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Finnish as a Foreign Language

THE COURSES OFFERED DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2010–2011

During the academic year 2010–2011 the Language Centre of the University of Tampere offers the courses introduced on this page. For detailed information, see the proper page in this booklet.

The following courses are primarily intended for exchange students. Degree students will be accepted if space permits:

- Survival Course, page 9
- Follow-up Course, page 10

The following courses belong to the programme of *Finnish as a Foreign Language*, the whole extent of which is 26 ECTS credits, but the courses can also be taken separately without completing the whole programme. The programme is primarily intended for degree students. Exchange students will be accepted if space permits. Priority will then be given to those exchange students who are going to study the whole academic year at the University of Tampere.

Elementary Level Courses:

- Elementary Course 1, page 12
- Elementary Course 2, page 13
- Elementary Course 3, page 14
- Elementary Course 4, page 15

Advanced Level Courses:

- Advanced Course 1, page 17
- Advanced Course 2, page 18
- Advanced Level Vocabulary Course, page 19
- Reading Comprehension and Conversation Course, page 20
- Advanced Level Oral Skill Course, page 21

After successful completion of the elementary level courses students will be able to use and understand Finnish in common situations of everyday life and to give and understand accounts about their families, studies, hobbies and other similar topics.

After successful completion of the advanced level courses students will be able to communicate both orally and in written form about various matters with familiar themes. With help of dictionary, students will also be able without much difficulty to read texts comparable to standard newspaper language.

NOTE THE REGISTRATION!

Please note that you must register for the Finnish courses beforehand.

Registration takes place by computer. For further information see the university website: www.uta.fi/studies/nettiopsu. No registration by telephone or by e-mail. Furthermore, please note that in addition to registering, you must be present in class in the first meeting of the course, otherwise your registration will lapse and you may lose your place. No exceptions will be made.

If you can't register beforehand, you can come to the first meeting of the course to see if there are free places in the group.

GENERAL ADVICE

- The academic year is divided into the autumn term and the spring term. Each term is again divided into two periods.
- The starting and ending dates of the periods during the academic year 2010 – 2011 are as follows:

Autumn term,	1 st period: from the 1 st of September to the 22 nd of October,
	2 nd period: from the 25 th of October to the 17 th of December.
Spring term,	3 rd period: from the 10 th of January to the 4 th of March,
	4 th period: from the 7 th of March to the 13 th of May.
- Note that there may also be examinations on the very last day of the period, so completing of some courses may require your presence for the whole term.
- If you have passed any of the elementary courses 2–4 or advanced courses 1–2 with at least the grade of 'good', you may participate in the examinations of the previous courses without attending the course.
- You can choose suitable courses according to your starting level and your personal schedule. The courses require regular attendance and active participation.
- For up-to-date information on the courses, check the Language Centre notice board or the Finnish as a Foreign Language notice board in the Language Centre in E Wing in the Main Building of the University.
- For further information, contact the teachers or visit the office (room E 344, tel 040 190 1481) of the Language Centre.
- The Language Centre is in E Wing (top floor) of the Main Building.

MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (AND ANSWERS TO THEM)

QUESTION 1: Which course I should come to? What is the right level for me?

ANSWER: First, read the course descriptions given below and check the published course materials, for example in the University Library, to get some idea of the contents of the courses. Then you will be better able to decide which course is suitable for you. Of course, the teachers are also willing to help you to choose a proper course.

QUESTION 2: How many Finnish courses can I take at the same time?

ANSWER: You can choose as many courses as you like according to your interests, schedule and starting level. For example, you can revise your knowledge in Finnish in the elementary courses and widen it in the advanced level courses at the same time, if that suits your plans and abilities.

QUESTION 3: Must I register for the courses beforehand?

ANSWER: Yes, you must. Read the information on the page 7.

QUESTION 4: Can I register by e-mail or by telephone?

ANSWER: Sorry, but no, you can't.

QUESTION 5: Can I just come to the examinations without attending the courses?

ANSWER: Unfortunately no. (But read also what is said about the elementary and advanced courses in the general advice above.)

QUESTION 6: How many lessons may I miss without losing the course?

ANSWER: The general rule is that you have to be present for 80 per cent of the contact hours of the course in order to be allowed to attend the examination and to get the credits.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COURSES:

SURVIVAL COURSE (2 ECTS credits)

- Level A1 (on the Common European Framework language scale).
- Six groups in the autumn term and three groups in the spring term.

Previous studies required:

- Participation requires no earlier studies in the Finnish language.

Contents:

- basic studies in Finnish
- pronunciation exercises
- oral exercises
- listening comprehension exercises

Objectives:

- Students will know how to pronounce Finnish and they will be familiar with the vocabulary and phraseology they need in simple everyday situations. They will learn to make sentences, to ask questions, to talk about themselves and their families and know the vocabulary for food and eating. After successful completion of the course students will be able to use the skills they have learned in easy everyday situations and they will be able to operate better in the Finnish world around them.

Duration of the course and way of working:

- Four contact hours a week, 26 hours in all, and homework to be completed at home. The course lasts one period. The language of instruction is English. After the course there will be a written examination.

Teaching materials:

- Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

- Continuous assessment based on classwork and the final examination. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teachers:

- Ms. Nora Kausz, teacher of Finnish, Language Centre, room E 342, tel. 3551 6429, e-mail: nora.kausz@uta.fi.
- Ms. Kirsi Venho, teacher of Finnish, Language Centre, room E 342, tel. 3551 6429, e-mail: kirsi.venho@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the autumn term 2010:

Group A (Venho)

- Monday 14-16 room K109 (Linna Building)
 - Wednesday 14-16 room K109 (Linna Building)
- Teaching begins on the 6th of September, 2010.

Group B (Venho)

Tuesday 14–16 room A05
Thursday 14–14 room A05
Teaching begins on the 7th of September, 2010.

Group C (Venho)

Monday 12–14 room K109 (Linna Building)
Wednesday 12–14 room K109 (Linna Building)
Teaching begins on the 6th of September, 2010.

Group D (Venho)

Tuesday 8–10 room K110 (Linna Building)
Thursday 8–10 room K110 (Linna Building)
Teaching begins on the 7th of September, 2010.

Group E (Kausz)

Monday 16–18 room A3111 (Pinni Building)
Wednesday 16–18 room A3111 (Pinni Building) (8.9. room A1078)
Teaching begins on the 6th of September, 2010.

Group F (Kausz)

Tuesday 16–18 room K109 (Linna Building)
Thursday 16–18 room K109 (Linna Building)
Teaching begins on the 7th of September, 2010.

Registration begins: 10.8. at 6.00

Registration ends: 2.9. at 24.00

Selection criteria: Priority is given to exchange students. Otherwise the selection criterion is the date of registration.

Selections on view: The final course list will be posted on the Language Centre's noticeboard and website on September 3rd.

Teaching times in the spring term 2011.

Teaching times and places in the spring term 2011 will be announced later.



FOLLOW-UP COURSE (2 ECTS credits)

–Level A1 (on the Common European Framework language scale).

–Three groups in the autumn term and two groups in the spring term after the Survival Course.

Previous studies required:

-Survival Course or equivalent knowledge.

Contents:

-basic studies in Finnish

-pronunciation exercises

-oral exercises

-listening comprehension exercises

Objectives:

-Students will enlarge the vocabulary which is needed in everyday situations.

They will be able to cope in situations such as buying a railway ticket and ordering food in a restaurant. They will also learn to know the names of different places and to make sentences using -in, -from and -to cases. In addition, they will be better able to understand the Finnish lifestyle.

Duration of the course and way of working:

-Four contact hours a week, 26 hours in all, and homework to be completed at home. The course lasts one period. The language of instruction is English. After the course there will be a written examination.

Teaching materials:

-Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

-Continuous assessment based on classwork and the final examination. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teachers:

-Ms. Nora Kausz, teacher of Finnish, Language Centre, room E 342, tel. 3551 6429, e-mail: nora.kausz@uta.fi.

-Ms. Kirsi Venho, teacher of Finnish, Language Centre, room E 342, tel. 3551 6429, e-mail: kirsi.venho@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the autumn term 2010:

Group A (Venho)

Tuesday 14-16 room A05

Thursday 14-16 room A05

Teaching begins on the 26th of October, 2010.

Group B (Venho)

Tuesday 12-14 room C9

Wednesday 12-14 room C9

Teaching begins on the 26th of October, 2010.

Group C (Kausz)

Tuesday 16-18 room K113 (Linna Building)

Thursday 16–18 room K113 (Linna Building)

Teaching begins on the 26th of October, 2010.

Registration begins: 27.9. at 6.00

Registration ends: 14.10. at 24.00

Selection criteria: The grade of the Survival course and the date of registration.

Selections on view: The final course list will be posted on the Language Centre's noticeboard on October 15th.

Teaching times in the spring term 2011.

Teaching times and places in the spring term 2011 will be announced later.



ELEMENTARY COURSE 1 (3 ECTS credits)

–Level A1 (on the Common European Framework language scale).

–One group in the autumn term.

Previous studies required:

–Previous studies in Finnish are not expected.

Contents:

–basics of the Finnish language

–structural exercises

–pronunciation exercises

–conversational exercises

–listening comprehension exercises

–reading comprehension exercises

–written exercises

Objectives:

–After successful completion of the course students will be able to understand and use short and simply-structured Finnish expressions that concern some of the most common matters and situations related to everyday life (introducing oneself, telling the time, buying and paying, timetables, food and menu, asking and answering, commanding and requesting).

Duration of the course and way of working:

–Group instruction and exercises six or eight contact hours a week, 39 hours in all, and homework continuously throughout the course. The course lasts one period. The language of instruction is Finnish but English is used as an auxiliary language. After the course there will be a written examination.

Teaching materials:

–Kangasniemi, Heikki: *Suomen kielen tikapuut. Alkeistaso 1.* (The material can be bought e.g. in TAJU Bookshop in Linna Building).

–Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

–Assessment is based on active participation in the course and the final examination. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teacher:

–Mr. Heikki Kangasniemi, lecturer in Finnish, Language Centre, room E 341, consultation hour Tuesdays 10.15–11.00, tel. 3551 6363, e-mail: heikki.kangasniemi@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the autumn term 2010:

Monday 12–14 room C9
Tuesday 12–14 room A06
Wednesday 12–14 room C9 (15.9., 22.9., 29.9.)
Thursday 12–14 room C9 (September 9th room A07)
Teaching begins on the 6th of September, 2010.

Registration begins: 10.8. at 6.00

Registration ends: 2.9. at 24.00

Selection criteria: Priority is given to degree students. Otherwise the selection criterion is the date of registration.

Selections on view: The final course list will be posted on the Language Centre's noticeboard and website on September 3rd.



ELEMENTARY COURSE 2 (3 ECTS credits)

–Level A1 (on the Common European Framework language scale).

–One groups in the autumn term.

Previous studies required:

–Elementary Course 1 or equivalent.

Contents:

–basics of the Finnish language
–structural exercises
–conversational exercises
–listening comprehension exercises
–reading comprehension exercises
–written exercises

Objectives:

–After successful completion of the course students will be able to understand and use simply-structured Finnish expressions that concern some of the most common matters and situations related to everyday life (location and moving, asking and telling a way, possessing, state of health). They will also be able to describe some of the most important things about themselves, their families and the immediate surroundings, and to understand descriptions of such topics.

Duration of the course and way of working:

-Group instruction and exercises six contact hours a week, 39 hours in all, and homework continuously throughout the course. The course lasts one period during the autumn term. The language of instruction is Finnish but English is used as an auxiliary language. After the course there will be a written examination.

Teaching materials:

-Kangasniemi, Heikki: *Suomen kielen tikapuut. Alkeistaso 1.* (The material can be bought e.g. in TAJU Bookshop in Linna Building).
-Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

-Assessment is based on active participation in the course and the final examination. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teacher:

-Mr. Heikki Kangasniemi, lecturer in Finnish, Language Centre, room E 341, consultation hour Tuesdays 10.15–11.00, tel. 3551 6363, e-mail: heikki.kangasniemi@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the autumn term 2010:

Monday 12–14 room C9

Tuesday 12–14 room A06

Thursday 12–14 room C9

Teaching begins on the 25th of October, 2010.

Registration begins: 8.10. at 6.00

Registration ends: 14.10. at 24.00

Selection criteria: The grade of the Elementary course 1 and the date of registration.

Selections on view: The final course list will be posted on the Language Centre's noticeboard and website on October 15th.



ELEMENTARY COURSE 3 (3 ECTS credits)

-Level A2 (on the Common European Framework language scale).

-One group in the spring term.

Previous studies required:

-Elementary Courses 1 and 2 or equivalent.

Contents:

-basics of the Finnish language

-structural exercises

-conversational exercises

- listening comprehension exercises
- reading comprehension exercises
- written exercises

Objectives:

-After successful completion of the course students will be able to understand and use Finnish expressions that concern common matters and situations related to everyday life (making an appointment, arranging to meet somebody, comparison). They will also be able to describe some of the most important things about themselves, their families, surroundings, studies, work, hobbies and other similar topics, and to understand descriptions given of such issues. In addition students will be able to give accounts of events in past time, and to understand corresponding accounts.

Duration of the course and way of working:

-Group instruction and exercises six contact hours a week, 39 hours in all, and homework continuously throughout the course. The course lasts one period. The language of instruction is Finnish but English may occasionally be used as an auxiliary language. After the course there will be a written examination.

Teaching materials:

- Kangasniemi, Heikki: *Suomen kielen tikapuut. Alkeistaso 1* (Chapters 19–20), and *Suomen kielen tikapuut. Alkeistaso 2*. (The material can be bought e.g. in TAJU Bookshop in Linna Building).
- Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

-Assessment is based on active participation in the course and the final examination. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teacher:

-Mr. Heikki Kangasniemi, lecturer in Finnish, Language Centre, room E 341, consultation hour Tuesdays 10.15–11.00, tel. 3551 6363, e-mail: heikki.kangasniemi@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the spring term 2011

Monday 12–14 room C9
Tuesday 12–14 room A06
Thursday 12–14 room C9
Teaching begins on the 10th of January, 2011.

Registration dates will be announced later.



ELEMENTARY COURSE 4 (3 ECTS credits)

- Level A2 (on the Common European Framework language scale).
- One group in the spring term after Elementary Course 3.

Previous studies required:

-Elementary Courses 1, 2 and 3 or equivalent.

Contents:

-basics of the Finnish language
-structural exercises
-conversational exercises
-listening comprehension exercises
-reading comprehension exercises
-written exercises

Objectives:

-After successful completion of the course students will be able to understand and use different kinds of Finnish expressions that concern matters and situations related to everyday life. They will also be able to describe some of the most important things about themselves, surroundings, studies, hobbies, plans and other similar topics, and to understand descriptions given of these kinds of issues. In addition students will understand at least the main points of short and simple texts with familiar themes and write short descriptions of their own lives and describe brief situations and events in writing.

Duration of the course and way of working:

-Group instruction and exercises six contact hours a week, 39 hours in all, and homework continuously throughout the course. The course lasts one period. The language of instruction is Finnish but English may occasionally be used as an auxiliary language. After the course there will be a written examination.

Teaching materials:

-Kangasniemi, Heikki: *Suomen kielen tikapuut. Alkeistaso 2.* (The material can be bought e.g. in TAJU Bookshop in Linna Building).
-Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

-Assessment is based on active participation in the course and the final examination. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teacher:

-Mr. Heikki Kangasniemi, lecturer in Finnish, Language Centre, room E 341, consultation hour Tuesdays 10.15–11.00, tel. 3551 6363, e-mail: heikki.kangasniemi@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the spring term 2011

Monday 12–14 room C9
Tuesday 12–14 room A06
Thursday 12–14 room C9
Teaching begins on the 7th of March, 2011.

Registration dates will be announced later.



ADVANCED COURSE 1 (4 ECTS credits)

- Level B1/B2 (on the Common European Framework language scale).
- One group in the autumn term.

Previous studies required:

- Elementary Courses 1–4 or equivalent.

Contents:

- studying the structures of the Finnish language
- structural exercises
- listening comprehension exercises
- reading comprehension exercises

Objectives:

- After successful completion of the course students will be able to communicate both orally and in written form about different matters connected with familiar themes, and also to give quite detailed accounts of different situations and events and to understand such accounts. With the help of a dictionary students will be able to read texts structurally slightly less demanding than usual newspaper language.

Duration of the course and way of working:

- Group instruction and exercises four contact hours a week, 52 hours in all, and homework continuously throughout the course. The course lasts one term (two periods). The language of instruction is Finnish. There will be a written examination at the end of each period.

Teaching materials:

- Kangasniemi, Heikki: *Suomen kielen tikapuut. Jatkotaso 1.* (The material can be bought e.g. in TAJU Bookshop in Linna Building).
- Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

- Assessment is based on active participation in the course and the examinations. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teacher:

- Mr. Heikki Kangasniemi, lecturer in Finnish, Language Centre, room E 341, consultation hour Tuesdays 10.15–11.00, tel. 3551 6363, e-mail: heikki.kangasniemi@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the autumn term 2010:

Monday 14–16 room C9

Tuesday 14–16 room A06

Teaching begins on the 6th of September, 2010.

Registration begins: 10.8. at 6.00

Registration ends: 2.9. at 24.00

Selection criteria: Priority is given to degree students. Otherwise the selection criterion is the date of registration.

Selections on view: The final course list will be posted on the Language Centre's noticeboard and website on September 3rd.



ADVANCED COURSE 2 (4 ECTS credits)

-Level B2 (on the Common European Framework language scale).

-One group in the spring term.

Previous studies required:

-Advanced Course 1 or equivalent.

Contents:

-studying the structures of the Finnish language

-structural exercises

-listening comprehension exercises

-reading comprehension exercises

Objectives:

-After successful completion of the course students will be able to communicate both orally and in written form about different matters connected with familiar themes, and also to give quite detailed accounts of different situations and events and to understand such accounts. With the help of a dictionary students will be able without much difficulty to read texts the requirements of which correspond to usual newspaper language.

Duration of the course and way of working:

-Group instruction and exercises four contact hours a week, 52 hours in all, and homework continuously throughout the course. The course lasts one term (two periods). The language of instruction is Finnish. There will be one written examination in the middle of the course and one examination at the end of the course.

Teaching materials:

-Kangasniemi, Heikki: *Suomen kielen tikapuut. Jatkotaso 2.* (The material can be bought e.g. in TAJU Bookshop in Linna Building).

-Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

-Assessment is based on active participation in the course and the examinations. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teacher:

-Mr. Heikki Kangasniemi, lecturer in Finnish, Language Centre, room E 341, consultation hour Tuesdays 10.15–11.00, tel. 3551 6363, e-mail: heikki.kangasniemi@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the spring term 2011

Monday 14–16 room C9

Tuesday 14–16 room A06

Teaching begins on the 10th of January, 2011.

Registration dates will be announced later.



ADVANCED LEVEL VOCABULARY COURSE (2 ECTS credits)

-Level B1/B2 (on the Common European Framework language scale).

-One group in the autumn term.

Previous studies required:

-Elementary Courses 1–4 or equivalent. The course is meant primarily for students who are studying simultaneously on Advanced Course 1, but can also be taken separately if the student demonstrates sufficient ability in Finnish.

Contents:

-core vocabulary of Finnish

-lexical differences between the standard language and the spoken language

-word derivation and the most common derivational types in Finnish

-formation of compound words

-various kinds of idiomatic expressions

Objectives:

-After successful completion of the course students will have a good command of the core vocabulary in Finnish, be able to distinguish the lexical differences between the standard language and the spoken language, to recognize the most common derivational types in Finnish and to generate regular derived words, to make and resolve different compound words, and know some of the most common idiomatic expressions.

Duration of the course and way of working:

-Group instruction and exercises two contact hours a week, 26 hours in all, and homework continuously throughout the course. The course lasts one term (two periods). The language of instruction is Finnish. After the course there will be a written examination.

Teaching materials:

-Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

–Assessment is based on active participation in the course and the final examination. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teacher:

–Mr. Heikki Kangasniemi, lecturer in Finnish, Language Centre, room E 341, consultation hour Tuesdays 10.15–11.00, tel. 3551 6363, e-mail: heikki.kangasniemi@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the autumn term 2010:

Wednesday 14–16 room C9 (September 8th room A07)
Teaching begins on the 8th of September, 2010.

Registration begins: 10.8. at 6.00

Registration ends: 2.9. at 24.00

Selection criteria: Priority is given to degree students. Otherwise the selection criterion is the date of registration.

Selections on view: The final course list will be posted on the Language Centre's noticeboard and website on September 3rd.



READING COMPREHENSION AND CONVERSATION COURSE (2 ECTS credits)

–Level B1/B2 (on the Common European Framework language scale).
–One group in the autumn term.

Previous studies required:

–Elementary Courses 1–4 or equivalent. The course is meant primarily for students who are studying simultaneously on Advanced Course 1, but can also be taken separately if the student demonstrates sufficient ability in Finnish.

Contents:

–reading texts with various contents and style
–conversation on the basis of the texts examined
–other conversational exercises

Objectives:

–After successful completion of the course students will understand long articles and accounts with various topics and be able to distinguish the main contents of the text and to find the information they need in it. In addition they will be able to discuss various themes, give accounts of their experiences, express opinions and justify them, make specific questions during the conversation and elicit additional information.

Duration of the course and way of working:

–Group instruction and exercises two contact hours a week, 26 hours in all, and homework throughout the course. The course lasts one term (two periods). The

language of instruction is Finnish. After the course there will be a written examination.

Teaching materials:

-Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

-Assessment is based on active participation in the course and the final examination. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teacher:

-Mr. Heikki Kangasniemi, lecturer in Finnish, Language Centre, room E 341, consultation hour Tuesdays 10.15–11.00, tel. 3551 6363, e-mail: heikki.kangasniemi@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the autumn term 2010:

Thursday 14–16 room C9 (September 9th room A07)

Teaching begins on the 9th of September, 2010.

Registration begins: 10.8. at 6.00

Registration ends: 2.9. at 24.00

Selection criteria: Priority is given to degree students. Otherwise the selection criterion is the date of registration.

Selections on view: The final course list will be posted on the Language Centre's noticeboard and website on September 3rd.



ADVANCED LEVEL ORAL SKILLS COURSE

(2 ECTS credits)

-Level B2 (on the Common European Framework language scale).

Previous studies required:

-Advanced Course 1 and Reading Comprehension and Conversation Course or equivalent. The course is meant primarily for students who are studying simultaneously on Advanced Course 2, but can also be taken separately if the student demonstrates sufficient ability in Finnish.

Contents:

-practising using Finnish in different situations

-conversational exercises

-practising conversation on a telephone

-brief talks given by students on various topics

Objectives:

-After successful completion of the course students will be able to express themselves orally in different situations of everyday life, cope with brief interviews e.g. in job interviews, talk about different topics, tell about their own

experiences, express their own opinions and give arguments for them, and make further questions in the conversation.

Duration of the course and the way of working:

-Group instruction and exercises two contact hours a week, 26 hours in all, and homework throughout the course. The course lasts one term (two periods). The language of instruction is Finnish. After the course there will be an oral examination.

Teaching material:

-Materials designed by the teacher.

Method of assessment:

-Assessment is based on active participation in the course and the final examination. The grading scale is 1 to 5 (max.).

Teacher:

-Mr. Heikki Kangasniemi, lecturer in Finnish, Language Centre, room E341, consultation hour Tuesdays 10.15–11.00, tel. 3551 6363, e-mail: heikki.kangasniemi@uta.fi.

Teaching times in the spring term 2011:

Wednesday 14–16 C9

Teaching begins on the 12th of January, 2011.

The registration dates will be announced later.

THE COMMON EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK LANGUAGE SCALE

Proficient User

C2 Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express him/herself spontaneously and very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.

C1 Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts and recognise implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.

Independent User

B2 Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

B1 Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.

Basic User

A2 Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.

A1 Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.