



Danish Education, Culture and Teaching

Autumn semester: September – December, 30 ECTS

Location: Department of Teacher Education, Silkeborg

“DanECult” is a three-month course open to students at the Department of Teacher Education, Silkeborg and its network partner colleges and universities in other countries.

The course is to be recognized as an integrated element in teacher training in the students’ own countries. The working language of the course is English.

The aim of the course

is to offer student teachers the opportunity to acquire a fairly thorough knowledge of values and ways of thinking within education, art, literature, and politics in Denmark, past and present. The methods of the course range from lectures, seminars, group work, to visits to museums, excursions, and teacher practice.

The content of the course

will concentrate on four main areas of study:

1. Danish History and the Way Danish Society Works.
A brief survey of Danish history from The Viking Age to the present seen in its interaction with especially the other Nordic countries.
Danish society with special emphasis on the democratic traditions peculiar to Danish politics and mentality.
2. Danish Language.
There will be an intensive “survival” course in everyday Danish at the beginning of the three months in order to enable the students to decipher Danish culture through deciphering the language.
3. Danish Literature, Philosophy, Art and Drama.
There will be a specific description of the contents at the beginning of the course. Prominent figures like H.C. Andersen, N.F.S. Grundtvig, S. Kierkegaard, and Asger Jorn will be included.
As an extra course the international students will be introduced to and given the opportunity to participate in the cultural theatre project “In the Company of Shakespeare: A Work in Progress”.

4. School and Education in Denmark.
There will be an introduction to the thinking behind the Danish school system also concerning children with special needs. This part of the course will include visits to schools and teacher practice at both “Folkeskoler and Efterskoler”.

The final assessment

for “DanECult” will be expressed in a single mark, based on the following:

1. A group project written during the course of the programme. Groups are to consist of two to four with students of different nationalities in each if possible. The project must be of at least 10 type-written pages and must be connected to one of the four main areas of study and be approved by a member of staff.
Counselling will be available for the students.
2. An oral examination at the end of the course.
Participants will be the individual project group, their tutor, and an external examiner.
The oral examination will last 30 - 60 minutes (15 minutes per student).
The mark (which mirrors a combined evaluation of 1. and 2.) will be given, but on request an equivalent to any official, described system, e.g. the ECTS., can be afforded. The ECTS credit value of the course totals 30 credits. Students passing the course will be awarded a course diploma.

Practical information

Application: Please apply as soon as possible and no later than May. **Accommodation:** There are no student residencies on campus, but the international office will help foreign students find accommodation.

Transportation: The train station is situated 10 minutes from the college and the closest airport is 40 minutes away. The international office will arrange to meet foreign students on arrival.

Contact information

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Graphical representation of the weeks of DanECult

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Survival Danish			Teacher practice		Semester Break		Teacher Practice	Project (groupwork)		Final preparations,
	Danish history								Education in DK		Oral examinations,
	The way Danish society works								(seminars)		Assessment
	Danish literature, philosophy, art and drama										
	Education in DK (lectures, seminars, excursions)										