



## DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

### **EN2222 Variationist Sociolinguistics, 7.5 higher education credits**

Sociolingvistik med inriktning mot variation, 7,5 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

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#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Languages and Literatures on 2016-09-07 and was last revised on 2016-09-19 to be valid from 2017-01-16, spring semester of 2017.

*Field of education:* Arts 100%

*Department:* Department of Languages and Literatures

#### **Position in the educational system**

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Language and Intercultural Communication (H2SIK)

*Main field of studies*

English

*Specialization*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

#### **Entry requirements**

For admission to the course, a Bachelor's degree is required or the equivalent thereof.

#### **Learning outcomes**

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

*Knowledge and understanding*

- describe central and current theories and methods in sociolinguistics;

- demonstrate an understanding of the history of sociolinguistics;

#### *Skills and abilities*

- orally and in writing discuss sociolinguistic methods in English;
- carry out a research assignment in variationist sociolinguistics where collection of material, analysis and interpretation are included;

#### *Judgement and approach*

- orally and in writing analyse, evaluate and critically review his/her own arguments and those of others in sociolinguistics on the basis of scholarly and ethical possibilities, limitations and for consequences for the surrounding society and for continued studies in the field.

### **Course content**

The central part of the course consists of a practical assignment where the student collects his/her own material which is analysed and interpreted. As a background, the historical context of sociolinguistics is studied where William Labov and his innovations from the 1960s are treated as well as Labov's predecessors. Important current theories and methods are studied, as well as the importance of variationist sociolinguistics to different empirical methods in linguistics, and its strengths and weaknesses.

### **Form of teaching**

The course consists of lectures, seminars and individual supervision.

*Language of instruction:* English

### **Assessment**

The course is examined through a final linguistic paper written in English. It should be based on unique data about variation in a language; English, Swedish or another language. The scope should be 3500-5000 words plus references and other material. It should be presented orally in English and discussed at a mini conference.

Students who have failed any part of the course are given the possibility of a new test. Those who have passed a subtest may not undergo a new test for a higher grade. Nor do students have the right to withdraw a submitted test and in such a way avoid being graded.

If a student who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application should be sent to the department responsible for the course and be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student should normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

**Grades**

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

**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. In addition, where relevant, the course should make students aware of and problematise ecological, economic, cultural and socially sustainable development.