



GÖTEBORGS  
UNIVERSITET

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES  
UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN

# Why not learn the basics of Somali?

**Somali Introduction Course**

SO1102, 7.5 ECTS, Internet-based

Free of charge for EU/EEA citizens

## SOMALI INTRODUCTION COURSE

Are you curious about the Somali language? Do you meet general entry requirements for university studies? Then this course offers you a basic introduction to Somali.

The focus is on the central vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation of standard Somali. This is learnt primarily by reading simple texts in Somali, which are then translated into English. Frequent structures are also activated through different types of exercises and translation into Somali. In addition, the course provides a brief survey of the history, development and regional variation within the language.

The course is provided remotely as an internet-based course with a workload of 25% of full time over the entire semester. All the course work is done online without any scheduled meetings. It requires 10 hours of study per week and active participation in all compulsory course activities, such as discussion forums, exercises and translation assignments. Participation in all the obligatory course work constitutes a large part of the examination.

The language of instruction is English in the spring 2020 (20 January to 5 June). Applications are accepted 16 Sept.–15 Oct. 2019. For further information, please see <[canvas.gu.se/courses/26872](https://canvas.gu.se/courses/26872)>.

The course is free of charge for citizens of the EU and EEA, as well as for those who have a Swedish residence permit.

If you have any questions, please contact our study counsellor: Eva-Lena Axelsson, mail address: [studievagledning.afrikanska@sprak.gu.se](mailto:studievagledning.afrikanska@sprak.gu.se)

**Apply before 15 Oct. 2019 at <[universityadmissions.se](https://universityadmissions.se)>**

Somali is one of the ten most widely used African languages, spoken by around 25 million people. The geographical area of the language includes Somalia (with Somaliland and Puntland), along with large areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya. In Sweden, Somali is spoken by over 100,000 people (1% of the population), and Somali is the third largest language among Swedish school children (2%), after Swedish and Arabic (7%).

Somali has been the official language of Somalia since 1 January 1973. The introduction in schools and government agencies only took a few months, thanks to extensive preparations. Over two decades, significant efforts were made to standardise and develop the Somali language, thereby raising its status. Unfortunately much of this work has been forgotten in the drawn-out conflicts that have plagued the country. But in recent years the trend has clearly shifted and Somali once again has wind in its sails.