



DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

AF1121 African Languages: Xhosa and Zulu, Introductory Course, 7.5 credits

Afrikanska språk: Xhosa och Zulu, Introduktionskurs, 7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Languages and Literatures on 2023-02-03 and was last revised on 2023-02-08 to be valid from 2023-08-28, autumn semester of 2023.

Field of education: Arts 100%

Department: Department of Languages and Literatures

Position in the educational system

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

Main field of studies

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Specialization

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Entry requirements

General entrance requirements for university studies. Exemption is given from Swedish.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- account for basic linguistic terminology;
- give an account of the grammatical structure of Xhosa and Zulu with a focus on morphology, and demonstrate basic knowledge of syntax;
- describe the linguistic situation in South Africa;

Competence and skills

- use the basic rules in the morphology, phonology and syntax of Xhosa and Zulu dealt with in the course;
- demonstrate communicative skills in Xhosa or Zulu using about 500 words;
- discuss simple linguistic issues and analyse and interpret texts from a linguistic perspective;
- translate a simple text from Xhosa or Zulu into English;

Judgement and approach

- relate critically to literature on Xhosa and Zulu.

The course is sustainability-related, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria.

Course content

Xhosa and Zulu are both part of the language cluster Nguni. The basic grammatical structure of the languages is very similar and the languages are therefore in this course treated as a language system. Special attention is paid to important differences. Students can choose to focus on vocabulary and texts in one of the two language varieties.

The course provides knowledge of basic linguistic terminology, as well as the phonetics, phonology, orthography, morphology, syntax and semantics of Xhosa and Zulu. In the course a vocabulary of about 500 words should be acquired, and reading skills are developed through the study of modified and commented texts. Throughout the course, translation is also practiced, mainly from Xhosa or Zulu into English, but also simple translations into Xhosa or Zulu. Furthermore, the course gives an overview of the role of Xhosa and Zulu in South African society.

Form of teaching

The course may be given as an on-campus course or as an online course. The teaching is conducted in the form of teaching sessions and exercises via the virtual learning environment of the University of Gothenburg.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The course is assessed through continuous compulsory assignments during the course as well as through a final written examination.

A student who has failed a course item is eligible for a retake exam/assignment. In

connection with written assignments, supplementary assignments may be offered in order for the student to achieve a Pass grade. Such a supplementary assignment should be done within the stipulated time (normally five working days after the result has been posted). Otherwise a Fail grade will be reported.

A student who has completed an exam/assignment with a passing grade is not eligible for a retake for the purpose of receiving a higher grade. Nor may a student withdraw a test/assignment once it has been submitted for the purpose of avoiding receiving a grade for the work.

A student who has taken two examinations in a course or a part of a course without obtaining a passing grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner unless there are special reasons to the contrary (HF 6 chap. 22§). Such a request should be made in writing to the department responsible for the course.

If the University of Gothenburg has decided that a student is eligible for special study support, the examiner may, provided it is compatible with the aim of the course and it can be done within the scope of available resources, decide to offer the student an adjusted examination or a different examination format.

If the course has been discontinued or substantially revised, a student should be guaranteed to sit the examination on at least three occasions (including the ordinary examination occasion) during a period of at least one year, but not later than two years after the course was discontinued or revised. As regards internships/placement the same as above applies, with the exception that examination is offered on only one occasion.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

For the grade of Pass with distinction on the whole course, a Pass with distinction on the final examination of module Part 3 is required.

Course evaluation

The students are given the opportunity to make a written evaluation of the course. The results of the evaluation are published digitally

Additional information

Equality aspects should be taken in consideration in content, literature, teaching and evaluation.

To follow a web-based course, students must have access to a computer, web camera and stable broadband connection.