

# Language Centre

# Information to Exchange students

Åbo, August 2024

# The Language Centre in a nutshell

- Operates in Åbo and Vasa
- Courses in languages and communication, for example:
  - Swedish and Finnish as a Foreign Language (max. 24 students/group)
  - Developing Thesis Writing Skills, 5 ECTS
  - Academic writing skills in English, 3 ECTS
  - Other foreign languages (taught in Swedish)
- Language response of degree theses
- Text consultation
- Language proficiency tests

# Language courses: Swedish

We offer Swedish as a foreign language, levels 1-4.

**Note!** If you have previous knowledge of Swedish and need to be tested, please contact the teacher: [Charlotta.Sandberg@abo.fi](mailto:Charlotta.Sandberg@abo.fi)

# Swedish as a foreign language, level 1, 5 ECTS

- Level A1 (CEFR)
- The course gives the students a basic knowledge of the Swedish language.
- Students are familiarized with the Swedish language and learn something about everyday life in both Finland and Sweden.
- Participants learn the basics of grammar (nouns, conjugations of adjectives, verb tenses, pronouns, numerals, and word order).

*Teacher: Charlotta Sandberg, Jane Wingren*

*Languages of instruction: Swedish and English*

*3 groups in the autumn, 2 in the spring*

*Registration for autumn courses by 1 September in Peppi.*

# Swedish as a foreign language, level 2, 5 ECTS

- Level A1-A2 (CEFR)
- The students will obtain a functional everyday working vocabulary.
- Grammar points are extended to include past tense, perfect tense, comparative adjectives, and subordinate clauses.

*Teacher: Charlotta Sandberg*

*Languages of instruction: Swedish and English*

*1 group in the autumn, 1 in the spring*

*Registration for autumn courses by 1 September in Peppi.*

# Swedish as a foreign language, Level 3, 5 ECTS

- Level A2-B1 (CEFR)
- The students learn to write syntactically more demanding texts and are also offered the opportunity to practice their oral skills in the form of discussions on current topics. An oral presentation is included. Students are also expected to be able to use authentic material in Swedish, such as newspaper articles.
- Grammatical structures that are introduced are, among other, semantic verb exercises, perfect participle, vara- and bli-passives and verbs in the s-form. All teaching is carried out in Swedish.

*Teacher: Charlotta Sandberg*

*Languages of instruction: Swedish*

*1 group in the autumn*

*Registration for autumn courses by 1 September in Peppi.*

# Swedish as a foreign language, level 4, 5 ECTS

- Level B1-B2 (CEFR)
- In this level we learn vocabulary that covers the majors of the students in the group. We also read newspaper articles etc.
- The basic grammatical structures will have been covered in the previous courses, but word formation, prepositions of time as well as phrasal verbs will be topicalised.

*Teacher: Charlotta Sandberg*

*Languages of instruction: Swedish*

*1 group in the spring*

# Language courses: Finnish

We offer Finnish as a foreign language, levels 1-4.



# Finnish as a foreign language, level 1, 5 ECTS

- Level A1 (CEFR)
- The course gives the students a basic knowledge of the Finnish language and everyday life in Finland.
- Participants learn the basics of grammar (nouns, conjugations of adjectives, verb present tenses, pronouns and numerals).

*Teacher: Nina Shpakouskaya*

*Languages of instruction: Finnish and English*

*2 groups in the autumn, 1 in the spring*

*Registration for autumn courses by 1 September in Peppi.*

# Finnish as a foreign language, level 2, 5 ECTS

- Level A1-A2 (CEFR)
- Participants learn to understand Finnish in various everyday situations, and they will be able to take part in short informal discussions. They will obtain a functional everyday vocabulary.
- Grammar points are extended to include, for instance, partitive plural, the object, necessive clauses and infinitives.

*Teacher: Zara Wessberg*

*Languages of instruction: Finnish and English*

*1 group in the spring*

# Finnish levels 3 and 4

- Finnish as a foreign language, level 3, 5 ECTS
  - Level B1 (CEFR)
  - The course provides students with the skills in oral and written Finnish at the B1 level that are required in Finnish working life. The course also increases students' cultural awareness of Finnish working life and the Finnish labour market. A digital pedagogical game is integrated into the course and constitutes a central element that supports the overall learning.
  - 1 group in the autumn
- Finnish as a foreign language, level 4, 5 ECTS
  - Level B1-B2 (CEFR)
  - The course is designed to help students achieve a proficiency that enables them to interact professionally within their own subject field. All teaching takes place in Finnish.
  - 1 group in the spring

# Other languages offered

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

***Good knowledge of Swedish is required!***

# eTandem for Foreign Languages

## Level A2, 5 ECTS

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

Organised in the spring 2025.

Enroll by filling out the [form](#) (registration by 17 January 2025).



# Writing retreat



**Take a leap towards finishing your thesis at our writing retreat!**

We will spend five days writing in a supportive and motivating environment on campus. Language support will be available at all times, and you will also have the opportunity to discuss your writing individually with an English teacher.

When: December 2024, Spring 2025

Where: on Campus

Who: ÅAU students working on a longer text, such as a thesis. Participation is free of charge.

*If you have any questions, please contact  
Loukia.Lindholm@abo.fi*

# Language Café - Språkkafé

The popular language cafés for international students continue with new meetings during the autumn semester.

- Eight gatherings with various themes and activities are scheduled from September to December 2024.
- The language cafés offer international students the opportunity to practice spoken Swedish and Finnish in pleasant, relaxed and authentic situations, guided by ÅA students who serve as tutors during the sessions.

For more information about the language cafés, please contact the coordinator, Marit Vest-Sjöholm ([marit.vest-sjoholm@abo.fi](mailto:marit.vest-sjoholm@abo.fi)).

# Important!

- Register for the course version you wish to attend via Peppi.
- Be present at the start of the first session, regardless of whether it is a physical or virtual session.
- Updated information about our courses can be found in the [Study Guide](#).

If you have any questions, please contact [sprakcentret-abokansli@abo.fi](mailto:sprakcentret-abokansli@abo.fi) or our teachers.



Not sure which CEFR-level is suitable for you?

**CHECK YOUR CEFR-LEVEL HERE**

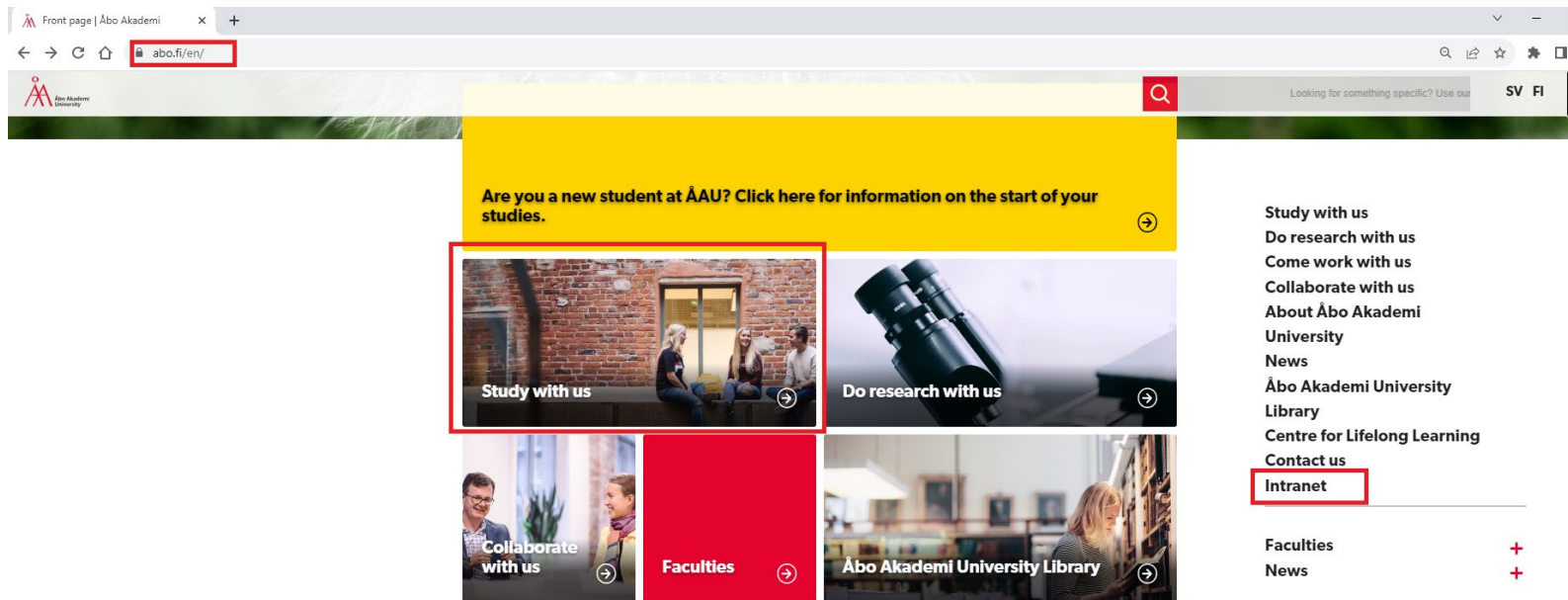


# Communication channels

- [Study Guide](#)
- [Language Centre webpages](#) on the intranet
- [Instagram](#)
- News letter

**Remember to read your abo.fi e-mail regularly!**

# Website abo.fi/en



Front page | Åbo Akademi

abo.fi/en/

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Are you a new student at ÅAU? Click here for information on the start of your studies.

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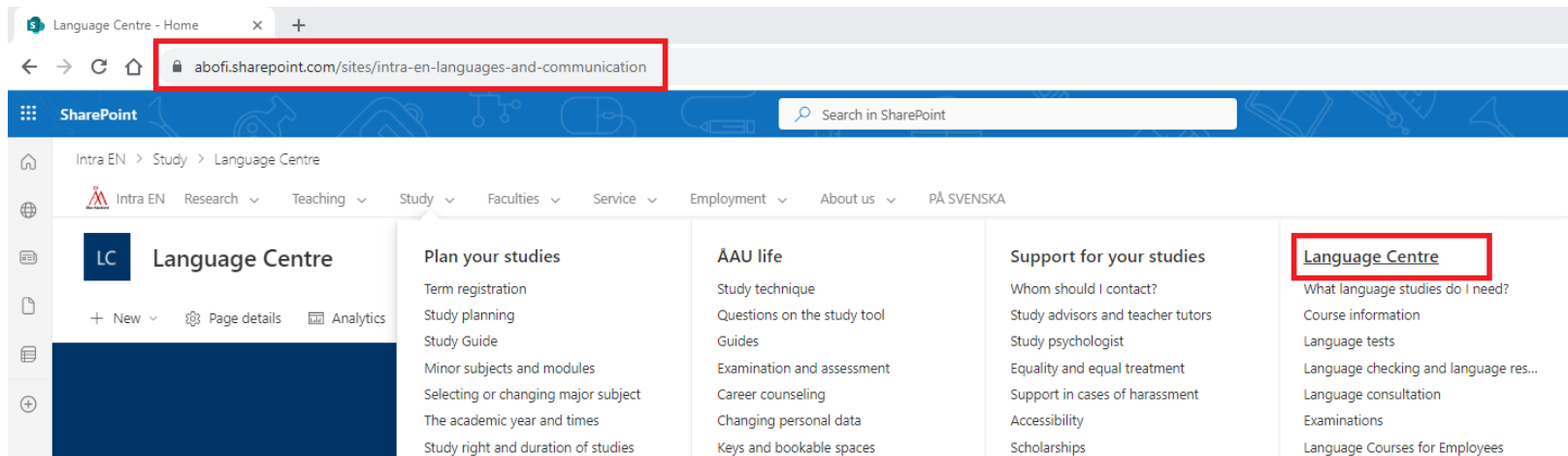
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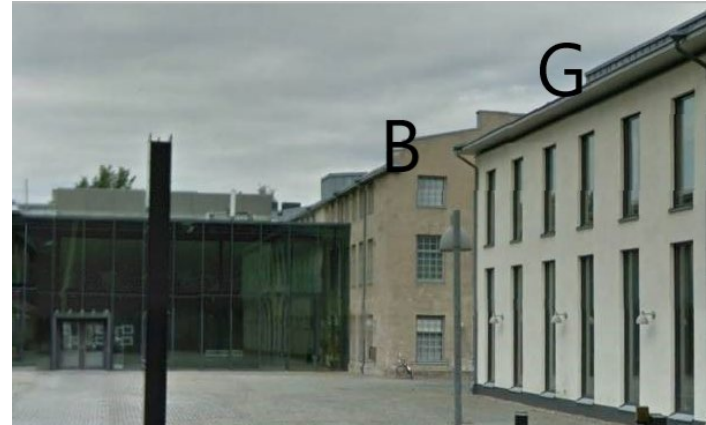
# Intranet



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar containing the URL `abofi.sharepoint.com/sites/intra-en-languages-and-communication`. The page is the SharePoint homepage 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 sidebar for the Language Centre (LC) with options for `New`, `Page details`, and `Analytics`. The main content is organized into five columns: **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), and a search bar.

# Location in Åbo/Turku

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



# Guidance and counselling



## **Administrative Director**

Mia Panisse

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## **Study Advisor**

Hanna Engblom

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>Welcome to the Language Centre!