



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
English

Syllabus

Second language learning: Social perspectives

Course Code:	ENAES7
Course Title:	Second language learning: Social perspectives <i>Andraspråksinläring - sociala perspektiv</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:
ENA (English)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2024-02-13, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2024 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

90 ECTS credits completed, including at least 30 ECTS credits at the G2F level in English or another main field of study in the humanities or social sciences, and upper secondary level English 6, 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 active participation in seminars.

The examiner may decide that a student who is very close to a passing grade can complete a supplementary assignment to receive a passing grade for a specific examination.

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.