

# Syllabus

for course at first level

**The Languages of the World**

**Världens språk**

**7.5 Higher Education**

**Credits**

**7.5 ECTS credits**

**Course code:** LIN135  
**Valid from:** Autumn 2019  
**Date of approval:** 2016-03-15  
**Changed:** 2019-02-12  
**Department** Department of Linguistics

**Main field:** Linguistics  
**Specialisation:** G1N - First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

## Decision

This syllabus was developed by the Faculty Board of Humanities 2016-02-24, adopted by the Board of the Department of Linguistics 2016-03-15 and last revised by the Board of the Department of Linguistics 2019-02-12.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school courses Swedish B/Swedish as Second Language B, and English B, or equivalent.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
1350	Languages of the World	7.5

## Course content

This course provides an overview of the variation among the languages of the world. A number of linguistic features are described and explained, taking their expression in a variety of the world's languages as the starting point, and what differences and commonalities there are among them. Topics also discussed include how languages can be classified in terms of various factors, language relatedness, language contact, pidgin and creole languages and what is typical of languages from different areas of the world.

## Learning outcomes

In order to pass the course, students are expected to be able to

- define, discuss and apply selected linguistic concepts
- account for a number of linguistic features and the nature of their variation in different languages of the world
- account for how languages can be classified based on particular properties
- give a basic account of how linguistic phenomena spread and how languages change and influence one another
- account for elementary factors in the emergence of language relatedness and how it is scientifically established
- characterise pidgin and creole languages and describe their emergence
- interpret and produce glossed (interlinearised) linguistic examples and display familiarity with some of the conventions and abbreviations used in glossing
- recognise and describe some language families and a selection of their member languages.

**Education**

Instruction is given in the form of lectures and group seminars. For more detailed information, please refer to the course description. The course description will be made available no later than a month before the course starts.

**Forms of examination**

a) The course is examined on the basis of a written examination. For details, please see the course description. The course description will be made available no later than a month before the course starts.

b) Grades will be set according to a seven-point scale related to the learning objectives of the course:

A = Excellent  
B = Very Good  
C = Good  
D = Satisfactory  
E = Adequate  
Fx = Inadequate  
F = Totally Inadequate

c) Students will be informed of the grading criteria at the start of the course. Once distributed, the grading criteria are binding.

d) In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade of E or higher on the examination.

e) Each time the course is given, at least two examination opportunities are offered. At least one examination opportunity should be offered in years when the course is not given.

Students who have received the grade Fx or F twice in a row by the same examiner are entitled to have another examiner appointed for the next examination, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. Such requests should be made to the department board.

Students who have received a grade of E or higher may not take the examination again in order to obtain a higher grade.

f) This course does not permit supplementary assignments in order to convert the grade Fx into a passing grade.

**Interim**

When the syllabus is discontinued, students have the right to be examined according to this syllabus once per semester during a transition period of three semesters.

**Limitations**

This course may not be included in a degree together with a course, taken and passed in Sweden or elsewhere, of fully or partially overlapping content.

**Required reading**

For the current reading list, please see the department's education pages at <https://www.ling.su.se/english/>. The list will be made available no later than a month before the start of the course.