Department of Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies

Välkommen to the Swedish Language Program!

Swedish 100: Elementary Swedish I Term I
Winter Session 2026/2027

subject to change

Acknowledgement

UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam) people. The land upon which it is situated has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.

UBC Vancouver ligger på xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam)-folkets traditionella, nedärvda och icke överlåtna territorium. Det landområde campus ä r placerat på, har alltid varit e n plats för lärande för Musqueam-folket, som i årtusenden har fört vidare sin kultur, historia och traditioner från en generation till nästa på denna mark.

COURSE INFORMATION

Title: Elementary Swedish I **Code:** SWED 100 **Section:** 101 **Credit Value**: 3

Meeting Times: M, W & F 11:00-11:50pm

Meeting Location: ANGU 039

CONTACT:

Instructor: Dr. Karin Filipsson

Contact: Check Announcements on Canvas regularly. You can email me through Canvas or at Karin.filipsson@ubc.ca

Office: Buchanan Tower, Room 905

Office Hours: Fridays 9.30-10.30.

1

in CENES Lounge (Room 910), 9th floor, Buchanan Tower
https://cenes.ubc.ca/events/event/fika/

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PREREQUISITES

None. SWED 100 is intended for students **who have no knowledge of Swedish**. Note that you can't take this course if you have taken it before. Students with native or near-native proficiency in either of the Scandinavian languages (Danish, Norwegian, Swedish) cannot participate in the elementary Swedish (SWED 100-110) courses but if you have native or near-native proficiency in Danish and Norwegian you are welcome to join the intermediate courses (SWED 200-210).

COURSE STRUCTURE

The aim of this course is to introduce the beginner to the sounds and structure of the Swedish language. It is designed to advance and expand upon basic linguistic skills through integrated and interactive practice in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Through different media (including film, music and text), students will also be introduced to Swedish culture.

Classes in Swedish 100 are activity-based and learning success will depend on student participation in those activities. Students will be expected to attend class regularly, come prepared, and participate actively in all class activities. Class instruction will integrate a combination of lecture, question and answer sessions, whole-class participation, small group activities, partner work or individual work for example (read more under Learning Activities below).

Learning a foreign language also requires sustained engagement with the material outside of the classroom.

HOW TO DO WELL IN THIS COURSE

- Read the syllabus and familiarize yourself with our Canvas page.
- Participate as much as you can. Remember that you are part of a learning community!
- Always come to class, unless you are sick, and keep your work up to date (assignments, grammar reviewing, listening to audio resources, etc.).
- Communicate with your classmates and support each other.
- Contact me for questions (this class has a discussion board for Q&A).

LEARNING MATERIALS (required, available at UBC Bookstore)

Scherrer, *Rivstart* A1+A2 Textbok 2/E (ISBN 9789127434202)
Scherrer, *Rivstart* A1+A2 Övningsbok 2/E (ISBN 9789127434219)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- acquire basic insights into Swedish language and culture
- speak and understand Swedish at a beginner's level
- learn about pronunciation rules and elementary grammar
- use greetings and small talk phrases in everyday basic situations
- give information about yourself and ask and answer simple questions
- read and write simple texts
- interact with others orally (in Swedish!) in class
- continue studying Swedish at the beginner's II level (SWED 110)

Learning Swedish and gaining an understanding of its culture will expose you to modes of thought outside your own language and culture. It will make you curious about your own language and culture and expand your understanding of the interrelation of language and thought. It will prepare you for further studies of Swedish or other languages.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

For Canvas and on-line part of this course, you will need a computer or tablet with a microphone that has the capacity to view and/or download documents from Microsoft Word (including PPT), video and audio capacity, a keyboard, and headphones.

If you encounter technical issues while using Canvas, please contact the UBC Information Technology Service Centre for assistance, using their online form. For more general information see: https://keeplearning.ubc.ca/

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND CLASSES

Topics for the learning activities are based on the thematic chapter breakdown in the *Rivstart* materials. The dates are found below and are **subject to change**:

Week	**1**	**Sep 9**	**Introduction to course, the *Rivstart* material, and to class participants.**
	2	**Sep 14-18**	**Chapter 1 part 1.**
	3	**Sep 21-25**	**Chapter 1. part 2.**
	4	**Sep 28-Oct 2**	**Chapter 2 Part 1. UBC Holiday Wed Sep 30.**

5	**Oct 5-9**	**Chapter 2 Part 2.**
6	**Oct 12-16**	**UBC Holiday Monday Oct 12. Chapter 3 part 1.**
7	**Oct 19-23**	**Chapter 3 part 2.**
8	**Oct 26-30**	**Midterm quiz chapter 1-3**
9	**Nov 2-6.**	**Chapter 4. part 1.**
10	**Nov 9-13**	**BREAK M-W Nov 9-11. Chapter 4. Part 2.**
11	**Nov 16-20**	**Chapter 4. Part 3. Asynchronous class Fri Nov 20.**
12	**Nov 23-27**	**Film week.**
13	**Nov 30-Dec 4**	**Chapter 5. Part 1.**
14	**Dec 7**	**Last class Mon Dec 7. Chapter 5. Part 2.**

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Classes in Swedish 100 are activity-based. Most instruction will integrate a combination of lecture, question and answer sessions, whole-class participation, small group activities, partner work for example in groups, or individual work for example at home or under Discussions on Canvas. Class activities like communicative exchanges, interviews, games and music lyrics will provide an opportunity to reinforce and expand your linguistic skills.

There will be an ongoing Q&A on Canvas (under Discussions) where you are welcome to ask questions related to the course and the course material. Again, make sure to check Announcements on Canvas regularly. This will be our main tool to communicate.

Outside the classroom: The *Rivstart* package includes online resources like a Swedish-English wordlist, verb list, audio files and listening comprehensions. You can also do practice exercises and tests after each unit, so the online platform is integrated with the course materials and improves both your grammar and vocabulary. You will need to create an account to access these resources, and I will post the instructions on Canvas.

Students come prepared for class by completing homework assigned by the instructor. This will include reading assignments to help develop reading comprehension strategies. Assignments are

4

focused on topics that have been covered in the instructional materials.

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING

Grade breakdown:

Participation, Preparation, Homework	30%
Online Material Exercises	10%
Midterm quiz	15%
Film review	15%
Final project	25%
Proposal	5%

Participation, Preparation, Homework (30%):
Active participation in all class activities is crucial for language learning success and presence in class is mandatory. Students must come prepared for class by completing the work assigned by their instructor. Participation grades will be based on the instructor's assessment of students' preparation for class and their on-task involvement in daily classroom work. Unexcused absences will negatively affect your grade. Punctuality is appreciated. Repeated tardiness will negatively affect your participation grade. Absences will be excused at the instructor's discretion, based on UBC and departmental policy.

Online Material Exercises (10%):
The *Rivstart* instructional materials are integrated with an online platform. Here you'll find so called *extra material.* The online activities completed here are autograded and designed to promote lexical, structural and cultural knowledge. The selection of assignments for this component is at the discretion of the instructor however it's recommended that you do the exercises parallel to the chapters we work with in class.

Midterm Quiz (15%):
There will be a midterm quiz after completing chapter 3.

Film Review (10%):
You will be watching a (subtitled) Swedish film. You will be asked a number of questions about the plot, the characters and the language, give a short review as well as reflect a bit on what it taught you about Sweden and/or Swedish culture.

Final project (25%)
You will complete a project about something you find interesting about Sweden or Swedish culture either individually or in groups of maximum 3. It could be to present a unique artist, some intriguing architecture, introduce a sport or game or highlight a diverse and inclusive perspective of Swedish cultures, including Indigenous, Black Swedish, LGBTQ+ among others. Sharing options could be a short PPT; a comic; a short film, podcast, vlog, or series of Instagram posts etc. More detailed instructions in Rubric on Canvas.

Final project Proposal (5 %)

You will submit a proposal for your final project.

Assessment Content and Format

Before the quizzes and assignments, students will receive detailed information about content and format.

The content of the quizzes and assignments are consistent with the instructional content of the *Rivstart* course and online material. The format of the quizzes will be divided into units that assess the linguistic proficiencies of reading and writing, as well as the formal structures of the language and lexical knowledge.

The linguistic proficiency of listening and speaking is assessed separately in class. Tasks to assess comprehension may include but are not limited to providing a response to questions about what was heard, choosing the correct answer from a selection of possible responses, answer questions in an interview, reading together in pairs and individually.

Comprehension of the grammatical structures of Swedish will be assessed through tasks and activities appropriate to the structure, e.g. word order may be assessed by re-writing scrambled sentences in the correct word order or using the verbs in their correct form. Units assessing lexical acquisition are presented within a context such as text completion.

Writing proficiency will be assessed by requiring that students write a text in Swedish on topics that have been covered in the instructional materials. The student is encouraged to use grammar structures and vocabulary from the course material but can also incorporate new words etc. **However, beware of online translation programs or you might end up writing in "Googlish" or worst-case, plagiarism. Read more about ChatGPT and AI Writing Tools in this syllabus.**
The assignments and quizzes should demonstrate learner understanding of the course material, through synthesis and application, i.e. the skilled use of written and spoken Swedish. The grading criteria are consistent with the criteria established by the Faculty of Arts see:
http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,42,96,0

Assessment Policies

In order to successfully complete the requirements for Swedish 100, students must achieve a total grade of at least 50% for the course.

In accordance with University regulations, cheating and plagiarism is subject to disciplinary action. Students in the Swedish Language Program must write, correct and/or revise all their assignments independently; that is, with no assistance of any kind from another person. The use of electronic aids and devices is also strictly prohibited; however, students are permitted to consult a Swedish - English dictionary, their textbook and/or a grammar book. See:
http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/citing-sources-is-about-more-than-just-following-the-rules/
Assignments must be submitted, on the original due date. 1% of the assigned grade will be

deducted for every late day. An extension may be granted in case of illness or a recognized UBC activity. The request for an extension must be accompanied by supporting documentation. Quizzes are normally to be taken on the day set by either your instructor, the program coordinator, or by General Faculties Council. Make-ups for quizzes and assignments are permitted only in cases of illness, where travel for recognized University activities conflicts with the test dates, or for the observance of a religious holiday. In the instance of a recognized University activity, authorization must be obtained from the University official responsible for the activity. In accordance with UBC policy, students who wish to observe a religious holiday must notify their instructor two weeks in advance of the religious holiday they wish to observe. In all cases, **it is the student's responsibility to locate the instructor and to arrange a make-up.** Rewriting a test or redistributing the grade percentage values as allocated in the Grade Breakdown will not be permitted.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions.
Details of the policies and how to access support are available on the UBC Senate website

Academic Code of Honor

Academic honesty and integrity are essential principles of the University of British Columbia. All UBC students are expected to behave as honest and responsible members of our academic community and to uphold the highest standards of ethics and academic integrity. As a student of the Swedish Language Program, you will be required to abide by the principles and policies of the University with respect to academic honesty and integrity and affirm a pledge to uphold them.

Academic Integrity

"Students are responsible for informing themselves of the guidelines of acceptable and non-acceptable conduct for graded assignments established by their instructors for specific courses and of [...] examples of academic misconduct [...]" (http://bit.ly/2aIaXji). "All work submitted by students (including, without limitation, essays, dissertations, theses, examinations, tests, reports, presentations, problem sets, and tutorial assignments) may be reviewed by the University for authenticity and originality. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, such review may include the use of software tools and third-party services including Internet-based services such as TurnItIn.com. By submitting work, students consent to their work undergoing such review and being retained in a database for comparison with other work submitted by students. The results of such review may be used in any University investigation or disciplinary proceedings"

(http://bit.ly/2aIaZaN).

Anything you use in your written work, directly or indirectly, must be cited (e.g., if you are paraphrasing or using a quotation, if you are using class notes or lecture slides, etc.). Not citing and making reference to the quotation and the original source constitutes academic dishonesty. **Cases of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will receive zero credit and will be forwarded to the Dean's Office, in accordance with UBC policy**. No excuses. Unless otherwise stated by the professor, you must work individually (i.e., not with other students) to produce the written work that you submit.

It is your responsibility as a student to fully and carefully read the information contained in the following web links, which offer detailed information concerning plagiarism:

Plagiarism Resource Centre For Students

Academic Regulations

http://help.library.ubc.ca/planning-your-research/academic-integrity-plagiarism/

According to the UBC Academic Calendar, "Plagiarism, which is intellectual theft, occurs where an individual submits or presents the oral or written work of another person as his or her own...when another person's words (i.e. phrases, sentences, or paragraphs), ideas, or entire works are used, the author must be acknowledged in the text, in footnotes, in endnotes, or in another accepted form of academic citation."

To sum it up, plagiarism is taking the words or ideas of another person and submitting them without the proper acknowledgement of the original author.

A note about ChatGPT and AI Writing Tools

In the Nordic program, we discourage the use of ChatGPT (or a similar tool) in general. However, if you decide to deploy ChatGPT to get answers for an assignment and/or to generate any text for a draft or final version of any part of a written assignment do so responsibly. You must declare that you have used it, with a couple of sentences describing the extent to which it was used, and you must save any generated text from this tool in case it is requested. Failure to provide a proper reference and description will be considered a breach of academic integrity and academic misconduct.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Attendance

In accordance with UBC Policies and Regulations, students are expected to attend class regularly and to be on time. Arriving late or leaving early is disruptive to the class and will be subject to a reduction in the participation grade. Those students who are unavoidably absent from scheduled classes must report the reason for their absence to their instructor immediately upon their return

to class. Students may be granted concession for their absence either by their instructor or, in the case of an extended absence, by the Academic Advising Services of the Faculty of Arts. In the Swedish Language Program, a student without concession, whose attendance falls below 60% of the scheduled instructional hours, will be excluded from the final examination.

Students must contact me via email as soon as you are aware you may need an in-term concession. I will adjudicate the request. Please include a Student Self-Declaration form, found on the Arts Advising website. If you require a second concession, Arts Students must contact Arts Advising. Please review their website for concession criteria as well as process to follow. Students in other Faculties should contact their Faculty advising office for direction.

Electronic Devices

Computers, cell phones and other electronic devices are to be used only as required for class-related activities. Failure to do so is considered disrespectful and may be subject to a reduction in the participation grade.

COPYRIGHT

All materials of this course are the intellectual property of the instructor or licensed to be used in this course by the copyright owner. That includes materials uploaded to Canvas by the instructor and shared with students on Canvas and are for the use of those students registered in that class, and only by them, and are not to be downloaded, uploaded and shared elsewhere. Redistribution of these materials by any means without permission of the copyright holder(s) constitutes a breach of copyright and may lead to academic discipline.

Students are not permitted to record the Swedish classes.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTER TAKING THIS COURSE?

- Pursue a minor in Nordic Studies https://cenes.ubc.ca/undergraduate/nordic-studies/

- Study (more) Swedish or Danish https://cenes.ubc.ca/undergraduate/nordic-studies/

- Take more Nordic-related courses at UBC
https://courses.students.ubc.ca/cs/courseschedule?pname=subjarea&tname=subj-department&dept=NORD

- Read our brochure about the Nordic Program at the bottom of this page
https://cenes.ubc.ca/undergraduate/nordic-studies/

- Join the Scandinavian and Nordic Students' Association (the SCAN/NORD student club at UBC) ubcscandinaviannordic@gmail.com or follow them on Insta @ubcsnsa

- Study in one of the Nordic countries https://global.ubc.ca/go-global

- Contact the Nordic Director Tim Frandy tfrandy@mail.ubc.ca with questions or for more information

10