

# Icelandic as second language



Bifröst University preparation program

## Curriculum

Issued for students who start in the schoolyear 2023-2024

**Curriculum title:**

Icelandic as second language – Bifröst University preparatory program

**Contact person:**

Head of University Gateway

**April 2023**

## **Efnisyfirlit / Table of contents**

About the program.....	4
Admission criteria .....	4
Program description .....	4
Teaching methods.....	5
Assessment .....	5
Opportunities for further studies at the completion of the University Gateway program .....	5

## About the program

This curriculum describes the Icelandic as second language program at Bifröst University. The program is designed in accordance with Icelandic rules nr.835/2019 on preparatory studies for Universities.

Bifröst University offers a program in Icelandic as second language at levels A.1.2 to B.1 on the European language framework. The program is designed as part time studies for two years so students can study alongside work or other studies. Students in the University gateway program take both programs simultaneously.

The program is designed to prepare students who do not have Icelandic as their first language for university studies instructed in Icelandic and participation in Icelandic society.

## Admission criteria

Those who have abilities in Icelandic at level A.1.2 on the European language framework can start the Icelandic as second language program at Bifröst University.

First time applicants will have an assessment interview with a teacher to assess their language abilities so they can start at the appropriate level. Applicants might have to wait until a course at their ability level is available.

## Program description

The program is structured so that those who have abilities at level A.1.2 when they start can reach level B.1 when they have completed in two years. Students need to pass assessment in order to start each level so the studies can take longer or shorter depending on the student's progression. Each ability level is divided into two six-week courses that each is equal to 5 credit units at the upper secondary level. The University seeks to offer additional supportive courses. Students can also take courses from the University Gateway program in order to support their language studies. Typical progression of a student who starts at level A.1.2 would be:

Level 1 A (first year)	Level B (second year)
Haust lota 1	Haust lota 1
Icelandic as second language A.1.2	Icelandic as second language B.1.1 first part
Haust lota 2	Haust lota 2
Icelandic as second language A.2.1 first part	Icelandic as second language B.1.1 second part
Vor lota 1	Vor lota 1
Icelandic as second language A.2.1 second part	Icelandic as second language B.1.2 first part
Vor lota 2	Vor lota 2
Icelandic as second language A.2.2 first part	Icelandic as second language B.1.2 second part
Sumarlota	Sumarlota
Icelandic as second language A.2.2 second part	Academic Icelandic. B.2

Information on course offerings is available on our curriculum website.

## **Teaching methods**

Bifröst University is the leading online University in Iceland, and teaching methods will reflect that. Students will access recorded lectures and instructions, learning material and assignments in the University's learning management system. Weekly online classes will be in each course. In all programs at Bifröst University there is an emphasis on cooperative learning and real projects. Assessment is based on regular assignments and projects that train students to work independently. Cooperation and team work are also important parts of the studies. Teachers use flipped learning in their instructions. In the learning process students are trained to use their creative imagination as well as analysis and critical skills. The role of the instructor is to facilitate learning by providing continuous guidance and feedback on student work. However, the student himself is responsible for using the resources provided in the program for his own success.

## **Assessment**

Students take an assessment test to evaluate their ability level when they first apply. Students also need to pass assessment to progress between ability levels. Ability assessment will be available at the end of courses. Each course also includes various assignments, projects and other assessment activities that are designed to enhance student's abilities. Students have regular assignments throughout each course. They participate in discussion and work on thematic projects. Students receive regular verbal and written feedback they can use to work on their progression.

## **Opportunities for further studies at the completion of the University Gateway program**

Students who pass assessment and have reached abilities at level B.1.2 on the European language framework can start University programs instructed in Icelandic at Bifröst University if they fulfill general admission requirements.

Those who do not fulfill general admission requirements for university studies can apply for the [University gateway program](#) and take the two programs together.