

Module Language and intercultural communication

Handout 1



Intellectual Output 3: Module Language and intercultural communication, course unit 1.2

Opportunities for migrant clients' language education in Sweden

Swedish as second language

Swedish as a second language includes all school levels from preschool to adult education.

Swedish as a second language states that teaching in Swedish as a secondary language, if necessary, is to be arranged for a student who has a language other than Swedish as his mother tongue. It is also confirmed that it is the principal who decides on teaching in Swedish as a second language for a student. Teaching in Swedish as a second language replaces tuition in Swedish so it is thus an equivalent subject where students should have as much teaching time as students who read Swedish.

The teaching in the subject Swedish as a second language aims that students develop knowledge in and about the Swedish language. Through teaching, students will be given the opportunity to develop their Swedish spoken and written language so that they gain confidence in their language ability and can express themselves in different contexts and for different purposes. This means that the students will be given the opportunity to develop the language to think, communicate and learn through the teaching. Teaching will give students many opportunities to communicate in Swedish based on their level of knowledge, without imposing early demands on linguistic correctness. (<http://www.andrasprak.su.se> our translation)

Introductory programmes in upper secondary school

(<http://www.omsvenskaskolan.se/engelska/gymnasieskolan/introduktionsprogram-i-gymnasieskolan/>)

Introductory programmes are intended for pupils who are not qualified for the national programmes in upper secondary school. Language introduction is one such programme.

Pupils' home municipalities are responsible for offering introductory programmes to those who fulfil the requirements for the various programmes. Education on an introductory

programme has to follow a plan drawn up by the principal. This must include the purpose and duration of the programme, and specify its main content. An individual study plan must also be drawn up for each pupil, And must take the pupil's needs and interests into account.

Language introduction

Language introduction is offered to young people who have recently arrived in Sweden. The focus of this programme is on the Swedish language. Teaching can also include other subjects and courses that pupils need in order to develop their knowledge.

Language introduction is adapted to each individual pupil, and is therefore not planned according to a set model. However, several pupils can attend a programme if their needs are similar.

Language introduction is planned on the basis of an assessment of the pupil's language knowledge carried out before reception. It can also include comprehensive or upper secondary school subjects the pupils needs for his/her continued education. Measures to stimulate motivation, and/or work placements, can also be included.

Preparatory programme

Preparatory programmes are for pupils who want to attend a specific national programme but who lack one or more of the pass grades required for that programme.

The programme is not to extend beyond one year. It will primarily contain the comprehensive school subjects in which the pupil lacks a pass grade required to qualify for a national programme. It is also possible to study courses from national programmes, and the education can also include other measures for developing the pupil's knowledge. Once a pupil achieves the qualifications for a national programme, he/she can be accepted on that programme subject to availability of places.

A pupil can choose to attend a preparatory programme to obtain qualifications for a higher education preparatory programme even if he/she is already qualified for a vocational programme.

Programme-specific individual choice

Programme-specific individual choice is for pupils who want to attend a vocational programme but lack one or more of the pass grades required for that programme.

In order to be accepted, the pupil must have pass grades in Swedish or Swedish as a second language. Pass grades are also required in English or Mathematics and in at least four other subjects, or optionally in both English and Mathematics and at least three other subjects.

The education will include the comprehensive school subjects in which the pupil lacks pass grades, and which are required to qualify for a vocational programme. The pupil must also study courses from a vocational programme and do workplace-based learning (abbreviated apl in Swedish). Once a pupil achieves the qualifications for a vocational programme, he/she can be accepted on that programme subject to availability of places.

Occupational introduction

Occupational introduction is for pupils who want an occupationally oriented education but lack the pass grades required for a programme-specific individual choice or a vocational programme.

The goal of occupational introduction is for the pupil to be able to get employment or become qualified for a vocational programme. The education can e.g. include comprehensive school subjects in which the pupil lacks pass grades, courses from vocational programmes, workplace-based learning or a placement, and also any other measures needed for the pupil's development of his/her knowledge.

Individual option

The aim of individual option is for the pupil to move on to occupational introduction, other further education or the labour market.

The education can e.g. include comprehensive school subjects in which the pupil lacks pass grades, courses from national programmes and other measures needed for the pupil's development of his/her knowledge.

Upper secondary school introduction programmes

This video presents the five upper secondary school induction programmes.

SFI Swedish for adults

(<http://www.omsvenskaskolan.se/engelska/vuxenutbildning/sfi-svenska-foer-vuxna/>)

Age 16 and up

The right to participate in Swedish immigrant education (sfi) has a person who is lacking basic knowledge of the Swedish. The right applies to the person who resides in the country, starting from the second calendar year of the age of 16. No upper age limit is defined in the school day. (Skolverket.se)

Instruction in Swedish for Immigrants (SFI in Swedish) is designed for those who need a basic knowledge of Swedish. The students learn Swedish in order to be able to communicate orally and in writing in everyday life, in society and at work. Those who cannot read or write in their native language may have the opportunity to learn how.

To get into SFI you must be 16 years of age, but there is no upper age limit to start studying.

How the programme is organized

The programme is planned, designed, and adapted according to the individual student's conditions, needs, and goals. Since SFI is directed at people with different experiences, living situations, knowledge and study goals, different people will study the courses at different speeds. This is why the courses start and finish on different occasions for different people.

As a student, you will have at least 15 hours of instruction per week. The instruction takes place in Swedish, but learning to read and write can take place in the student's native

language or other language the student has a good command of. SFI can be combined, for example, with work, an internship or other programme within municipal adult education (komvux) or special education for adults (sär vux).

Study paths and courses

SFI has three study paths (1, 2, and 3). Study path 1 is for those who cannot read and write in their native language or have had a brief education, while study path 3 is for those who are more used to studying. Each study path consists of several courses.

Studypath one has four courses, A, B ;C and D. Studypath 2 has B, Cand D. Studypath 3 has the courses C and D.(skolverket.se)

As of July 1, 2016, SFI will be included in komvux and the instruction will be more adapted to the individual; this may entail certain changes to the arrangement of the courses.

Marks

SFI uses the A–F grading scale, the same – for example – as in elementary school, in upper secondary school and at komvux. A is the highest grade, and F is a failing grade. Grades must be given for every completed course.

SFI at folk high school

There are also opportunities to study SFI at certain folk high schools instead of in your municipality.

Former education

If you have completed secondary school or academic education from your home country, we want to inform you that you can validate your education while you are studying SFI. Visit UHR, <https://www.uhr.se/> (Swedish Council of Higher Education) for more information.

SFI schools to choose from

ABF, <http://www.abfsfi.se>

AcadeMedia Eductus, <http://eductus.se/kursfakta/sfi/>

Astar, <http://www.astar.se/integration>

Hermods, <http://www.hermods.se/>

SFI at Folk High School

You can also choose to study SFI at any Folk High School. Click here to go to the website with all the Folk high schools in Sweden.

If you prefer to Study SFI at a Folk High School you will need to follow the following procedure:

- Make an application to the Folk High School of your choice (you can get their application papers on their website)
- Then send or bring the application to Kunskapsparken for approval
- If approved we will send the approval to the school you chose and the school will contact you

SFx - Swedish for professionals (<http://sfx.se/om-sfx/sfx-konceptet/>)

SFx is Swedish for professionals with focus on the professional language. The aim is to shorten the period from SFI to employment or entrepreneurship. Currently we have SFx for nine different professions, such as medical professions, engineers, lawyers, bus drivers, teachers, etc. For more information visit the SFx website.

Civic orientation – About Sweden

Civic orientation is for those who are new in Sweden intended to help you if you want to know more about Sweden and Swedish society. The material is available in downloadable files in several languages. The purpose of the civic orientation is to make it easier for new arrivals to become established in work and social settings.

Train your Swedish online

Here are links to pages on the internet where you can practice your Swedish.

Useful websites

- SFI notification / Application for SFI studies
- Information about Sweden - a web portal for those who are new in Sweden
- An overview of the Swedish education system
- Information about the Swedish school system
- New in Stockholm - about Stockholm and Sweden in several languages

SFX

Do you have professional qualifications from another country? If you want to quickly learn Swedish, validate your skills and get to work?

Swedish for professionals is Swedish education with a focus on professional language. It also provides an opportunity to learn how the labor market and even professional work in Sweden. You study along with others from your profession. The aim is to shorten the time to work or entrepreneurship.

Some SFX courses offered training in a firm and the chance to supplement their education in college or high school. SFX prices starting from different Swedish levels. Both SFI (Swedish for immigrants) and SVA (primary and secondary school Swedish) is part of the courses.

The same CSN rules as for regular courses in SFI, and the SVA.

Example on educations around Stockholm (<http://sfx.se/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Sfx-Lathund-170904.pdf>)

- **Swedish for Bussdrivers, Admission requirements:** Sfi C, Swedish driving license, mini age 23 years,
- **Swedish for economists, lawyers, and social welfare workers: Admission requirements:** Degree in economics, law or other appropriate social science subject.
- **Swedish for entrepreneurs. Admission requirements:** Used to study, interest in entrepreneurship. At least Sfi C, for beginners, is offered a 5-week introductory course.

- **Swedish for engineers. Admission Requirements:** Completed Engineering, English 6 (Testing Knowledge, Grades Not Required). Max 3 years in Sweden by date of latest publication date.
- **Swedish for programmers**
- **Svenska för medicinsk personal**
- **Swedish for educators**