

## Icelandic

ICEL 1002 (2 credits / 30 hours)

Iceland: Renewable Energy, Technology, and Resource Economics

*This syllabus is representative of a typical semester. Because courses develop and change over time to take advantage of unique learning opportunities, actual course content varies from semester to semester.*

### Description

As in all cultures, language is a core part of the Icelandic identity, and reflects many of the values and assumptions of the society. This introduction to Icelandic language and culture invites students into Icelandic through a communicative active approach to learning. By learning Icelandic, students gain unique access to Icelandic culture and deeper understanding of energy issues. This course is designed for learners of all abilities, and emphasis is based on gaining competency in functional Icelandic through practical language learning activities.

### Learning Outcomes

The *Icelandic* course comprises 30 hours of instruction (2 credits). Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Show understanding of the historical roots and development of Icelandic;
- Understand Icelandic cultural norms and their historical context;
- Demonstrate knowledge of the Icelandic alphabet and pronunciation;
- Apply basic vocabulary and interact with homestay families;
- Use Icelandic for basic conversation.

### Language of Instruction

Language-learning portions of this course are conducted in Icelandic.

### Course Schedule

The course is intended for students with no previous knowledge of Icelandic. Students will learn step-by-step how to communicate in Icelandic and how to use the language in a practical way.

- During orientation students become familiar with pronunciation and try out their first Icelandic phrases;
- Classes are held weekday afternoons and are followed by an intensive during the excursion;
- In Ísafjörður or Akureyri students are hosted by local families and encouraged to apply their first Icelandic skills within the homestay environment;
- Excursions to significant places in Icelandic culture will be held throughout the program.

Learning is activity-based and incorporates real-world practice and cultural excursions. Conversation exercises will include language games and Icelandic singing. The course also

includes a visit to the sites of the famous Gisli Saga. The Icelandic lectures will be taught by an experienced language instructor.

### **Course Materials**

A helpful resource before, during, and after the program is the free online tutorial "Icelandic Online" accessible here: <http://icelandiconline.is>.

Course materials are provided by the language instructor in the form of photocopies and other materials.

### **Evaluation and Grading Criteria**

The main criteria for evaluation will be the extent to which students use basic communication skills and demonstrate an understanding of Icelandic culture. Grade is determined by:

#### Description of Assignments

##### Participation (10%)

Students must use their knowledge of Icelandic in class, during excursions, and with homestay families.

##### Class Assignments & Homework (50%)

Class assignments consist of several small in-class assignments and activities on both language and culture. Exercises are designed to practice communication as well as grammar.

Reinforcement exercises are assigned daily, with students expected to complete an average of 30 minutes of homework on class days. Assignments include written and oral assignments that consist of a short essay, short written assignments, and may include finding new vocabulary items and expressions. Participants are supposed to submit the exercises within the indicated deadlines; otherwise the exercise is not accepted, which will affect the course grade.

##### Final Exam (40%)

The final exam will consist of written and oral components. The exam will last one and a half hours and will test vocabulary, expressions, conversations, and listening, learned through the course.

#### Assessment

Participation	10%
Class assignments and homework	50%
Final Exam	40%

#### Grading Scale

94-100%	A
90-93%	A-
87-89%	B+
84-86%	B
80-83%	B-
77-79%	C+
74-76%	C
70-73%	C-
67-69%	D+
64-66%	D

below 64%

F

### Expectations and Policies

- Show up prepared. Be on time; have your readings completed and points in mind for discussion or clarification. This raises the level of class discussion for everyone.
- Have assignments completed on schedule, printed, and done accordingly to the specified requirements. This will help ensure that your assignments are returned in a timely manner.
- Ask questions and participate in class.
- Comply with academic integrity policies as specified in the SIT Study Abroad Student Handbook.
- Respect differences of opinion (classmates, lecturers, local constituents engaged with on the visits). You are not expected to agree with everything you hear, but you are expected to listen across difference and consider other perspectives with respect.

**Academic Policies:** SIT prides itself on providing students with an experientially based program; we hold ourselves, and our students, to the highest of academic standards. Students are asked to refer to the SIT Study Abroad Handbook for policies on academic integrity, ethics, academic warning and probation, diversity and disability, sexual harassment and the academic appeals process.

**Disability Services:** Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Disability Services at [disabilityservices@sit.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@sit.edu) for information and support in facilitating an accessible educational experience. Additional information regarding SIT Disability Services, including a link to the online request form, can be found on the Disability Services website at <http://studyabroad.sit.edu/disabilityservices>.

**Please note:** the syllabus, course content, lecturers, and readings may be modified by the academic director in order to better suit the needs of the course and its participants. Should any change of class topics or lecturers be necessary, students will be promptly notified.