

Syllabus: Swedish Language 1

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Office hours: Mondays 1 PM-3 PM, Wednesdays 1.30-3.30 PM or by appointment

Learning outcomes

The main learning outcomes of this course are for the student to learn to...

... understand spoken Swedish on an elementary level (understand the main points when the speaker is speaking slowly and clearly about an everyday topic such as very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, studies or personal interests)

... pronounce words and sentences in an understandable way, i.e. distinguish between different speech sounds, have a general grasp of stress patterns and pronounce so that the listener can understand without effort

... have a short conversation about an everyday topic (see above) using basic vocabulary and basic grammar

... understand a written text in simple Swedish when the content is familiar

... write a simple text about an everyday topic (see above).

Content

The course contains the following: pronunciation, reading and listening comprehension, descriptive grammar, semantics, written and oral practice. The emphasis will be on communicative and conversational skills, listening comprehension and pronunciation. The content is based on the course literature as well as authentic texts, songs, games, study visits and other activities related to Swedish culture and everyday life.

Participation and grading

Regular attendance is mandatory. An unexcused absence may negatively affect your final grade. Your grade will not be affected if you miss a class due to illness or in the case of a (documented) emergency situation. If you have a personal or family event that conflicts with a class, and cannot be re-scheduled, you may ask your instructor for an excused absence. Such a request should be made at least one week prior to the class in question.

Please arrive on time to class, bring your books, complete your homework assignments and participate actively in class. Failing to fulfill those expectations will lower your final grade. The final grade is based on the following:

- Written assignments (2), mini-quizzes (2): 25 %
- Written mid-term exam: 25 %
- Class participation, mini-seminars (3), final presentation: 25 %
- Oral final exam (in pairs): 25 %

Examination dates are March 1 for the mid-term, and either April 29, April 30 or May 2 for the final.

Literature

Rivstart A1 + A2, Paula Levy Scherrer and Karl Lindemalm, Natur & Kultur, Stockholm 2014 (textbook and exercise book)

www.ord.se (online dictionary)

Quizlet app

Handouts

Additional reading: Lättläst/Very readable and children's books are available to borrow

COURSE OUTLINE

Period 1: January 21 – March 1. *Rivstart* chapters 1-4.

17 class hours + 1 hour written mid-term exam, March 1 (Friday).

Week	Dates	Content
1	Jan 21 – 25	About the course, useful phrases, bases of pronunciation. The alphabet, introductions (chs. 1, 2).
2	Jan 28–Feb 1	Questions, food, visit a supermarket (chs. 2, 4). Mini-seminar 1.
3	Feb 4 – 8	Greetings, objects, numbers, nouns in singular (ch. 2, 3).
4	Feb 11 – 15	Numbers, time, commands, a regular day, word order (ch. 3). Mini-quiz 1.
5	Feb 18 – 22	Interview with a Swede. Buying and paying, auxiliary verbs & infinitive (ch. 4). Written assignment 1.
6	Feb 25–Mar 1	Food, plurals (ch. 4). Revision. Mid-term exam (Friday)

Period 2: March 4 – April 26. *Rivstart* chapters 5-9 (chosen parts).

15 class hours + 20 min. oral final exam in pairs on either April 29, April 30 or May 2 (Mon, Tue, Thu).

7	Mar 4 – 6	Verbs in past tense, weather (chs. 5, 8). Swedish Fika and culture comparisons. Mini-seminar 2.
8	Mar 11 – 15	The past, hobbies and habits, plans, adjectives (ch. 5).
9	Mar 18 – 22	Transportation, directions, cardinals, dates (chs. 8, 9). Mini-seminar 3.
		<i>Spring break</i>
10	Apr 8 – 12	Clothes, comparisons, shopping (ch. 7). Visit a high school. Mini-quiz 2.
11	Apr 15 – 17	Family, object pronouns (ch. 6). Astrid Lindgren workshop. Written assignment 2.
12	Apr 24 – 26	Revision. Final presentation.
13	Apr 29–May 2	Final exam (Mon, Tue or Thu)

RELEVANT GRAMMAR IN RIVSTART

Items in brackets are recommended only for those who are interested and would like extra credit.

Chapter 1

Verbs in the present tense

Word order: statements/questions, negation

Relevant exercises in the exercise book: all except no 8

Chapter 2

Question words

Subject pronouns

Prepositions

Relevant exercises in the exercise book: all

Chapter 3

Question words

Nouns in singular

Verbs in the imperative

(Inverted word order)

Relevant exercises in the exercise book: all

Chapter 4

Some common nouns in plural

Auxiliary verbs: kan, ska, vill, måste

Verbs in the infinitive

(Demonstrative pronouns)

Relevant exercises in the exercise book: 1, 2, 3, 4, (5), 7, 8 + Repetera 10, 12

Chapter 5

Verbs in the past (preterite) tense

Auxiliary verb: brukar

(Adjectives in en/ett/plural forms)

(Word order: the position of the sentence adverb and the second verb)

Relevant exercises in the exercise book: 1, (2), (4), 5 + Repetera 6, 7, 8, (9), 12

Chapter 6

Verbs in the past (preterite) tense

(Object pronouns)

Relevant exercises in the exercise book: (1), 2, (5), (6), (7) + Repetera (8), (9), (10), 13, 14

Chapter 7

Some common adjectives in comparative form

Relevant exercises in the exercise book: 2, 5 + Repetera (9)

Chapter 8

Relevant exercises in the exercise book: 2, 5 + Repetera 9, (10)

Chapter 9

Relevant exercises in the exercise book: 5 + Repetera 8, 9

NB: The syllabus is subject to change.