

Language Centre

Information to Master's students

31 August 2023

The Language Centre in a nutshell

- Operates in Åbo and Vasa
- Swedish and Finnish as a Foreign Language
- English academic writing skills
- The course Developing Thesis Writing Skills
- Text consultation
- Language response of degree theses
- Other foreign languages
- Language proficiency tests
- Language regulations

Master's students

Academic Writing Skills in English for Master's students

- ***Compulsary for students for Master students of Economics***
- *Learning outcomes*
At the end of the course the learners are expected to be able to:
 - evaluate and analyse a wide range of authentic academic texts
 - locate, evaluate and make use of a wide range of authentic academic skills literature on the web and from other sources
 - compose a well-structured and well-written academic text related to their field
 - effectively present and explain aspects of their own work both in oral and written form
 - respond orally and in written form to authentic academic texts according to the conventions of academic discourse
 - better cope with the demands of research in an international environment.
- ***Please check with the study advisor of your Master's programme if you need to take the course!***
- ***Compulsary language response for all Master students on the Master's thesis.***

Compulsary language response

- is carried out on master's theses written in Swedish and English, as well as Swedish summaries of master's theses.

The purpose of language response is to enable you to identify merits as well as difficulties in your text and, with the aid of the feedback from the teacher, help you deliver a well-written text.

Submit text for language response well before you have finished your thesis.

More information: <https://abofi.sharepoint.com/sites/intra-en-languages-and-communication/SitePages/Obligatory-language-response-for-master's-theses.aspx>

Text consultation

Individual academic text consultation

- If you need advice concerning your text before submitting it for compulsory language response, individual academic text consultation in English is available to degree students.
- Make an appointment for language response when your text is sufficiently completed so that the teacher will be able to properly review and comment on the language. Contact one of the teachers listed below and be prepared to submit 5–7 pages at least five days before the appointment.

Teachers:

Ream Barclay

Iris Lindahl-Raittila

Developing Thesis Writing Skills

- *Learning objectives:*
At the end of the course, students should:
- be able to set personal goals for their own writing and work consciously to reach them
- have a better perception of their own language skills
- be able to give and receive feedback on language and style in academic writing
- know how to independently find answers to questions about language issues
- understand how the academic writing process is structured

Teaching: 2 groups in autumn 2023, 1 group in spring 2024

Format: Hybrid teaching

Registration form found in study guide/course version

Teachers: Malin Johansson, Christel Björkstrand

National students with a Bachelor's degree from abroad

- National Master's students with a Bachelor's degree from abroad need to demonstrate **excellent proficiency in their language of secondary education, satisfactory or good proficiency in the other national language** according to F 794/2004

Language proficiency

A student shall demonstrate attainment of the following standards in the studies included in the programme for a Bachelor's or Master's degree, or in some other manner:

- 1) *the proficiency in Finnish and Swedish language that is required of central government staff in bilingual public organisations under subsection 1 of section 6 of the Act on the Knowledge of Languages Required of Personnel in Public Bodies (424/2003) and that is necessary for their own field; and*
- 2) *proficiency in at least one foreign language that enables students to monitor progress in their own field and operate in an international setting.*

The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to a student whose school education was conducted in a language other than Finnish or Swedish, or to a student whose school education took place abroad. The universities shall determine the language proficiency of such students. Universities may either wholly or partly exempt a student from the language proficiency requirements laid down in subsection 1 where there are special reasons for doing so.

Master programs: national students

Finnish Students, school education language Swedish, BA from a Finnish university

If your BA degree includes the required compulsory languages (Swedish/Finnish, one foreign language on level B2-C1, communication studies) and a maturity test, you do not need any compulsory languages studies in your Master's degree.

Finnish Students, school education language Swedish, BA from a university outside Finland

If not in the BA, included in the MA:

Finnish as Second National Language on level "good" or "satisfactory".

Maturity test in Swedish, the language will be evaluated.

The language of the degree thesis requires compulsory language response.

Master programs: national students

Finnish Students, school education language Finnish, BA from a Finnish university

If your BA degree includes the required languages (Finnish, Swedish, a foreign language, communication studies) including a maturity test in Finnish, you do not need any compulsory language studies for your Master's degree.

Finnish Students, school education language Finnish, BA from a university abroad

If not in the BA, included in the MA:

Swedish as Second National Language on at least level "satisfactory".

Maturity test in Finnish, the language will be evaluated (if you have obtained L, E or M in Finnish as your mother tongue in the Finnish matriculation examination, no maturity test is needed).

The language of the degree thesis requires compulsory language response.

Swedish as a foreign language, level 1, 5 ECTS

Learning objectives (level A1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages)

- Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to do the following:
 - understand the main content of simple texts that contain familiar words and phrases
 - understand information regarding familiar everyday situations when spoken slowly
 - write a simple text about themselves and their life
 - express themselves adhering to basic rules and answer questions about topics that have been dealt with during the course
- **Teacher: Charlotta Sandberg, Jane Wingren**
- **Languages of instruction: English and Swedish**
- **3 groups : September–December 2023**
- **Registration by 1 September (at 12.00/noon)**

- **2 groups: January – April 2024**
- **Registration by 10 January, 2024 (at 12.00/noon)**

For more detailed information see:

<https://studiehandboken.abo.fi/en/course/909970.0/2256?period=2022-2024>

Swedish as a foreign language, level 2, 5 ECTS

Learning objectives (level A1-A2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages)

- Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to do the following:
 - understand the main content of texts that deal with familiar topics
 - understand information in stories and discussions about familiar themes in clear Swedish that is not spoken too quickly
 - write about their life and their local environment
 - participate in conversations about familiar subjects
- **Teacher: Charlotta Sandberg**
- **Language of instruction: English and Swedish**
- **2 groups:**
September –December, 2023, registration by 1 September (at 12.00/noon)
January – April, 2024, registration by 10 January 2024 (at 12.00/noon)
- **For more detailed information see :**
- **<https://studiehandboken.abo.fi/en/course/909960.0/2255?period=2022-2024>**

Swedish as a foreign language, Level 3, 5 ECTS

Learning objectives Level A2-B1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Language

- Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:
 - understand descriptions of events, simple factual texts and newspaper articles, etc.
 - comprehend the main points of discussions and media stories that deal with familiar topics
 - summarize a text in writing as well as produce a text about a familiar topic
 - tell an audience about a familiar topic and participate in a conversation if the subject is familiar
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- **Teacher: Charlotta Sandberg**
 - **Language of instruction: Swedish and English**
 - **1 group: September – December, 2023**
 - **Registration by 1 September (at 12.00/noon)**

For more detailed information see:

<https://studiehandboken.abo.fi/en/course/909980.0/2257?period=2022-2024>

Swedish as a foreign language, Level 4, 5 ECTS

Learning objectives (level B1-B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages)

- Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to do the following:
 - find information in longer texts, e.g. newspaper articles and factual texts, especially in their own field of study
 - answer questions based on longer talks, lectures, TV shows, radio programs, etc. delivered in standard language if the topic relates to their own field of study or current events
 - write texts and summaries of articles about current events or subjects that are study related or of professional interest
 - present a relevant topic within their own field of study and participate in discussions about general topics or of global political interest
- **Teacher: Charlotta Sandberg**
- **Language of instruction: Swedish and English**
- **1 group: January – May, 2024**
- **Registration by 10 January, 2024 (at 12.00/noon)**
- **For more detailed information see:**
- **<https://studiehandboken.abo.fi/en/course/909990.0/2835?period=2022-2024>**

Swedish

If you have previous knowledge of Swedish and need to be tested,
please contact the teacher

Charlotta.Sandberg@abo.fi

Finnish as a foreign language, Level 1, 5 ETCS

Learning objectives (level A1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages)

- Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to do the following:
 - understand the main content of simple texts that contain familiar words and phrases
 - understand information regarding familiar everyday situations when spoken slowly
 - write a simple text about themselves and their life
 - express themselves adhering to basic rules and answer questions about topics that have been dealt with during the course

- **Teacher: Veikko Latvakangas**
- **Language of instruction: English, Finnish**
- **2 groups: September – December, 2023**
- **Registration by 1 September (at 12.00/noon)**

- **1 group: January – May, 2024**
- **Registration by: 10 January, 2024 (at 12.00/noon)**

For more detailed information see:

<https://studiehandboken.abo.fi/en/course/CS00BQ87/10057?period=2022-2024>

Finnish as a foreign language, Level 2, 5 ETCS

Learning objectives (level A1-A2 according to the Common European Framework of References for Language)

- Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to do the following:
 - understand the main content of texts that deal with familiar topics
 - understand information in stories and discussions about familiar themes in clear Finnish that is not spoken too quickly
 - write about their life and their local environment
 - participate in conversations about familiar subjects

- **Teacher: Zara Wessberg**
- **Language of instruction: English, Finnish**
- **1 group: January – April, 2024**
- **Registration by 10 January, 2024 (at 12.00/noon)**

For more detailed information see:

<https://studiehandboken.abo.fi/en/course/CS00BT57/12225?period=2022-2024>

Finnish as a foreign language, level 3, 5 ETCS

- Target level: B1 according to the European Framework of Reference for Languages.
- **Learning objectives:**
- Upon completion of the course, students are expected to have acquired a knowledge of Finnish that makes them competitive in the Finnish labour market and attractive for expert assignments in working life
- **Prerequisites:**
- A2 according to the European Framework of Reference for Languages.
- **Teachers: Zara Wessberg**
- **Language of instruction: English, Finnish**
- **1 group: September – December, 2023**
- **Registration by 1 September, 2023**

For more detailed information see:

<https://studiehandboken.abo.fi/en/course/CS00BQ87/10057?period=2022-2024>

Finnish as a foreign language, level 4

Course to be offered in spring 2024

More information will be published in the study guide during the autumn term 2023.

Finnish

- Please contact the teachers if you have any questions concerning the courses:
 - Finnish 1: Veikko.Latvakangas@abo.fi
 - Finnish 2: Zara.Wessberg@abo.fi
 - Finnish 3: Zara.Wessberg@abo.fi

Check your CEFR level here:

[Self-assessment grid - Table 2 \(CEFR 3.3\) : Common Reference levels \(coe.int\)](#)

Council of Europe:

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Please note

Each course normally:

- 14 weeks, 5 credits
- Student workload: 56 h in class, 74 h of self-study
- Max. 23 places
- Mid-term and final examination
- Re-take exams
- Final examination passed -> 5 credits
- Grading system - Scale: 5 - 1 and f (fail)
- No certificate of attendance

Other languages offered:

- English
- French
- German
- Italian
- Latin
- Russian
- Spanish
- Swedish-Finnish sign language

Good knowledge of Swedish is required!

etandem, level A2

Course aims:

To give the student the opportunity to

- become familiar with the target language and the culture where it is spoken
- improve his or her Communication skills in the target language
- teach the tandem partner his or her own language and culture
- promote the contact between students with another mother tongue
- prepare for Exchange studies abroad
- help students from abroad to adjust to life in Finland

Autumn 2023:

Teacher: Marjaana Laaksonen

Enroll by filling in the form at: <https://survey.abo.fi/lomakkeet/14629/lomake.html>

The enrolment period is August 1 – September 15, 2023.

First meeting/kickoff: Monday 21 September 16:00-17:30

Course assistantship for international students

- Contact the course teacher for more information
- **Contact information:**
- <https://www.abo.fi/en/language-centre/contact-information/>

Language Café - Språkkafé

- We will, within the project Talent Boost, arrange language cafés where you can use Swedish and Finnish with tutors.

Guidance and counselling

Language Centre Manager:

Mia Panisse

Office: Arken, G104

mpanisse@abo.fi, sprakcentret-utbildningschef@abo.fi

Tel. +358 2 215 4593

Study Advisor:

Jaana Huttunen

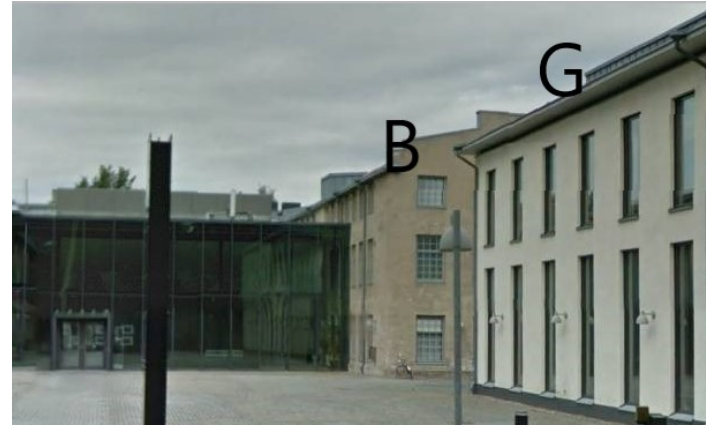
Office: Arken, B202

Tel. +358 2 215 4365

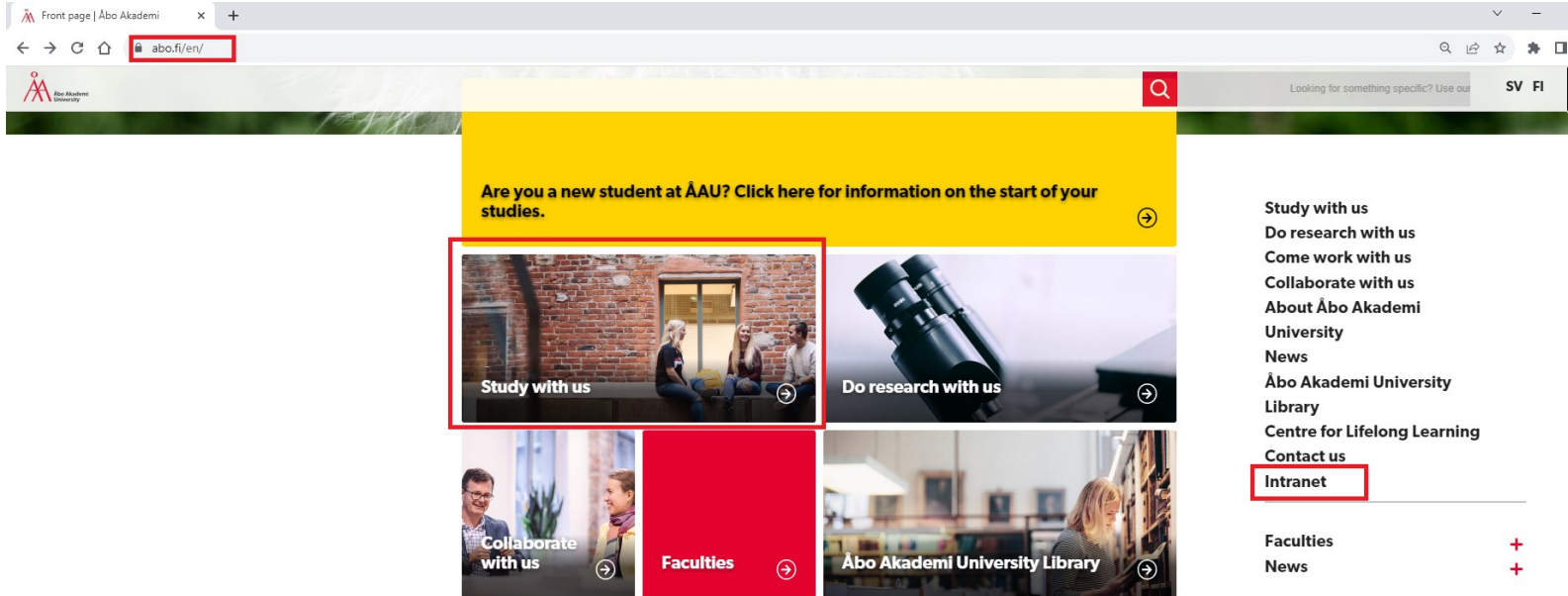
jaana.huttunen@abo.fi, sprakcentret-abokansli@abo.fi

Location in Åbo/Turku

- Fabriksgatan 2, Arken
- Building B, 2nd and 3rd floors
- Building G, 1st and 2nd floors



Website abo.fi/en



Front page | Åbo Akademi

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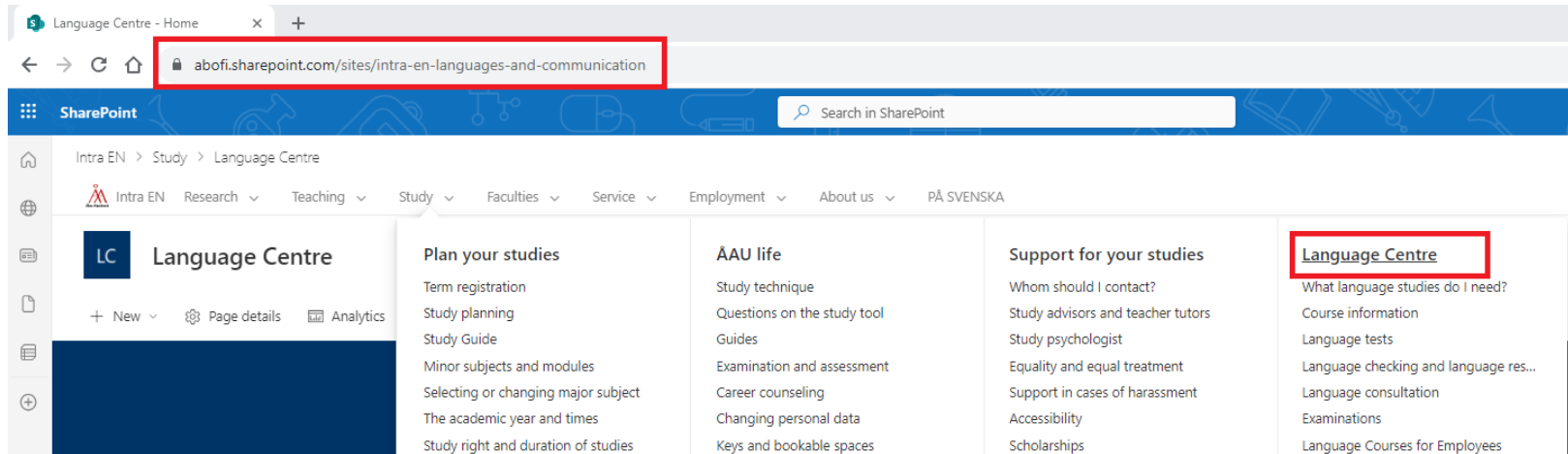
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The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the SharePoint Intranet page for the Language Centre. The browser's address bar shows the URL `abofi.sharepoint.com/sites/intra-en-languages-and-communication`, which is highlighted with a red box. The SharePoint interface includes a search bar, a navigation menu with options like 'Intra EN', 'Research', 'Teaching', 'Study', 'Faculties', 'Service', 'Employment', 'About us', and 'PÅ SVENSKA', and a main content area. The main content area features a 'Language Centre' header, a '+ New' button, and several columns of links. The 'Language Centre' link in the rightmost column is highlighted with a red box. The columns contain the following links:

- Plan your studies**
 - Term registration
 - Study planning
 - Study Guide
 - Minor subjects and modules
 - Selecting or changing major subject
 - The academic year and times
 - Study right and duration of studies
- ÅAU life**
 - Study technique
 - Questions on the study tool
 - Guides
 - Examination and assessment
 - Career counseling
 - Changing personal data
 - Keys and bookable spaces
- Support for your studies**
 - Whom should I contact?
 - Study advisors and teacher tutors
 - Study psychologist
 - Equality and equal treatment
 - Support in cases of harassment
 - Accessibility
 - Scholarships
- Language Centre**
 - What language studies do I need?
 - Course information
 - Language tests
 - Language checking and language res...
 - Language consultation
 - Examinations
 - Language Courses for Employees



[sprakcentret.aboakademi](https://www.instagram.com/sprakcentret.aboakademi)

Welcome to the Language Centre!