



# Multimodal literacy in L1 curricula across the Nordic countries

**NERA, Helsingfors,  
10. March 2016**

Christina Olin-Scheller, Karlstads universitet

Øystein Gilje, Universitetet i Oslo

Anna Slotte, Helsingfors universitet (not attending)

Nikolaj F. Elf, Syddansk Universitet (not attending)



#MultiL1



# MultiL1; outline

- Presentation of MultiL1
- Point of departure – preliminary findings in WP1 and expectations
- Review, theory and RQ in this presentation (WP2).
- Preliminary findings in WP2.
- Question for discussion: input

# PROJECT; MultiL1 – WP 2015-2017

	2015 Autumn	2016 Spring	2016 Autumn	2017 Spring
WP 1	A review, to map existing research in the four countries, focusing on secondary school grades 7–9			
WP 2	Curriculum analysis of steering documents for L1 in grade 8-10 (7-9) in the four Nordic countries.			
WP 3			Pilot study: small-scale empirical case study	
WP 4		Application generation		

# Review; L1 in Nordic countries

Comparative research on L1 across countries has found that L1 is not simply the "same"; rather it is shaped by different cultures of education.

"Patterns, position and meaning of familiar concepts like the teaching of language and literature, language proficiency, the school's canon of literary texts etc., which on the surface seemed to be identical or at least similar, appeared to be different in the longer run"

(Herrlitz, W., & Van de Ven, P.-H. (2007).

The so-called Nordfag project comparing Swedish, Norwegian, and Danish as subjects led to the same finding (cf. Elf & Kaspersen, 2012).

*These findings have methodological implications for comparisons of L1 in the Nordic countries. We should look for similarities, but also expect differences.*

# Preliminary findings in WP1, and expectations for WP2

In the review of research-studies conducted in L1-classroom (WP1), we have found **a limited focus on students' work in relation to multimodal literacy practices.**

In particular, there seems to **be a lack of studies that focus on formative feedback of students' multimodal composing in L1.**

In the on going analysis of curriculums in the four countries (WP2) we expect to find differences and similarities in the discursive constructions of expected outcomes including multimodal literacy practices.

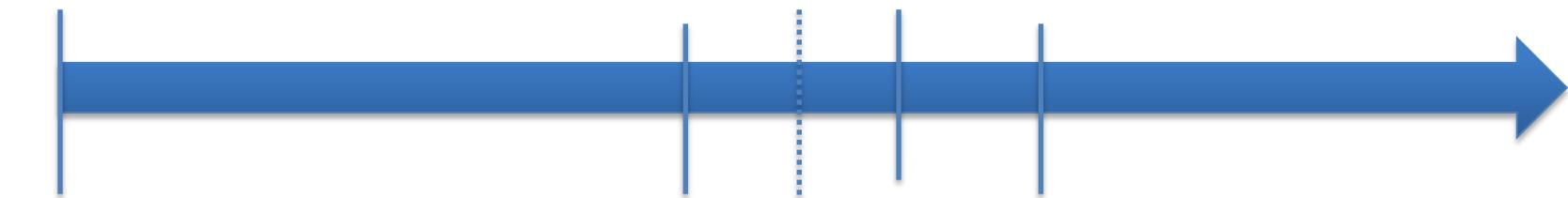
# CONTEXT; Curricula in 4 Nordic countries



KUNNSKAPSLØFTET – revised in 2012/2013



Folkeskoleloven 2014



2006



Lgr11



Grunderna för läroplanen  
för den grundläggande  
utbildningen



# Sociocultural perspective

- Learning occurs through participation in a **community** (Cole, 1996; Dysthe, 2001; Lave & Wenger, 1991; Rogoff, 2003).
- A learning **community** is created by both **participants** and the learning materials and resources for learning that they have at hand.
- A socio-cultural perspective gives explanatory power to help analyse how these cultural tools and **modalities**, which are employed in literacy practices.

# A multimodal perspective

- Each modality has **meaningful potential** as a result of the shared values assigned to the semiotic resource over time (Gilje, 2008a, 2008b; Hodge & Kress, 1988; Kress, 2010; Selander & Kress, 2010).
- **The preferred modality in L1 over the last few decades has been written language** and a linguistic approach to the teaching and learning of language and literature (Elf, 2009).
- However, the emergences of digital tools and new genres problematize the distinction between the writing as a mode and other modalities.

# On Curriculum development

Three perspectives:

1. the introduction of national qualifications frameworks
2. the shift to learning outcomes
3. the move from subject specific to generic curriculum criteria

(Young, 2010)

# Research questions

- How do aims and goals in the curriculum relate to *multimodal literacy*?
- How is *multimodal literacy* expressed in L1-curriculum (stage 7-9/8-10) in the four countries?

RQ1: How do “ferdigheter” and “kompetanser”  
in the curriculum relate to *multimodal literacy*?

## Grunnleggende ferdigheter

- Muntlighet
- **Skriving**
- Regning
- Lesing
- **Digitale ferdigheter**



Inga överordnade  
kompetenser



## Sju kompetanser

- Förmåga att tänka och lära sig
  - Kulturell och kommunikativ kompetens
  - Vardagskompetens
  - **Multilitteracitet**
  - **Digital kompetens**
  - Arbetslivskompetens och entreprenörskap
  - Förmåga att delta, påverka och bidra till en hållbar framtid
- 
- **IT and media,**
  - Innovation and entrepreneurship
  - Points of interest



L1 - curricula	Sverige (7 themes /topics) 	Danmark (4 themes/topics) 	Norge (3 themes/topics) 	Finland (4 themes/topics) 
Topics/ (områder)	<b>Läsa och skriva</b>  <b>Tala, lyssna, samtala</b>  <b>Berättande texter och sakprosatexter</b>  Språkbruk  <b>Informationssök. och källkritik</b>	Læsning  <b>Fremstilling</b>  Fortolkning  Kommunikation	Muntlig kommunikasjon  Skriftlig kommunikasjon  <b>Språk, litteratur og kultur</b>	Att kommunicera  Att tolka texter  Att producera texter  Att förstå språk, litteratur och kultur
MULTIMODAL LITERACY – in BOLD				

RQ2: How is *multimodal literacy* expressed in L1-curriculum (stage 7-9/8-10) in the four countries?



# Questions for discussion



Multimodality and the use of technology in L1

Multimodality and assessment practices in L1

Multimodality and new genres in L1

Multimodality and collaborative work among students



# References

Bundsgaard, J. ((i review)). FÆLLES MÅL: Er dansk (stadig) et dannelsesfag? *Cursiv*, 19.

Ongstad, S., van de Ven, P.-H., & Herrlitz, W. (Ed.). (2007). *Research on Mother Tongue Education in a Comparative International Perspective: Theoretical and Methodological Issues*. Utrecht Rodopi.

Elf, N. F., Hanghøj, T., Erixon, P.-O., & Skaar, H. (2015). Technology in L1: A Review of Empirical Research Projects in Scandinavia 1992-2014. *L1 - Educational Studies in Language and Literature*(Special Issue: Paradoxes and negotiations in Scandinavian L1 research in languages, literatures and literacies, guest edited by Ellen Krogh and Sylvi Penne), 1-88.

Elf, N. F., & Kaspersen, P. (Eds.). (2012). *Den nordiske skolen - fins den? Didaktiske diskurser og dilemmaer i skandinaviske modersmålsfag*. Oslo: Novus.

Herrlitz, W., & Van de Ven, P.-H. (2007). Comparative research on Mother tongue education: IMEN's aims, points of departure, history and methodology. In S. Ongstad, P.-H. van de Ven & W. Herrlitz (Eds.), *Research on Mother Tongue Education in a Comparative International Perspective: Theoretical and Methodological Issues*. Utrecht Rodopi.

Young, M. (2010). Alternative Educational Futures for a Knowledge Society. *European Educational Research Journal*, 9(1). doi:  
<http://doi.org/10.2304/eerj.2010.9.1.1>

[www.sdu.dk/multiL1](http://www.sdu.dk/multiL1)

Google MultiL1

Christina Olin-Scheller,  
Karlstads universitet

Øystein Gilje,  
Universitetet i Oslo

Anna Slotte,  
Helsingfors universitet

Nikolaj F. Elf, Syddansk  
Universitet

 #MultiL1  
Follow: ogilje