



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
English

# Syllabus

## Second language learning: Social perspectives

<b>Course Code:</b>	ENAES7
<b>Course Title:</b>	Second language learning: Social perspectives <i>Andraspråksinläring - sociala perspektiv</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	7.5
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Master's level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1F)

**Major Field of Study:**  
ENA (English)

### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2021-02-05, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2021 at Karlstad University.

### Prerequisites

1-90 ECTS credits, including at least 30 ECTS credits at G2F level in one of the main subjects English, Linguistics, Swedish, Swedish as a second language, French, Spanish, German, Pedagogy, or Pedagogical Work, plus upper secondary school level English 6 or B, or equivalent

### Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to

1. give an account of current socially oriented theories of second language learning,
2. critically examine and evaluate published empirical studies in the field of second language learning,
3. demonstrate knowledge of relevant qualitative research methods in the field and critically assess the suitability of different research methods and types of data for different research questions, and

4. plan a research study in the field of second language learning and justify the plan through a coherent argument based on relevant research.

### **Content**

The course covers theories, theoretical developments, and research methods in the field of second language learning. The course content mainly focuses on social perspectives on second language learning and relevant, especially qualitative, research methods. Approaches such as sociocultural theory, sociocognitive perspectives, conversation analysis, and language socialisation are treated theoretically and illustrated methodologically using selected empirical studies. Through discussion of theoretical and methodological aspects of previous and current perspectives on second language learning, students develop the knowledge required to plan a research project, including research questions, data collection, methods of analysis, and ethical considerations in research.

### **Reading List**

See separate document.

### **Examination**

Assessment of all learning outcomes is based on individual written hand-in assignments and an individual oral presentation.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

### **Grades**

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

### **Quality Assurance**

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

### **Course Certificate**

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

### **Additional information**

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.