

Faroese as a second language

- structure and classification

Teaching of Faroese as a second language for adults (referred to hereafter as FSA) is organised into three instruction tracks: FSA1, FSA2 and FSA3. These tracks are intended for different participants, have different numbers of lessons and lead to three different levels of proficiency.

1. Students

FSA1 is primarily aimed at immigrants who have little or no education from their home country, have limited reading and writing skills; and for those have not learned the Latin alphabet.

FSA2 is primarily aimed at immigrants who have a basic education obtained in their home country (roughly equivalent to the Faroese fólkaskúlin or miðnám).

FSA3 is primarily aimed at immigrants who have completed advanced or higher education.

Additionally, when placing students into groups, the following points are considered:

- the student's general readiness to study Faroese as a second language
- the objectives the student has for learning Faroese as a second language
- any work experience, plans for work, and/or plans for education in the Faroe Islands
- Faroese language skills
- other foreign language skills and language comprehension.

2. Admission requirements and assessment

The institution offering Faroese as a second language courses is responsible for making an educational assessment of each student's prerequisites and skill level. This is done through an assessment meeting in which the points described in section 1 above are considered. This assessment ensures that each student is placed on the most suitable FSA path and level. However, for FSA1, students are only assessed for placement into the "pre-A1" and "A1" levels. The assessment meeting takes about 45 minutes.

Students enrolled in Faroese as a second language courses are required to actively participate in lessons. The institution providing the lessons is responsible for recording whether students are actively present.

Rules regarding deposits and other formal matters will be set out in a public announcement.

3. Competency levels

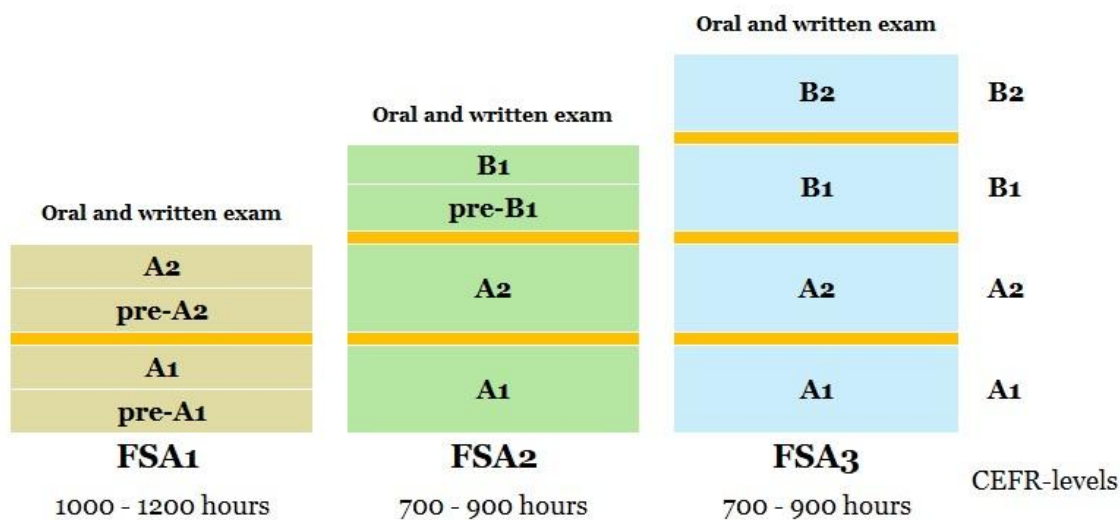
The competency levels in Faroese as a second language are based on the European CEFR framework¹.

The course content and competency objectives for each level are described in the FSA curriculum.

FSA1 includes these levels: pre-A1, A1, pre-A2 and A2

FSA2 includes these levels: A1, A2, pre-B1 and B1

FSA3 includes these levels: A1, A2, B1 and B2



4. Teaching hours

FSA1 covers 1,000-1,200 hours.

- All four FSA 1 levels consist of 250-300 hours each.

FSA2 covers 700-900 hours.

- A1 in FSA2 consists of 100-150 hours
- The other three levels consist of 200-250 hours each.

FSA3 covers 700-900 hours.

- A1 in FSA3 consists of 100-150 hours
- A2 in FSA3 consists of 150-200 hours
- B1 in FSA3 consists of 200-250 hours

¹ [Global scale - Table 1 \(CEFR 3.3\): Common Reference levels - Common European Framework of Reference for Languages \(CEFR\)](#)

- B2 in FSA3 consists of 250-300 hours.

Each teaching hour is 45 minutes long.

The distribution of hours is a guide only; some levels may take less or more time.

5. Switching between paths and levels

A student can switch to a higher or lower level, or a different track, if they, in agreement with the teacher/manager at the institution, believe it would be more beneficial for their learning.

For example, a student on FSA1, who needs to learn the Latin alphabet but otherwise has the prerequisites for one of the other two tracks, can switch tracks once they and their teacher agree they are capable of doing so.

If a student wishes to continue after completing a track, they can move on to the next track. The student will then proceed directly to the level that follows their completed level – e.g. from A2 in FSA1 to B1 in FSA2, and from B1 in FSA2 to B2 in FSA3.

6. Level tests and exams

Once a student has completed all the levels on their FSA track, they will take a final exam (see table on page 2). Exams are held twice a year. Prófstovan (the Exam Office) sets the dates.

The curriculum specifies the exam format for the final levels. Prófstovan provides the questions and tasks for the written exams. The teacher or institution is responsible for the oral part. Once the exam is passed, the institution will issue the student a certificate.

Exams

FSA1 has an exam at A2

FSA2 has an exam at B1

FSA3 has an exam at B2.

For the other levels (excluding pre-A1, pre-A2 and pre-B1), students will take a level test, organised by the institution (see yellow lines in the table on page 2). The institution is responsible for conducting these level tests. The purpose of these tests is to assess whether students are ready to proceed to the next level and to evaluate their listening, reading, writing and speaking skills.

Level tests

FSA1 has a level test at A1

FSA2 has a level test at A1 og A2

FSA3 has a level test at A1, A2 og B1.

For the levels where there is no level test or exam (pre-A1, pre-A2 and pre-B1), it is recommended that the teacher conducts a formative assessment with the students. This helps determine if the students are ready to proceed to the next level.