



UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

# Content and Language Integration in Swedish Schools - CLISS

CLIL ReN, Miraflores, Spain, September 24-26, 2009

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## Project description

- A multi-perspective analysis of CLIL in Sweden
- Informants aged 15-19 (high school/upper secondary level)
- Native and non-native Swedish students
- Focus on written language
- Different text types within academic language
- Subject content proficiency
- Teachers' and administrators' views on the CLIL practice
- International comparisons



## Background

- CLIL in Sweden since the late 1970's
- Severely underresearched
- Washburn (1997): CLIL students lag behind in content and stay on a par with control group in language proficiency
- Sylvén (2004): CLIL students gain a larger English vocabulary during the study but they are ahead already from the start. Extramural exposure increases vocabulary proficiency regardless if CLIL or control group
- Lim Falk (2008): CLIL students produce very little output in class, and when they do they use primarily Swedish
- Airey (2009): special teaching strategies needed for CLIL teachers and students at tertiary level



## Research Team



### **2 professors:**

English

Swedish as a second language

### **5 senior lecturers:**

Swedish

Swedish as a second language

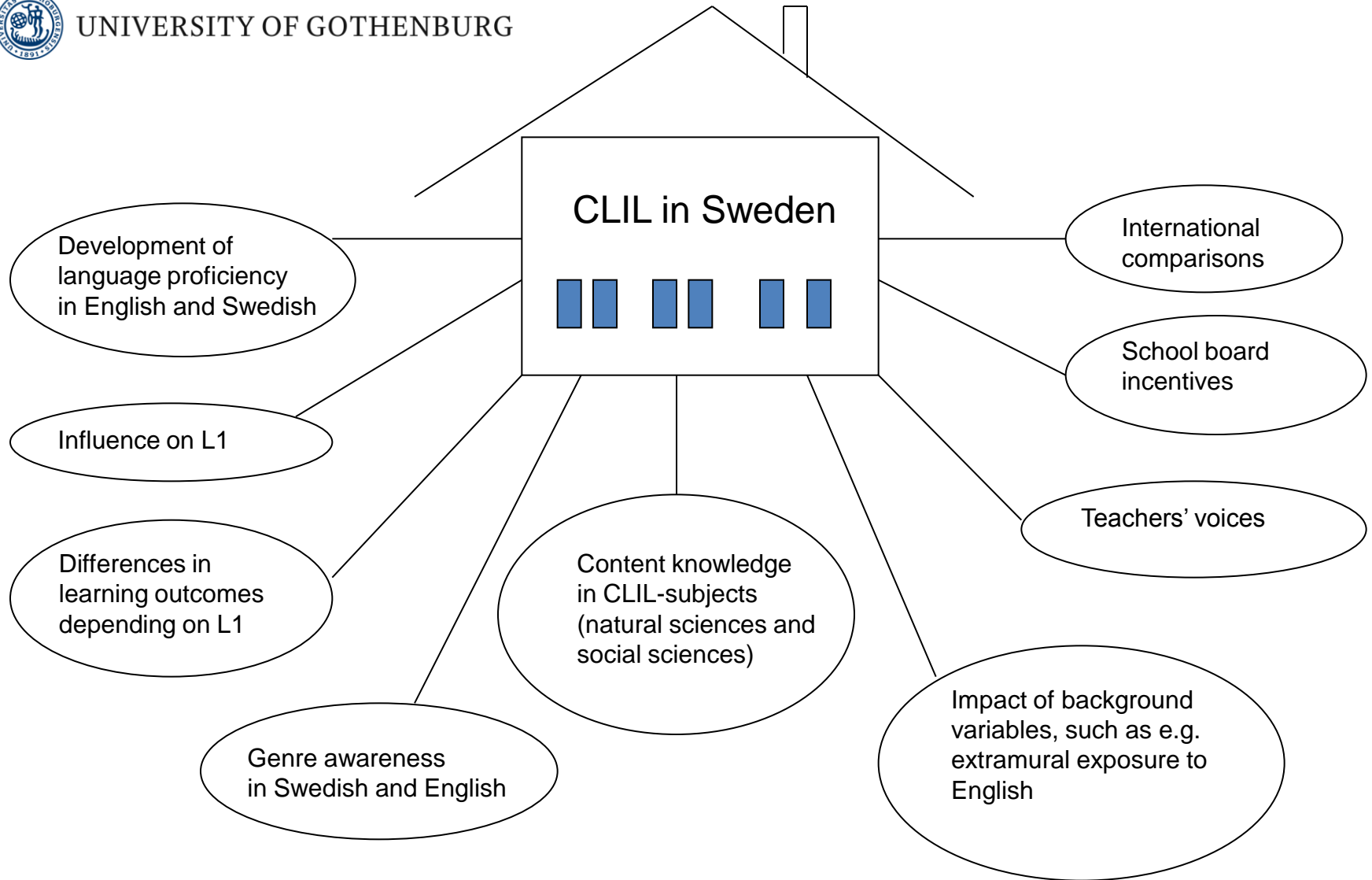
Nordic languages

Education

English



### **2 PhD students**



## Informants



### **The International High School**

Natural Sciences  
Social Sciences

Visiting families  
Non-native Swedes  
Native Swedes



### **CLIL school**

Natural Sciences  
Social Sciences

Non-native Swedes  
Native Swedes



### **Regular school**

Natural Sciences  
Social Sciences

Non-native Swedes  
Native Swedes

**3 schools**

**6 groups of students  
(Approx 25/group)**

**Mix of student backgrounds**



# Material

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Questionnaire	X					
Reading comprehension	Sw/Eng		Sw/Eng		Sw/Eng	Sw/Eng
Argumentative text	Sw/Eng Social Sc			Sw/Eng N-group: Natural Sc Sw/Eng S-group: Social Sc	Sw/Eng Natural Sc	
Exploratory text		Sw/Eng Natural Sc Social Sc		Sw/Eng N-group: Natural Sc S-group: Social Sc		
Subject content test						X
Classroom observations	X	X	X	X	X	X
Teacher interviews		X		X		X
School board interviews	X					



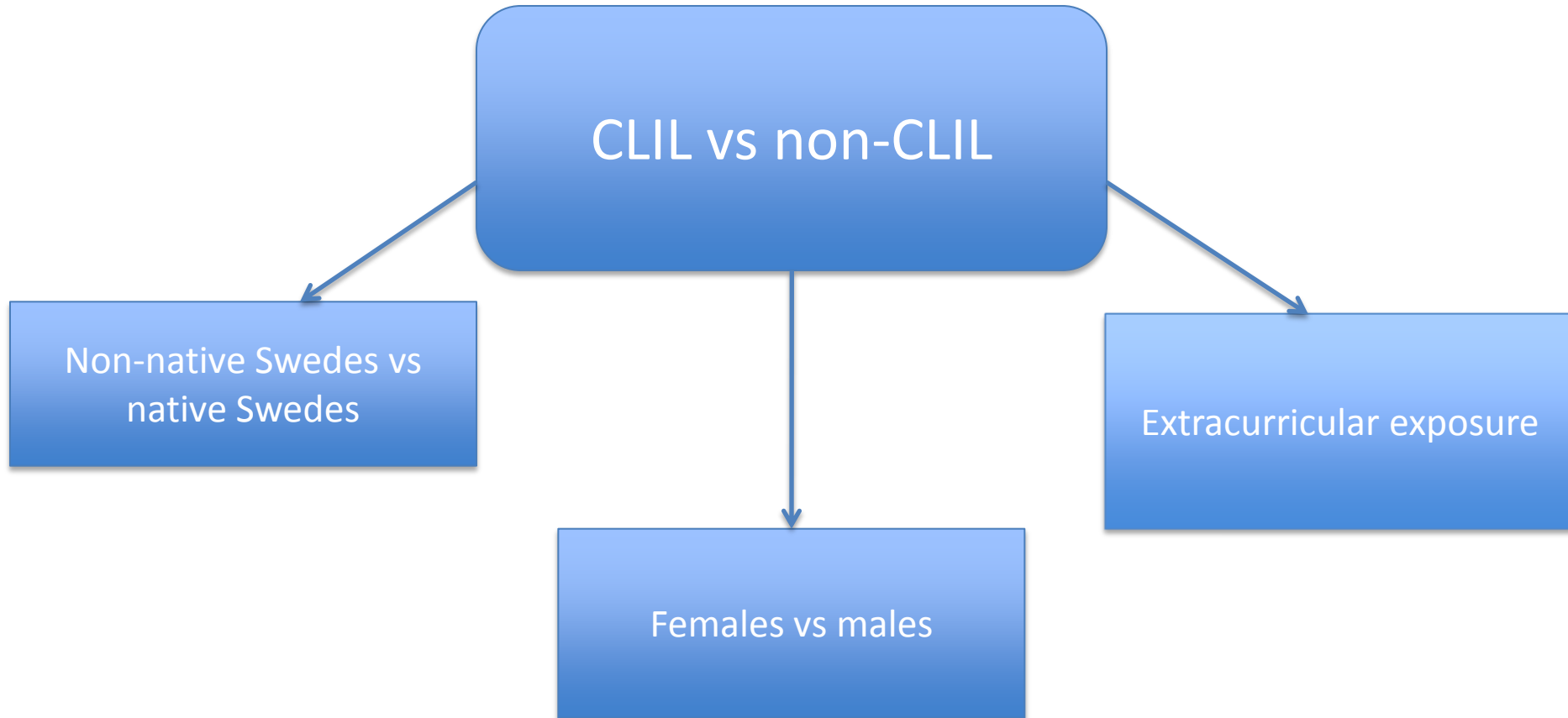
## Analyses

- Texts
  - Quantitative:
    - » Number of words
    - » Type/token ratio
    - » Word frequencies
    - » Academic Word List
  - Qualitative
    - » Systemic Functional Linguistics
- Interviews
  - Repertory grid
- Classroom observations
  - Ethnographic methods





## Analysis perspectives





## Primary aim

- to further investigate the relationship between language and learning

## Secondary aims

- To shed light on the effects of CLIL on
  - academic receptive and productive proficiency in English and Swedish focussing written texts
  - the level of subject content knowledge
  - classroom interaction
  - Swedish curricular goals
- To gain an understanding of Swedish CLIL teachers' and school boards' views
- To compare CLIL in different national contexts
- To build a corpus of CLIL texts



## Contact details

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