

FINNMARK UNIVERSITY COLLEGE



NORWEGIAN FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

60 ECTS

STUDY YEAR 2007/2008

Approved by the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Education and Liberal Arts 27 April 2005
Last changes approved by authority of the dean February 2007

Norwegian for Foreign Students, level I-III, 60 ECTS

1. Introduction

The one year undergraduate study programme will provide the students with knowledge of the Norwegian language, literature and culture. Upon successful completion of the programme, students meet the Norwegian language requirements for admission to Norwegian universities or university colleges.

Foreign students wishing to enter a study programme at a higher educational institution in Norway, e.g. the Teacher Education, need to complete the level III exam with the grade D or better.

2. Duration, Scope and Level

The one year undergraduate study programme gives 60 ECTS, 20 ECTS for each level. The level III exam is the equivalent of the language test "Norsk Språktest " (Bergstesten) with at least 400 points.

3. Target Group and Entry Requirements

Applicants need to document that they meet the general entrance requirements to study at a university or university college. As English is used as the language of communication at level I, applicants also need to document sufficient skills in English. No prior knowledge of Norwegian is required at level 1.

Norwegian is the language of communication at level II and III. It is possible to start straight at level II after passing an entrance examination at the university college. The programme has a restricted admission of 25 students at each level.

4. Contents

The programme offers training and development of the four basic language skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Systematic teaching and training in Norwegian grammar is also included. At level I correct pronunciation will be emphasized. At level III knowledge of the Norwegian society (history, politics and culture) will be integrated in the classes.

5. Programme Organization

The programme is divided into three levels with an exam after level III. Class attendance and all work assignments are mandatory. To continue to the next level, students must pass a test at the end of each level. Students who have more than 20 % absence from class sessions will not be permitted to sit for the exam. It is possible to start straight at level II passing an entrance examination equivalent to level I.

6. Study- and Teaching Methods

The students will be studying in big and small groups. The language laboratory and ICT will be used. The study programme requires hard work and weekly mandatory home assignments that must be handed in for evaluation.

7. Level I - Aims

After completing level I, students will be able to

- a) understand spoken Norwegian in everyday situations
- b) participate in conversations concerning topics that have been discussed in class and ask for information
- c) read the texts on the reading list and similar texts with topics from everyday life
- d) write about such topics in simple Norwegian
- e) use an active vocabulary of approx. 1000 words and have knowledge of the main rules within pronunciation and grammar

Level I will emphasize pronunciation- and listening skills to avoid incorrectly pronunciation that will be difficult to correct later.

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Students will study texts that deals with basic language functions from everyday life such as: purchase, food, diet, housing, work, economy, public services, health etc. They will learn the basic structures in pronunciation and grammar. Pronunciation must not impede communication.

Students must pass an oral and a written test after level I to move on to level II.

8. Level II – Aims

After completing level II, students will be able to

- a) understand relatively simple spoken Norwegian about general and specific topics
- b) speak about such topics with a fairly good pronunciation
- c) read the texts on the reading list and simple authentic texts
- d) write about everyday topics and topics that have been discussed in class
- e) use a vocabulary of approx. 2000 words and have knowledge of the main features of Norwegian morphology and syntax

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Students will study factual prose texts with topics from Norwegian everyday life and society and a selection of literary texts. They will continue to study central themes within morphology and syntax. Gradually, more and more emphasis will be on irregular forms

and idiomology. The students will study texts about Norway, history, literature, culture, society etc. The students` oral and written accounts must not impede communication. Students must be able to write about topics discussed in class and to express feelings and opinions.

The students must pass an oral and written test after level II to move on to level III.

9. Level III – Aims and Objectives

After completing level III, students will

- a) be able to follow and comprehend lectures in Norwegian about different topics and follow conversations and programmes on TV and radio
- b) be able to read Norwegian non-fiction, periodicals, newspapers and other authentic texts
- c) be able to actively use a vocabulary of approx. 3500 – 5000 words and have knowledge of the most common idioms of the Norwegian language, gain insight into morphology and knowledge of different types of sentences and some important functions of the language
- d) able to express themselves well in writing, both in a referring, descriptive and an argumentative way and have knowledge of the main rules of Norwegian grammar
- e) have knowledge of Norwegian history, politics, the educational system and culture

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Students will study more difficult texts with a more abstract vocabulary than on the previous levels. The main emphasis will be on authentic texts. Students will read both literary and non-literary texts, texts from the press and periodicals. Work continues on strengthening the knowledge of morphology, syntax and forming sentences.

10. Assessment

The exams after level III will take place during two days with one written exam and one oral exam. The written exam of 6 hours consists of

- 1) a dictation – 1 hour
- 2) a text comprehension, different written tasks and tasks on grammar – 2 hours
- 3) an essay – 3 hours

The oral exam will assess pronunciation, communication skills and other knowledge of the Norwegian language/society. The oral examination counts 40 % of the total grade and the written exam counts 60 %. An external examiner will assess all exams.

The grades range on a scale from A to F. The highest grade is A and F indicates failure. (E indicates the lowest grade.)

If a student has to re-sit the exam to fulfil the requirements for further studies, see pt. 1, it is sufficient to re-sit the discipline (written or oral) where the result did not meet the requirement.

The exam is a test of the students' general language skills and the exams will therefore not be connected to specific texts on the reading list. The assessment will mainly emphasize the communicative skills of the students, but there is also emphasis on the students' ability to express themselves without any serious mistakes. See aims and objectives for each level above.

For students who fail either the written or the oral exam, it is sufficient to re-sit one exam.

Re-sit exams

It is possible to re-sit the exam early in the autumn semester. It is only possible to re-sit the exam at Finnmark University College.

11.Required reading/syllabus

To be decided later