SWED 1210: Kursplan för nybörjarsvenska
Höstterminen 2009

Välkommen till kursen i nybörjarsvenska!

In this class we will study the Swedish language and explore Scandinavian culture and society, providing coverage of most of Northern Europe. Swedish is a language spoken by around 10 million people worldwide, especially in Sweden and Swedish-speaking parts of Finland. Swedish is also understood by most Danish and Norwegian speakers, thus summing to around 20 million interlocutors. Moreover, Sweden is a country in the EU and Swedish is one of the official EU languages. For the remainder of this year, Sweden holds the rotating EU Presidency. By deciding to study Swedish and Scandinavia, you will discover a language and cultures which have shaped intriguing history and contemporary society, ranging from the Viking Age to successful industrial, cultural and societal innovations like Abba, Volvo®, Skype™ and (controversial) Pirate Bay. So you can learn as much Swedish as possible, we will communicate only in Swedish during the most of class. Please study any assigned material before class so you can follow along well. We will have a lot of fun together, and at the end of this semester, you will speak a lot of Swedish!

Our general course website is available at: http://lrc.cornell.edu/swedish/swed1210/. We will make use of a pilot version of a new textbook (Fönster mot svenskan och Skandinavie/Window to Swedish and Scandinavia) and an online media workbook. The textbook modules and links to pages in the media workbook will be uploaded consecutively throughout the semester on our course website. I am making the textbook modules available without cost, but please print the modules—preferably in color—, put the pages in a binder, and bring it with you to class (whereas the Olin Library color printers have pretty bad quality, there is a good color printer in the Mann Library for 0.25/page). Other required course material is A Concise Swedish Grammar available at the bookstore. In class, we will also use plenty of free web resources, web-TV clips, YouTube™, etc.


Breakdown of final grade (Swedish names in parenthesis)

(Portfölj) Semester portfolio (20%) You will create 7 portfolio assignments. The portfolio’s goal is to relate to your individual learning goals and interests in terms of Swedish language and culture. For each portfolio assignment, I will give you a general topic and a format (e.g. a review, a text-and-image collage, a comic strip, writing a text, creating an online link archive, visual media, a group project where your group produces a handout and makes a mini-presentation on a Scandinavian topic of your choice in class, etc). If you have a creative idea and wish to depart from the format, this is usually fine, but communicate your idea to me first.
While I encourage you to be as creative as possible with the portfolio assignments please also consider Swedish language standards in your write-ups. For each submission, I will provide feedback and you may resubmit your work as many times as you wish. As part of your final portfolio, you will submit at least two recordings (audio or A/V). I will give you individual feedback on your pronunciation and prosody (voice inflection). This will help you attune to Swedish phonetics as it relates to your voice. For the final portfolio, select your 4 favorite pieces together with an index page and a mini-reflection in Swedish (150-300 words), explaining why you chose those pieces and your view of the portfolio experience. The final submission date is midnight of the last day of class. Submission is in electronic format in the Sakai e-portfolio application. (On Aug. 31, Eric Howd will explain how to use the software in class.) The final portfolio receives an overall grade.

(Poddradio och poddradiodagbok) Podcasts and podcast journal (10%) Very short podcasts will cover interesting topics in easily accessible Swedish. The podcasts are made available on the course website and you can subscribe to them with iTunes/iPod. Also, each podcast announces a secret topic for you to write about a journal. The podcast is announced the week before the written journal is due. Your journal will be graded for content rather than grammar correctness. Submit your journal in Sakai as a plain text file without additional formatting by midnight of the submission day. If you are a Windows user, use Notepad. On Mac you can use the Text Editor (saving as plain text) and on Linux there is Emacs or Vi.

(Hemläxor) Weekly homework (10%) Weekly exercises help you digest the current episode in the textbook, engage with authentic dialog materials, practice listening and repeat vocabulary and structures. Each exercise is given one of three grades: väl godkänd (2 pts.), godkänd (1 pt.), or underkänd (0 pts.). For example, if you have 2 exercises in the textbook, 1 web practice exercise, and 2 media workbook exercises, you ought to earn 10 points that week. Missing homework defaults to 0 pts.

(Deltagande) Oral performance and participation score (10%) You will self-evaluate your oral performance and participation in the middle and end of the semester. At the end of the semester, you receive an overall grade by your instructor. I also suggest you attend the Scandinavian coffee hour a couple of times this semester (at least during the second half of the term). It meets every Wednesday 4-6pm as of 9/9 in Big Red Barn.
Kategori A: Participates actively, uses Swedish in class with students and instructor, contributes to a productive and fun classroom, volunteers and is attentive, considerate with fellow students, attendance-oriented, adopts an open-minded analytical approach to target language culture.
Kategori B: Occasionally needs a reminder to not resort to English, has often not prepared, tries to participate in group and pair activities, waits to be called upon.
Kategori C: Comes to class unprepared, participates unsatisfactorily in class, resorts to English a lot and does not contribute to class activities.
Kategori 0: Not enough evidence to assess.

(Test) Four 20 min. vocabulary and grammar quizzes at class begin (10%)

(Mellanterm uninsprov) A written exam and an oral exam (20%)

(Sluttenta) Bipartite written and spoken final exam (20%)

Symposium Friday September 4, 10:30am-5pm in A.D. White House The Swedish Program and Cornell Scandinavian Club are arranging an interdisciplinary, student-oriented symposium on Sweden and Scandinavia in the European and International Contexts. As participant in SWED 1210, please attend a minimum of two talks of your choice at this event. Your first portfolio assignment will be about this experience. Please also note that regular class is canceled that day and on Sept. 9 as compensation for your time. (FYI, free breakfast items will be served at 10am before the first talk and the lunch in the AD White House garden at 12:30 is also free!)

Extra Credit Each month a Scandinavian film is shown in subtitles in the Mac classroom in the Language Resource Center (Noyes Lodge). You will receive an additional 0.5% towards your final grade per attended film. The film nights are Sept. 9, Oct.7, Nov. 4 and Dec. 2. Refreshments are always served at film nights.
This syllabus serves as a guideline and may be subject to change, according to announcements by the instructor.

**Dropping worst score** Your lowest quiz and homework score will be dropped when computing the final grade.

**Cornell's Code of Academic Integrity**
It is expected that your work will be completed in full observance of Cornell's *Code of Academic Integrity* (http://www.cornell.edu/UniversityFaculty/docs/main.html). We encourage you to work together with fellow students and to share knowledge and learning; however, using the work of others without proper acknowledgement, falsification of data or misrepresenting your work in any way constitutes academic fraud and will be reported to the appropriate Academic Integrity Hearing Board. You must cite all sources -- whether printed materials, visual aids, or information obtained from the Internet -- according to the procedures outlined in the "Code of Academic Integrity." It is every student's responsibility to be fluent in the protocols of presenting one's own work and of acknowledging the work of others; lack of knowledge of these protocols will not excuse a failure to comply with them.

If you need help, ask the instructor or use dictionaries, spell-checker, and grammar books. It is also permitted to use Google Translate for checking expressions or words, but not for translating entire sentences, paragraphs or texts—the state of machine translation technology will have a pejorative impact on your assignment outcome.

**Students with disabilities** If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements with me.

**Open door policy** Besides my office hours, please email me or stop by my office at any time to arrange an alternate meeting time. An open door generally means that I am available. I encourage all of you visit my office to hang out, ask questions, share your ideas, let me know about any concerns you have, and so on. I appreciate your feedback and productive suggestions regarding the course. You can also drop off anonymous notes in my mailbox or under my office door if that is a preferred way for you to give feedback. There will be an announced course evaluation survey.

**Sharing your assignments and other work for research purposes** I am a linguist and active researcher with a strong interest in improving language teaching materials and methodologies as well as language teaching technologies. I have received exempt approval from the Cornell University Institutional Review Board for the Use of Human Subjects to include work you produce in this course in my research. Please read the attached consent form and decide if you approve me using your submitted work in my research. If I ever refer to your work in future presentations or publications, your identity will be kept strictly confidential. If after reading the consent form you approve to participate, please sign the consent form and return it to me. You may decide to retract your consent at any time during the semester without penalty.