# Would you like to improve your Danish?



Check out
what types of
Danish language
classes are offered
for immigrant
learners





### **Preface**

We all know how important it is to be able to communicate with the people we encounter in our everyday lives. When living in Denmark, it helps to understand and speak Danish if you plan to live comfortably and function well in the work place and community.

In consideration of this, we have created this brochure for our nearly 45,000 members in 3F with ethnic backgrounds other than Danish. It provides an overview of the options there are for taking Danish language courses for immigrant learners in Denmark.

I hope that you feel inspired and are able to find the right offering for you. As one of our members once said, "my greatest challenge is the Danish language, but the only solution is to learn it". Language is the key to interacting with others.

### Søren Heisel

General Secretary of 3F Responsible for Labour Market, Education and Integration This brochure describes options for those who are employed. Those who are unemployed should speak with the job centre and the unemployment fund about the options they have for taking the various Danish language courses.

## Where can you find the Danish language course that best fits your needs?

There are several schools that offer Danish courses for immigrant learners. Each course is aimed at a slightly different target group. This means that there are differences in the level of instruction in Danish.

# How much Danish do you know already?

Before starting a Danish course, it is important that you take a small test to assess how much Danish you already know. This might be in the form of a test, a screening or an individual competency assessment. The goal is the same: to ensure that you find a Danish language course that suits you and your needs.

## Overview of different schools' Danish courses for immigrant learners

- The Danish Language Centres' Danish courses in the municipalities, including Labour Market-Oriented Danish (Intro Danish)
- Preparatory Adult Education Programme (FVU). The Adult Educa-

- tional Centres (VUC) are typically responsible for these courses, which are also organised in multiple steps. These are FVU Start and FVU Reading for Bilinguals.
- AMU courses (Adult Vocational Training Programmes) in Danish as a second language at vocational schools. Here you will find both courses purely for learning Danish and courses that are a combination of Danish learning and vocational AMU courses.
- General Adult Education (AVU). The Adult Educational Centres (VUC) are typically responsible for these courses. AVU is organised in multiple steps for Danish learning. They are all, however, taught at a higher level.

### **Funding**

There are different ways to handle funding for taking each course. There are tuition fees for some courses, while others are free. An allowance is offered for most courses.

Find more information here www.ug.dk www.3fuddannelsesnyt.dk www.svu.dk www.veug.dk

You can always ask for help at your local 3F branch, where they will be able to guide you in the right direction.

# Labour Market-Oriented Danish (Intro Danish)

### Target group for Labour Market-Oriented Danish:

Labour Market-Oriented Danish is for:

- Those who have just come to Denmark and who are employed in Denmark
- Those who are accompanying spouses
- Those who are EU cross-border commuters



The municipality is responsible for offering the course.

The course includes general Danish language, business-oriented and work-related language and focuses on work culture, work environment and safety.

The course is comprised of 250 hours of Danish lessons divided across five modules, of 50 minutes each. They must be completed within a year and a half.

Once you have completed the 250 hours within a year and a half, you may take a module test.





### Where is the Labour Market-Oriented Danish course held?

The course is typically held at a language centre, however lessons may also take place at other locations, for example, at your work place or your local 3F branch.

### Funding

Lessons are free and you can receive the State Educational Support for Adults (SVU) if you meet the conditions. You must apply for SVU before the start of the course.

After taking my Danish language course, I'm able to understand the Danish system much better. Now I tell my colleagues in Danish about our rights in the labour market. They are quite pleased with this".

Firuta Larsen, born in Romania, Service Assistant at Rigshospitalet



### **Danish Classes**

### **Target group for Danish Classes:**

#### Danish Classes are for:

- Those who are newly arrived refugees
- Those who have come for family reunification
- Those who have completed Labour Market-Oriented Danish



The municipality is responsible for offering Danish courses.

Through Danish courses, you will learn to understand, speak, read and write Danish. Understanding the culture and social conditions in Denmark are central topics in the courses, which will include a basic introduction to the Danish labour market, educational opportunities and democracy.

There are three different levels of Danish courses. After a competency check, you will be placed in the Danish course and module that best match your skill level.

Once you have completed a Danish course, you will then be able to move on to the next.

You are entitled to take the Danish courses within the first five years of your arrival in Denmark. This also means that you are allowed to take breaks in between courses. Those who have taken and finished Labour Market-Oriented Danish (Intro Danish) are entitled to three years of Danish courses.

### Where are the Danish courses held?

The course is typically held at a language centre. However, instruction may also take place at other locations, for example, at your local 3F branch.

### **Funding**

Lessons are free for you and you can receive the State Educational Support for Adults (SVU) if you meet the conditions. You must apply for SVU before the start of the course.

### **Danish Course 1**

are for those who cannot read or write in their native language. The goal of the course is to achieve basic proficiency in spoken Danish, as well as reading and writing proficiency. Danish Course 1 is divided into six modules.

### **Danish Course 2**

are for those who have a short educational background from their homeland. The goal of the course is to be able to understand, speak and read Danish. Danish Course 2 is divided into six modules.

#### Danish Course 3

are for those who have a medium or long educational background. This might have been from vocational school, upper secondary school or higher education. Danish Course 3 is divided into six modules.



# Preparatory Adult Education Programme – (FVU)



### FVU and Danish courses for immigrant learners

FVU has two Danish course offerings for immigrant learners—FVU Start and FVU Reading for Bilinguals.

#### **FVU Start**

The course is intended for adult immigrant learners, who wish to strengthen their oral communication skills in Danish, including their vocabulary. FVU Danish will last between at least 30 and up to 60 lessons of 60 minutes each.

### **FVU Reading for Bilinguals**

The current FVU Reading steps 1, 2, 3 and 4 will also be set up on a trial basis as a specially organised course for bilinguals. An FVU course in Reading for Bilinguals will be ranging from at least 60 and up to 80 lessons of 45 minutes each.

### Where is FVU held?

The course is typically held at the VUC (Adult Educational Centres). However, lessons may also take place at other locations, for example, at your local 3F branch.

### Funding

Lessons are free for you and you can receive the State Educational Support for Adults (SVU) if you meet the conditions. You must apply for SVU before the start of the course.



Not only did I improve my reading and writing in Danish after my Danish course, but now I can also communicate much better with my colleagues and managers. It makes going to work more fun".

Bernadeta Thrysøe, born in Poland, Cleaning Technician in Aalborg Municipality

# Adult Vocational Training Programmes – (AMU)



AMU's Danish offering is called "Danish as a second language for refugees and immigrant learners". It has three levels and each level may last for up to 40 days. It has specific language objectives and the class takes a vocational approach that is based on the industry in which you work.

AMU's Danish courses may be completed as independent Danish courses or as Danish lessons combined with vocational AMU courses.

The courses can be organised flexibly; for example, as part-time education over a longer period of time.



# Where are AMU's Danish courses held?

The course is typically held at a vocational school, however lessons may also take place at other locations, for example, at your local 3F branch.

### **Funding**

You can receive the VEU allowance following current regulations. You may apply for the VEU allowance after the course has ended.

In 2017, you are able to receive DKK 679,20 per day / DKK 3,396.00 per week, if the AMU courses takes place during your work hours.

There is a tuition fee for AMU's Danish courses. In 2017, the fee makes up DKK 184 per day / DKK 920 per week.

### The three AMU levels

### **Basic Level**

requires Danish skills at least equivalent to the language centres' Danish Language Test 1

### **General Level**

requires Danish skills equivalent to most of the language centres' Danish Language Test 2

### **Extended Level**

requires Danish skills at least equivalent to the language centres' Danish Language Test 2



### General Adult Education (AVU)



AVU's Danish offering for immigrant learners is called "Danish as a second language", and is taught on multiple levels.

The first in the series is the AVU course "Danish as a second language—Basic". Its goal is to provide you with the prerequisite knowledge to take "Danish as a second language" at the next level, level G.

The course is intended for those who have a Danish vocational level that is below the final level at the language schools' Danish (step 3), but who are expected to be able to reach this level during the course's 140 hours.



### Where is AVU held?

Lessons are typically held at a VUC (Adult Educational Centres), however lessons may also take place at other locations, for example, at your local 3F branch.

### **Funding**

You can receive the State Educational Support for Adults (SVU) if you meet the conditions. You must apply for SVU before the start of the course.

In 2017, you are able to receive DKK 679,20 per day / DKK 3,396.00 per week, if the AVU courses takes place during your work hours.

There is a tuition fee for AMU's Danish courses. In 2017, the fee makes up DKK 120 per course.

### The following levels for AVU's Danish courses for immigrant learners are:

- Level G, which corresponds to the municipal primary and lower secondary school's 9th grade in Danish
- · Level F, which corresponds to vocational education Danish, basic subject F
- Level E, which corresponds to the municipal primary and lower secondary school's 10th grade in Danish
- Level D, which corresponds to vocational education, basic subject D, which is the highest level before Danish at upper secondary school level or that of higher preparatory examination course.



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	Labour Market-Oriented Danish (Intro Danish)	Danish Courses	FVU-start	
Target Group	For those who are: • newly arrived adult foreign workers • spouses EU cross-border commuters You are entitled to take Labour Market-Oriented Danish for up to a year and a half.	For those who are: • newly arrived refugees • reunited families with residence permits and personal identification numbers (CPR no.). You are entitled to take Danish courses for up to five years.	For those who have:  • lived and worked in Denmark for some years and who need to improve their Danish before taking FVU Reading for Bilinguals.	
Admission requirements	No skills in Danish are required for starting the course.	No skills in Danish are required for starting the course.	Some Danish skills are required for starting the course.	
Planning	Lessons are organised as five courses of 50 lessons. The lessons are typically held at a language centre during the day, evening or on weekends. However, instruction may also take place at the work place or at a local 3F branch. The course will conclude with a test.	There will be between 6 and 15 lessons per week. Lessons are typically held at a language centre during the day, evening or on weekends. It is possible to sit for an exam and then obtain a certificate.	The course will last between 30 and 60 lessons of 60 minutes each. The course is typically held at an Adult Educational Centre (VUC).  It is possible to finish the course with an FVU test and obtain a certificate.  A passed test provides access to continue on FVU Reading for bilinguals step 1.	
Funding	The job centre in your municipality of residence or the municipality where your work place is located will pay for the lessons. You can apply for SVU following current regulations.	The job centre in your municipality of residence or the municipality where your work place is located will pay for the lessons. You can apply for SVU following current regulations	The course is free. You can apply for SVU following current regulations.	

FVU	AMU	AVU
FVU Reading for Bilinguals	AMU - Danish as a second language for refugees and immigrant learners	AVU - Danish as a second language
For those who have: • lived and worked in Denmark for some years, but who have not learned enough Danish to be able to finish step 1 of the Dan- ish Classes.	For those who are: • skilled or unskilled and who already have elementary level Danish.	AVU – Danish as a second language is for those who have completed Danish course 2, or who have a corresponding skill level.
Some Danish skills, but not quite at a level corresponding to step 1 of the Danish Classes.	Danish skills at least equivalent to level 1 of the Danish courses.	Danish skills at least equivalent to level 2 of the Danish courses.
The class is typically held at an Adult Educational Centre (VUC).  It is possible to finish the course with an FVU test and obtain a certificate.	The course is offered at three levels – Basic, General and Extended Level. The course is held at either the AMU centre or at your work place during the day, evening or on weekend for at least three weeks. The course may be completed as an independent Danish course or as Danish instruction combined with vocational AMU courses.	The class is held at a VUC.  It is possible to conclude the course with a test that corresponds to the municipal primary and lower secondary school's Danish Test, and then take the following levels at AVU.  Basic Level: 90 hours  Level G: 180 hours  Level F: 75 hours  Level E: 60 hours  Level D: 60 hours
The course is free. You can apply for SVU following current regulations.	Tuition is DKK 184 per day / DKK 920 per week for 2017 You may apply for the VEU allowance following current regulations.	Tuition is DKK 120 per course for 2017. You may apply for SVU following current regulations.

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