

Valnámskeiðs- bæklingur

Electives Brochure

Three-Week Course in Icelandic and Culture

**Sumarnámskeið í íslensku • Summer School in Icelandic:
Three-Week Course in Icelandic and Culture**

Valnámskeið • Electives • 2011

**Bókun valnámskeiða/Signing for Electives
www.uwestfjords.is > MySchool**

**Bókun í valnámskeið hefst þriðjudaginn 2. ágúst kl. 15:00
/Signing up for the electives starts on Tuesday 2 August at 15:00**

Keppnin um fjársjóðinn • The Amazing Race around Ísafjörður

Albertína F. Elíasdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 20

Staður/Place: University Centre (start).

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

Students race around Ísafjörður in search of the treasure of Grimkell the Wizard and the first team to find the treasure wins. The students must perform various tasks in Icelandic to get clues to where the treasure lies. Students will need to talk, read and listen to Icelandic and must not be afraid to approach the locals for directions and information. The vocabulary in the game consists for some part of the word used in daily life.

Færni/Skill: Vocabulary. Speaking. Reading. Communication.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic.

Draugar og draugasögur • Ghosts and Ghost Stories

Albertína F. Elíasdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 25

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

Ghosts and ghost stories have always been, and still are, a large part of Icelandic history and culture. This course will introduce to students the most famous Icelandic ghosts and ghost stories, all from Glámur to the deacon from Myrká to the ghosts of Yrsa Sigurðardóttir in Hesteyri. Less known ghost stories will also be introduced, with emphasis on ghost stories from the Westfjords. There is a possibility of visiting the ghosts in Hesteyri, depending on timing and costs.

Færni/Skill: Vocabulary. Reading. Culture.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic and English.

Náttúran og umhverfið • Nature and Environment

Anna Guðrún Edvardsdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 16

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: Interest in nature and the environment. Students have to be able to use computers and look for information on the Internet. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

This course teaches students about the Westfjords and how to describe the local environment. Students will learn words associated with nature such as hill, ocean, lake and so on. Students will also learn to recognise and describe natural phenomena orally and in writing or in other creative ways.

Færni/Skill: Vocabulary associated with nature and environment. Listening. Comprehension. Knowledge of the local environment in the Westfjords.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic and English.

Landnámssaga Vestfirja • The Westfjords Settlers' Story

Anna Guðrún Edvardsdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 16

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: Interest in history. Students have to be able to use computers and look for information on the Internet. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

Students will be introduced to the story of the first settlers in the Westfjords and special attention given to the settlers in Ísafjörður, Bolungarvík, and Súðavík. In this course students will learn to retell the settlers' stories orally and in writing or in other creative ways.

Færni/Skill: Vocabulary. Listening. Comprehension. Knowledge of the settlers in the Westfjords.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic and English.

Talaðu! • Speak Up!

Bjarney Ingibjörg Gunnlaugsdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 30

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: Bring the good mood. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

In this course students will be taught how to use their voices when giving speeches in front of groups of people. Material used in this course is from Complete Vocal Institute. The structure of the voice will be examined as well as its many potentials. Some exercises will be taught to help student learn proper voice control that is necessary when giving speeches, lecturing and teaching.

Færni/Skill: Pronunciation. Culture.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic.

Dansaðu og lærðu íslensku! • Dance and Learn Icelandic

Eva Friðbjófsdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 20

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

Students will learn Icelandic as they dance the so-called “old dances” that are really Icelandic folk dances. The dances that will be taught are for example vikivaki, ræll (reel), skottís (schottische) and vínarkrús. Instructions are given in Icelandic and students will learn words like *left* and *right*, *forwards* and *backwards*, *hands* and *feet* and many more.

Færni/Skill: Vocabulary. Listening. Following instructions in Icelandic. Dancing.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic.

Upplestrarnámskeið • Reading Aloud

Halldóra Björnsdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 12

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Level A1.

In this course games are used to warm up and encourage group participation. The many challenges of lecturing and giving speeches are discussed and pondered over. Some exercises are performed and techniques are taught to improve speech, respiration, vocal strength and overall performance. Students will work with different texts and how to best deliver them to their peers within the group. This course will close with some relaxing meditation.

Færni/Skill: Pronunciation. Reading aloud in Icelandic.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic.

Íslensk málstefna • Icelandic Language Policy

Helga Hilmisdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 30

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: Good beginner's vocabulary. Level A2.

This course consists of two parts: a) a lecture on Icelandic language policy, and, b) exercises based on the lecture. During the lecture students will learn the reasons for Icelanders' allegedly strict language policy, and how it has been institutionalized and presented in schools and in the media. Furthermore, students will see some examples of how Icelanders create their own words instead of using international words, such as *leikhús* 'theatre' and *tölva* 'computer'.

Færni/Skill: An understanding of how Iceland's official language policy has shaped the Icelandic language.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: English and Icelandic (supported by Power Point).

Slangur og slettur • Slang and Loanwords

Helga Hilmisdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 30

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: Good beginner's vocabulary. Level A2.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

This course consists of two parts: a) a lecture on slang and code switching in Icelandic teenage talk, and b) an exercise based on the new vocabulary. The introductory presentation will begin by briefly outlining the official language policy in Iceland, followed by a discussion on Icelandic slang. In the second half of the lecture, students will work on vocabulary exercises, e.g. scan blogs and read pop lyrics that contain slang words.

Færni/Skill: A theoretical understanding of the use of code switching in teenage talk and the knowledge of the most common slang words used in everyday speech.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: English and Icelandic (supported by Power Point).

Málfræðisurningar • Questions about grammar

Attention: There is no need to sign up for this course, just show up. You can take this course once or twice.

Peter Weiss

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: -

Staður/Place: University Centre, **Thursdays at 14:00.**

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: Level A1-A2.

Do you have any grammar questions? Here you can come and ask a teacher about grammar, whether you want to know more than what the morning lessons give you, or if you do not understand the grammar that is taught in the morning lesson.

Færni/Skill: Grammar.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic and English.

Smáauglýsingar • Advertisements

Jón Bjarni Atlason

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 20

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

Students will read and understand different types of advertisements, for example for rooms, cars and other things they could need during the winter. By that they will gain practical vocabulary for every day use.

Færni/Skill: Vocabulary training.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic.

Hápunktar íslenskrar náttúru • Highlights in the Icelandic Nature

Jón Bjarni Atlason

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 30

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

In this course some of the most interesting natural treasures in Iceland will be introduced in both lecture and pictures. Short texts are provided about interesting sites and places and some geology is examined. Exercises of correct pronunciation of place names will also be performed.

Færni/Skill: Knowledge of some of the most interesting natural treasures in Iceland and related vocabulary.

Tungumál/Language of teaching Icelandic (English, German or Danish if necessary).

Vestfirðir í dag • Westfjords Today

Peter Weiss

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: -

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

This elective is a pure lecture, where students will learn about the development and the problems of the most remote region of Iceland. Power point will be in English to facilitate understanding, but the lecture itself will be only in Icelandic.

Færni/Skill: Listening.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic.

Ímynd og raunveruleiki • Image and Reality

Ólafur Guðsteinn Kristjánsson

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 30

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Level A1-A2.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

In this course the Icelandic self-image is examined. Icelanders sometimes like to project a rather strange and glossy outward image that portrays them as tough, creative, independent and rather handsome people that are in tune with nature and like to emphasize this by telling stories of the hidden people, trolls and ghosts. This course will examine this self image and how it relates to reality; this will be done for example by looking at the band Sigurrós and the writings of Halldór Laxness the Nobel laureate. A somewhat different picture is also presented by taking a look at the work of Rob Hornstra, a Dutch photographer.

Færni/Skill: Listening. Understanding. Culture.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic.

Vera á eða fara til? • To Stay or Go?

Ólafur Guðsteinn Kristjánsson

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 20

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Extensive knowledge of grammar is not required and this course is good for both beginners and intermediate students. Level A1-A2.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

Icelandic has sometimes been called the Latin of the north and with good reasons. Surrounding verbs and adjectives change most nouns and to be able to communicate efficiently requires training and quick thinking. In this course the students will work with the names of places in Iceland, how they are changed by inflection and how to use them in common speech with the correct verbs and prepositions. Basically this course is about teaching the students to express where they are at the moment and where they are going. Real places and place names in Iceland will play a big role in this course and there is special emphasis on the local region Westfirðir so that the newfound knowledge can be used right away.

Færni/Skill: Inflection. Grammar. Vocabulary.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic and English.

Barnasögur • Children's Stories

Ólafur Guðsteinn Kristjánsson

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 16

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

This course has emphasis on understanding and pronunciation and students will read selected texts and are then asked to answer questions from them. Questions will often be quite humorous and often concern many factors of life in Icelandic society such as family names and food. The children's stories that will be read from are for example *Pipi Langstrom* by Astrid Lindgren and *The Ugly Fish* by Árni Árnason og Halldór Bragason.

Færni/Skill: Listening, Vocabulary. Pronunciation. Questions.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Mostly Icelandic.

Myndaorðabók • Picture Vocabulary

Ólöf Bergmannsdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 12

Staður/Place: University Centre/Fræðslumiðstöð (first floor).

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: None. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

Guided self-study: Students will get the opportunity to access a vocabulary-training program owned by Fræðslumiðstöð Vestfjarða. They will train their vocabulary in guided self-studies. The program is based on pictures and is interactive.

Færni/Skill: Vocabulary.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic.

Búðarall • Shopping Rally

Ólöf Bergmannsdóttir

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: 20

Staður/Place: University Centre (start).

Prerequisites: Students have to be able to ask questions and know the numbers. Level A1-A2.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

Students will be divided into small groups and sent on a mission in downtown Ísafjörður. At the first stop, they will receive a map and instructions on where to go. At each stop, the students have a task they will have to complete, e.g. find a particular person in the store and ask a question or find out how much a particular item costs. Students will also have to mark the places on the map. The answers to all the questions will be submitted to the course leader when the last task has been completed.

Færni/Skill: Understanding simple instructions and the ability to ask for simple information in Icelandic. Vocabulary regarding the town centre, money and shopping.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic.

Íslenskar kvikmyndir • Icelandic Films

Attention: There is no need to sign up for this course, just show up.

Fjöldi/Number of Participants: -

Staður/Place: University Centre.

Forkröfur/Prerequisites: Some understanding in Icelandic. Level A1.

Hæfniviðmið/Learning outcomes:

Students will watch selected Icelandic films. An instructor briefly introduces each film. Films will be in Icelandic (but with English subtitles). After the film there is time for discussion.

Færni/Skill: Listening. Vocabulary. Film culture.

Tungumál/Language of teaching: Icelandic and English.

Börn Náttúrunnar/Children of the Nature (1991)

Old Þorgeir must leave his home far off in the Icelandic 'countryside' and move into a home for senior citizens in Reykjavik. There he meets an old friend from his childhood, Stella. Þorgeir soon becomes unhappy living there and together with Stella he steals a jeep. Together they leave the city for Stella's old home in northwestern Iceland. A drama who asks us: how important is it to have a long life if you have to leave everything that has a meaning for you?*

Director: [Friðrik Þór Friðriksson](#)

Writers: [Friðrik Þór Friðriksson](#), [Einar Guðmundsson](#)

Stars: [Gísli Halldórsson](#), [Sigríður Hagalín](#) and [Baldvin Halldórsson](#)

Englar alheimsins/Angels of the Universe (2000)

Páll is an artistic and sensitive young man. Getting dumped by his girlfriend, Dagný, triggers his descent into madness. We follow him on his way to inevitable doom; at home with his parents who finally can't cope, and in the mental institution, Kleppur.*

Director: [Friðrik Þór Friðriksson](#)

Writer: [Einar Guðmundsson](#) (novel)

Stars: [Ingvar Eggert Sigurðsson](#), [Baltasar Kormákur](#) and [Hilmir Snær Guðnason](#)

Mýrin/Jar City (2006)

A murder opens up a bleak trail of long buried secrets and small town corruption for a worn out police detective and his squad.*

Director: [Baltasar Kormákur](#)

Writers: [Baltasar Kormákur](#) (screenplay), [Arnaldur Indriðason](#) (novel)

Stars: [Ingvar Eggert Sigurðsson](#), [Ágústa Eva Erlendsdóttir](#) and [Björn Hlynur Haraldsson](#)

Nói Albínói/Noi the Albino (2003)

Is he the village idiot or a genius in disguise? 17 year old Noi drifts through life on a remote fjord in the north of Iceland. In winter, the fjord is cut off from the outside world, surrounded by ominous mountains and buried under a shroud of snow. Noi dreams of escaping from this white-walled prison with Iris, a city girl who works in a local gas station. But his clumsy attempts at escape spiral out of control and end in complete failure. Only a natural disaster will shatter Noi's universe and offer him a window into a better world.*

Director: Dagur Kári

Writer: Dagur Kári

Stars: Tómas Lemarquis, Pröstur Leó Gunnarsson and Elín Hansdóttir

Útlaginn/Outlaw: The Saga of Gísli (1981)

The saga of Gísli Súrsson) is one of the Sagas of Icelanders. It tells the story of Gisli, a tragic hero who must kill one of his brothers-in-law to avenge another brother-in-law. Gisli is outlawed and forced to stay on the run for thirteen years before he is finally hunted down and killed. The saga was likely written in the 13th century, it describes events taking place in the period 940-980.*

Director: Ágúst Guðmundsson

Writer: Ágúst Guðmundsson

Stars: Tinna Gunnlaugsdóttir, Arnar Jónsson and Kristján Jóhann Jónsson

* Heimild: IMDb *The Internet Movie Database* (www.imdb.com)