1. Language choice at Uppsala University during 537 years

1477–1852 376 years Latin
1852–1870 19 years Master Theses in Latin or Swedish
1870–2013 144 years Doctoral Degrees (Theology, Law, Medicine, Philosophy; later Engineering)
1870–1907 38 years 50 PhD Theses in Swedish (Mathematics)
1892–1936 45 years 14 PhD Theses in French (Mathematics)
1909–1953 43 years 22 PhD Theses in German (Mathematics)
1944–2013 70 years PhD Theses in English (Mathematics)

Abbreviations (ISO 639-1):
de German  en English  fr French  sv Swedish
frs French, studied in Stockholm (4 theses 1892–1903)
svs Swedish, studied in Stockholm (9 theses 1983–1899)

Swedish and English are in the same column. They collide only in the interval 1915–1919, when the last thesis in Swedish (1915) and the first one in English (1919) were published.

During the period 1980–2012 all theses have been written in English except for one in 1980, which was partly written in French, partly in English.
2. The Language Group at the Faculty of Science and Technology, Uppsala University, 2003–2010

Appointed by the Board of the Faculty for the period 2003 June 10 — 2010 December.

(I was a member until 2006 April 30).

Informally it started even earlier . . .

Status planning, corpus planning.

3. Language plan for the Faculty of Science and Technology, Uppsala University, 2008–2010

18 pages. Emphasizes high quality with regard to language. All teachers shall be able to communicate orally and in writing both in Swedish and English.

The plan was presented on 2004 June 07 at a conference on Parallel language proficiency organized at Voksenåsen, Oslo. Invitation by the Nordic Council of Ministers.

[Transit of Venus 2004 June 08!]

4. Language plan for the Faculty of Science and Technology, Uppsala University, 2010–2013

2 pages. Emphasizes internationalization.

Karin Carlson, 2013 June 18: “[. . .] there is a risk that we arrive at the situation which we feared: not enough of Swedish-speaking personnel at the university to pursue a meaningful activity [teaching in Swedish].” (Applies to her field, microbiology, as well as to other fields.)
5. Some facts of life

A majority of PhD students in mathematics and other sciences cannot speak Swedish.

There are many professors who cannot speak Swedish.

This is a development which is a natural consequence of the globalization of all sciences, and is accompanied by an increase in quality.

A choice any small country has to make . . .

References


References

Transition German → English.

A dramatic decline in mathematics in Germany during the period 1933–1939: The number of mathematics students down by 82% in Germany; by 91% in Göttingen.


Thank you!