

Language Centre information

Exchange students and Master students in Vasa

Åbo Akademi University

30.8.2023

Guidance and counselling

Amanuensis, responsible for the department in Vasa

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Secretary

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- You can find us on the intranet:

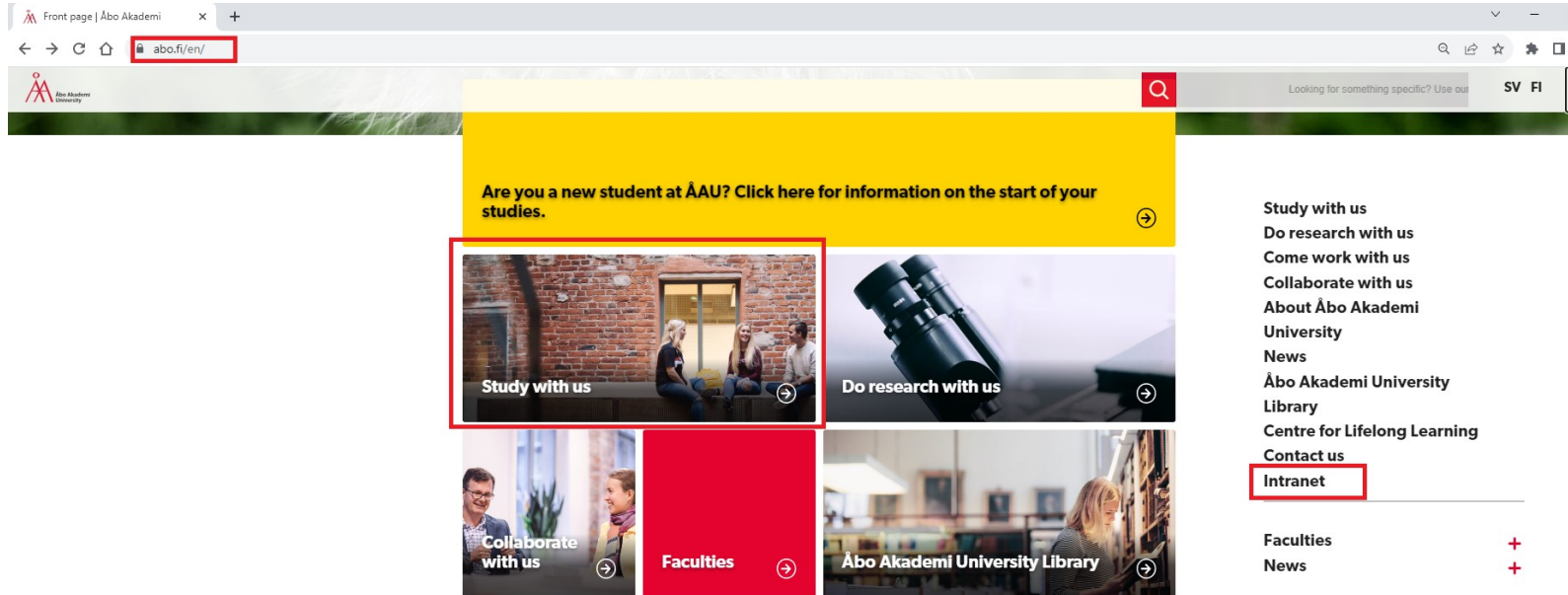
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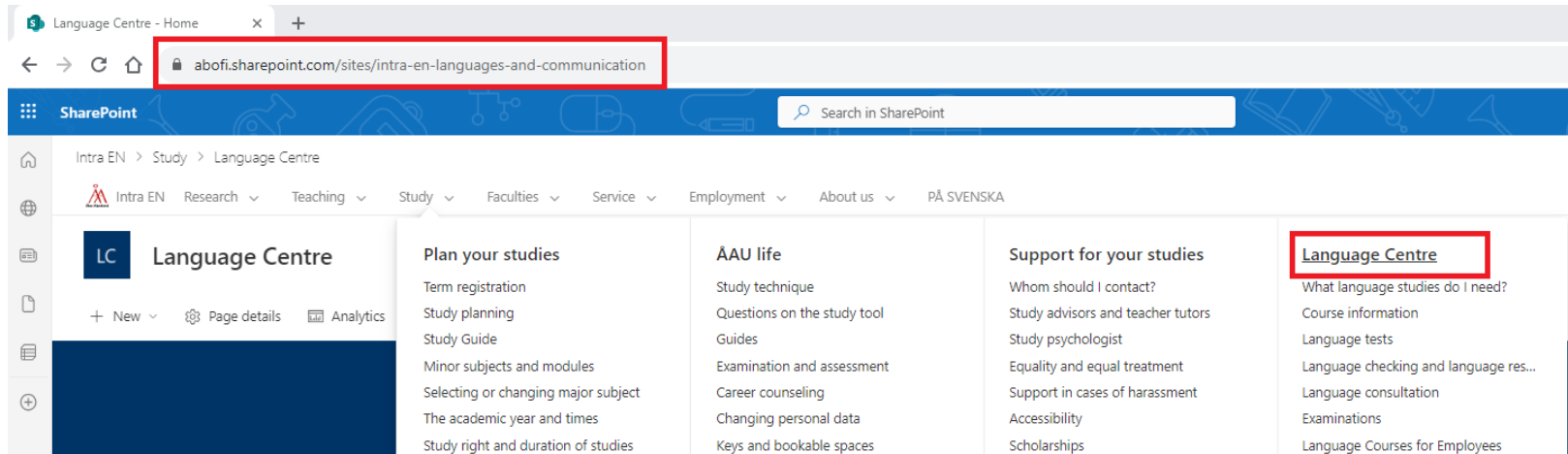
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The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL abofi.sharepoint.com/sites/intra-en-languages-and-communication highlighted in red. The page is the SharePoint Intranet for the Language Centre. The breadcrumb trail is "Intra EN > Study > Language Centre". The navigation menu includes "Intra EN", "Research", "Teaching", "Study", "Faculties", "Service", "Employment", "About us", and "PÅ SVENSKA". The main content area features a "Language Centre" header with "New", "Page details", and "Analytics" options. Below the header are five columns of content: "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), and "Language Centre" (What language studies do I need?, Course information, Language tests, Language checking and language res..., Language consultation, Examinations, Language Courses for Employees). The "Language Centre" link in the fifth column is highlighted with a red box.

Appointments

- You can mail firstname.lastname@abo.fi and **book an appointment either on campus or on Zoom.**
- **You can find us in the B-building, 6th floor.**

Location in Vasa

Academill B 6



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

Staff in Åbo and Vasa

Language Centre staff consists of approximately 20 full-time lecturers across an array of foreign languages and language counselling, an additional 10-15 occasional instructors, and central administration.

Exchange students

- Optional language courses.
- You are welcome to join **Swedish as a Foreign Language level 1** and apply for the **courses at the University of Vaasa.**

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: Kristina Granstedt-Ketola**
- **Languages of instruction: English and Swedish**
- **2 groups : September–December 2023**
- **1 hybrid group (on campus, but possibility to participate on Zoom)**
- **1 campus group (no Zoom possibility)**
- **Registration by 11 September**

For more detailed information see: <https://studiehandboken.abo.fi/sv/kurs/940211.0/2303?period=2022-2024>

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: ?**
- **Language of instruction: English, Finnish**
- **January-May, 2024**

- **Contact the Language Centre at latest in October if you wish to participate in the Finnish Course. We need to know if we have enough students that are interested.**

For more detailed information see:

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

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

Questions from Exchange?

Master students

- T-Learn
- PEACE
- APN
- IT

T-Learn: Compulsory language course

- **T-Learn-students from abroad** (Master programme)
- **One compulsory language** course:
- ***Swedish as a Foreign Language Level 1***

Starts **13.9** at **8.15**, room **C 214** (hybrid group)

Starts **13.9** at **14.15**, room **C 214** (campus group)

Other Master-students

- **PEACE-students** (Master programme), **Advanced Practice Nursing** (Master programme) and **IT-Master from abroad do not have** compulsory language studies in their exam.
- **You can choose language courses as optional courses.**

The Swedish 1 hybrid course is planned for you schedule, if you want to participate.

National Master students

- Please book an appointment with Kristina Granstedt-Ketola, so we can go through your previous studies to see if you already fulfill the language requirements.

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 program: 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.

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 (1-3 times)
- 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

Academic Writing Skills in English for Master's students

- *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!***
- ***It should be optional for students in Vasa.***
- ***It is preferable that you have started your Master thesis when you choose this course.***
- ***Compulsary language response for all Master students on the Master's thesis.***

Academic Writing Skills

- Code: 923800.0-3026 Online course
- Code: 923800.0-3029 Online course

Language resources

- You can find a Moodle course with language resources here:
<https://moodle.abo.fi/course/view.php?id=7139>



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

Language Café - Språkkafé

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

Questions?

- Thank you!

Language Centre
Newsletter in
Swedish and
English

