

NORWEGIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

(30 + 30 ECTS credits)

Are you a foreign student who wishes to acquire the language skills and cultural background necessary to study at university or college level in Norway? Are you in Scandinavian Studies in your home country and want to go to Norway for one or two terms to study and practice your subject on the spot? Or are you just tempted by the idea of learning Norwegian where it is spoken and getting to know the country and the people through direct contact?

Then the study programme in Norwegian language and culture at Hedmark University College is something for you:

- It is designed to give you a competence where practical language mastery is combined with an insight into the society and culture of present-day Norway
- It is flexibly organised in two modules so that students with basic knowledge in the field may go directly into the advanced part of the programme
- It is run by experienced teachers from one of the country's leading groups within research and teaching in Norwegian as a second language
- It takes place in Hamar, a medium-sized town centrally located in the south eastern part of Norway, only an hour by train away from Oslo Airport Gardermoen

Duration, scope and level

Norwegian language and culture for foreign students is a full-time primary degree course which lasts for one year. The basic module is offered in the autumn semester every year, while the add-on module is taught in spring. Classes are taught for about 14 weeks per semester. Each week students have 12 hours of tuition and 2 hours of student-led seminars.

Aims, content and assessment

The basic module (30 ECTS)

- is aimed at foreign students with no prior knowledge of Norwegian
- will provide students with general background and skills in Norwegian language and culture
- will make students able to understand and speak Norwegian in day-to-day situations and about general topics, to read simple authentic texts in Norwegian and write simple texts themselves
- will make students able to keep updated on relevant topics and events, both locally and nationally, based on their knowledge of Norwegian society and culture

The add-on module (30 ECTS)

- is designed for students who have completed the basic module, as well as students who meet the requirements for direct entry at this level
- will give students a good command of spoken and written Norwegian
- will make students able to read and understand texts in Norwegian, including academic and technical prose, and to write formal texts themselves
- will provide students with an insight into Norwegian society both from a contemporary and a historical perspective and into Norwegian culture, including some history of Norwegian literature as well as modern literary work

Each module is completed with a written and an oral exam. In order to be permitted to do the exams, students must have attended at least 80% of the classes.

Admission requirements

Students have to meet the general entry requirements (with the exception of Norwegian) The students' home institutions are responsible for ensuring that the students have sufficient qualifications for studying in Norway.

Applicants without Norwegian residence permit will not be granted a residency visa for study purposes in

Norway on the basis of attendance at a language course only. The language class is solely intended to prepare students for professional degree programmes at a Norwegian university or university college. As part of your visa application to the Immigration Department, you will be required to show that you have been accepted to a professional degree program at Hedmark University College or other institutions in Norway for the year 2009/2010.

To be admitted to the “Norwegian Language and Culture for Foreign Students”, students must meet the basic admission requirements for colleges and universities in Norway. See www.nokut.no/sw14437.asp for specific information regarding requirements from your country (we apologize that this information is in Norwegian).

Key words: a) 1 eller 2 år universitetsutdanning = 1 or 2 years university level education
b) Krav om engelsk test? Ja = English requirement? Yes

English language requirement:

All non-native English speakers must provide official documentation of English language proficiency at the level of Norwegian upper secondary school/high school. English must have been the primary foreign language in at least **seven years** in primary, secondary and upper secondary school, alternatively an **A-level exam** in English. Applicants who do not fill these requirements, or are not sure that they do (see GSU-list at www.nokut.no/sw14437.asp, must take one of the following tests:

- **TOEFL** with a score of 500 (written) 170 (computer based) 60 (internet based)
- **IELTS** with a score of 5.0

No exceptions are made to this requirement. Scores lower than/500/170/60 (TOEFL) or 5.0 (IELTS) will not be accepted

Translation

Translation of all documentation into English or Norwegian must be enclosed. Documents must be translated into English or Norwegian by an authorized translator. A certified copy of the original document in the original language must accompany the certified copy of translation.

Scholarship / Exchange programme

Hedmark University College does not provide scholarships or advertisement on finding scholarships.

These documents should be attached to the application form:

- **Passport (page including passport issue number and picture)**
- **Secondary school transcripts**
- **University / college transcripts**
- **Documentation of English skills: TOEFL / IELTS (original documents only)**
- **Documentation of finances / received scholarship**

- **Copy of Norwegian residency permit and Norwegian personal number for resident applicants (only applicable if you live in Norway)**
- **Copy of official letter for acceptance (if you have already been accepted to another university/college in Norway)**

Application

All students must send their application form to **Hedmark University College, Opptakskontore, Lærerskolealleen 1, N-2418 Elverum, Norway**

The application form will be available from approx. January 2008