



## Course syllabus

Board of Education Science

Department of Languages

2ENÄ6E Engelska IV - litteraturdidaktiskt självständigt arbete, inriktning gymnasieskolan, 15 högskolepoäng

2ENÄ6E English IV - Independent Project within Literary Studies in English as a Foreign Language (EFL), English for Upper Secondary School Teachers, 15 credits

### **Main field of study**

English

### **Subject Group**

English

### **Level of classification**

First Level

### **Progression**

G2E

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2021-01-21

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2021

### **Prerequisites**

English II - English for teaching in upper secondary school 31-60 credits or the equivalent, 22.5 credits of UVK courses, and teaching practice placement course I.

## Objectives

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- define and delimit a topic that is relevant to the teaching profession as well as to the research field,
- formulate a clear aim and an original argumentative thesis comprising a literary interpretation as well as its didactic consequences,
- systematically present previous research relevant to the aim of the project,
- present and use relevant theoretical concepts,
- describe and justify their choice of primary material and method of analysis,
- demonstrate an awareness of research-ethical issues in a school context as well as in the completion of their project,
- analyse their material in relation to their aim, their research questions and theoretical concepts,

- discuss and draw conclusions from the analysis and relate it to previous research,
- relate the literary interpretation to classic didactic questions (what, how, why) in a way that can be considered relevant for practising teachers, as well as present suggestions for further studies,
- approach teaching in a non-normative way,
- demonstrate, in writing, an understanding of the complexity of learning situations,
- present a project in English that is well organised and functional with regard to language, form and referencing,
- defend their project with objective and relevant arguments,
- review another student's project and present constructive criticism,
- contribute to constructive seminar discussions.

## Content

The course aims to develop students' general didactic knowledge, acquired during the previous semester, and thus continue to develop the professional basis and scientific approach necessary to teach the subject in Swedish schools.

The student conducts a study of a problem area relevant to their future career as an English language teacher. This means that the student must develop their knowledge of theories and methods during the course, as well as their abilities to independently search for and evaluate information about the chosen problem area.

The results of the study are presented in an academic literature-didactic paper written in English.

The student must also critically review and act as an opponent for another student's project.

## Type of Instruction

The independent project is planned and conducted independently in consultation with the supervisor. The student chooses a topic within English literature didactics, in consultation with the supervisor. All instruction and supervision are given in connection with mandatory thesis seminars. In the thesis seminars the student discusses their texts with other students and the supervisor. Students also receive written feedback from the supervisor. The work on the thesis ends with a final seminar where the student acts as an opponent for another student's project. Some parts of the teaching may include ICT.

## Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

The course is examined through (i) a written report on the disposition, introduction, theoretical background, method and references of the independent project, and (ii) a presentation of the independent project, defence of said project at a final seminar, and an oral opposition of another student's project.

In order to receive the grade of Pass, the student must achieve the course objectives. Grading criteria for the grade of Pass with Distinction (VG) are specified in the study guide.

The course is examined at a seminar at the end of the course. In order to pass the course, the student must present and defend their independent project, critically review and act as an opponent for another student's independent project, and participate actively in the other seminars.

In the assessment of the independent project, language and style are also taken into account.

It is important that the student adheres to the supervisor's schedule in order to be able to participate in the final seminar. A student who does not submit a complete first draft by the deadline, or whose first draft is considered not to be of sufficient quality, from a language and/or content point of view, may fail. In connection to the final seminar, the thesis is examined and graded by an examiner, in consultation with the supervisor. If the examiner considers the final draft not to meet the requirements for an academic paper, they may fail it. In such a case, the student is entitled to a written explanation of the grade.

Note that the student has no right to further supervision if the project is assessed as failed by the end of the course. If the student does not finish on time, they can apply for taking the course once more. They have the right to re-register only if there are places available in the course. There is no guarantee that a student can continue with the same project, or that there will be places available that particular semester.

If the university has decided that a student is entitled to special pedagogical support due to a disability, the examiner has the right to give a customised exam or to have the student conduct the exam in an alternative way.

Repeat examination is offered in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examination at the first and second-cycle level at Linnaeus University.

## Course Evaluation

During or shortly after the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are promptly communicated to the students who have taken the course. Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time are informed of the results at the start of the course. The evaluation is anonymous.

## Other

The course is conducted in line with Linnaeus University's policy for sustainable development, equal opportunities, and internationalisation, when applicable.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Course literature is chosen in consultation with the supervisor.

### *Additional study material*

Durant, A., & Fabb, N. (the latest edition). *How to Write Essays and Dissertations*. London: Routledge. 169 p. Available as full text on the university library website.

Lipson, C. (the latest edition). *How to Write a BA Thesis*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 404 p. Available as full text on the university library website.

*MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing* (the latest edition). New York: Modern Language Association of America. 336 p.

Wilder, L. (the latest edition). *Rhetorical Strategies and Genre Conventions in Literary Studies*. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press. 239 p. Available as full text on the university library website.

At least twelve secondary sources chosen by the student in consultation with the supervisor. In addition to these twelve sources, the student should also refer to the policy documents in their independent project.