 and SVEA20 (or SSLA02 and equivalents) may not be included in the same degree.
2. The course requires students to have good knowledge of grammar, text analysis and sociolinguistics.
3. The course is offered at the the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.

Subcourses in SVEB28, Swedish: History of the Swedish Language

Applies from H15

- 1501 Phonetics and Phonology, 1,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 1502 The History of Swedish Language, 6,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction