



## DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

### **AF1200 Language and society in Africa, Intermediate course, 7.5 credits**

Språk och samhälle i Afrika, fortsättningskurs, 7,5 högskolepoäng

*First Cycle*

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#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Languages and Literatures on 2019-06-03 and was last revised on 2020-10-09 to be valid from 2021-01-18, spring semester of 2021.

*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*

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

#### **Entry requirements**

The requirement for admission to the course is that the course AF1100, Language and society in Africa (7.5 credits), has been completed, or the equivalent thereof. An exception is made from Swedish as a general entry requirement.

#### **Learning outcomes**

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

*Knowledge and understanding*

- explain the role of language in the social structure in African countries;

- describe how linguistic realities and considerations interact with and are influenced by social, cultural and political relations;

#### *Competence and skills*

- discuss sociolinguistic issues by means of relevant terminology;
- apply sociolinguistic theory and method in a specified and delimited problem area;

#### *Judgement and approach*

- critically and independently discuss the course literature and the subjects that are brought up in the course;
- demonstrate the ability to identify and critically analyse relations that are based on linguistic realities and language-political considerations.

### **Course content**

The course contains different linguistic perspectives, with a focus on contact linguistics and sociolinguistic issues in African countries. The course gives in-depth knowledge of how history, politics, economics, religion and migration can influence language planning, language policies and language use in a multilingual context. By discussing language status connected to aspects of power and identity, the course highlights how social structures are created and strengthened, and provides an understanding of how speakers of minority languages are influenced both as a group and as individuals. The course problematises and thereby raises awareness in questions that concern economic, cultural and political development. The themes of the course are highlighted through examples from research in contact linguistics in African countries and through research results from the field of linguistic landscapes.

### **Form of teaching**

The course is a distance course. The course includes some scheduled meetings on campus. All other teaching is web-based and takes place via the University of Gothenburg's digital learning platform. The teaching is conducted in the form of lectures and seminars as well as exercises and tasks in small groups.

#### *Language of instruction:* English

The major part of the course literature is in English.

### **Assessment**

The examination takes place in Swedish or English. The course is assessed through written assignments, active participation in compulsory discussion forums as well as through a written work.

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 exams in a course or part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner. The student needs to contact the department for a new examiner, preferably in writing, and this should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special educational support, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, the examiner may decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years, after the course has ceased/been changed. The same applies to placements and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

### **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, this grade is required on the written examination.

### **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 into consideration in content, literature, teaching and evaluation.