



SOUTH-WEST UNIVERSITY "NEOFIT RILSKI"

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Department „Germanic and Romance Studies“ Information Package / ECTS /

Specialty „ENGLISH PHILOLOGY“

**Master Program: „ ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION“
Education and qualification degree “Master”**

1. OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM:

This qualification defines the professional purpose of specialists who have completed the Master's program in English Language and Intercultural Communication. The program encompasses a period of two semesters (one academic year).

It is intended towards graduates of Bachelor's programs in the Faculty of Philology, as well as for Bachelor's and Master's degree students from other specialties with a B2 level of English according to the European Language Framework. The level is to be proven by a certificate, a state exam in English, or a successfully passed entrance test.

Based on the knowledge and skills acquired in the previous educational and qualification degree, students build on, supplement, and expand their professional qualities and competencies in the field of linguistic theory, the functions of language for successful intercultural communication, as well as in the practice of linguistic research and translation.

2. PURPOSE OF PREPARATION:

Graduates possess knowledge and skills that ensure their successful and fulfilling realization in their professional activities. The curriculum includes basic training in subjects such as: Characteristics and Trends in Global English, Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in the History of the English Language, Theoretical Principles of Linguistic Analysis, Linguistic Aspects of Intercultural Communication, etc.

Specialized training includes subjects such as: Cognitive Linguistics, Pragmatic Aspects of Contemporary English, Contrastive Analysis, and Formation of Intercultural Competences.

3. KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND COMPETENCES ACQUIRED ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

Knowledge and competences:

Upon completion of the Master's program, graduates:

- are able to work with specialized scientific conceptual and terminological apparatus;
- are able to apply interdisciplinary approaches to linguistic facts;
- possess the skills to independently perform collection, research, analysis, and theoretical scientific research tasks;
- demonstrate skills in critical analysis and scientifically detailed interpretation of various linguistic phenomena that influence verbal behavior and intercultural communication;
- are motivated to independently improve their professional qualifications;
- receive in-depth scientific-theoretical, applied, and specialized training in English as the primary means of communication in the era of globalisation;
- have the opportunity to participate in paid internships and translation programs at European Union institutions;

Graduates with a Master's degree can continue their education at the next educational and scientific level, Doctor of Philosophy, at SWU, or other Bulgarian and foreign universities.

4. AREAS OF PROFESSIONAL REALIZATION

Graduates of *English Language and Intercultural Communication* can pursue careers as: 2641 Writers and related professions (writer/poet, literary collaborator, reviewer, screenwriter, editor, critic); 2642 Editor, newspaper/magazine, head of correspondent office, commentator, correspondent, reporter, journalist; 2643 Translators and other linguists (graphologist, etymologist, lexicographer, linguist, morphologist, translator, translator-editor, semasiologist, philologist, semanticist); 5113 Tour guides (animator, tour guide, museum/art gallery tour guide).

Graduates of the Master's program possess specialized training that allows them to work as philologists specializing in theoretical and applied linguistics. They can take up positions as researchers in scientific and educational institutions, as well as scientific workers, participants in educational and business projects, organizers of language qualification courses, collaborators and editors in the media and various information agencies, as well as translators and editors in publishing houses and collaborators in various national institutions and European Union institutions.

The qualification characteristics of the program "English Language and Intercultural Communication" in the specialty English Philology for the educational and qualification degree "Master" is a basic document that determines the development of the curriculum and study programs. It meets all the requirements of the Higher Education Act, the Ordinance on State Requirements for Acquisition of Higher Education, and the Regulations of South-West University "Neofit Rilski."

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION: 2. HUMANITIES

PROFESSIONAL FIELD: 2.1. PHILOLOGY

SPECIALTY: **ENGLISH PHILOLOGY**

MASTER DEGREE PROGRAM: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION DEGREE: MASTER

FORM OF STUDY: REGULAR/FULL-TIME

LANGUAGE OF STUDY: **BULGARIAN**

First year			
<u>First semester</u>	ECTS credits	<u>Second semester</u>	ECTS credits
Theories and strategies for intercultural communication	5.0	Contrastive analysis	3.0
Cognitive linguistics	5.0	Language aspects of intercultural communication	2.0
Language and style. Editing specialized texts	5.0	Linguistic aspects of translation and text editing	2.0
Linguistic and cultural diversity in the history of English	5.0	Formation of intercultural competences	2.0
Characteristics and tendencies in Global English	4.0	MA Thesis defence or a state exam	15.0
Elective courses (students choose one course from each group)	6.0	Elective courses (students choose one course from each group)	6.0
	Total 30		Total 30

TOTAL FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR: : 60 CREDITS

ELECTIVE COURSES			
№	Name of elective course	Semester	ECTS credits
	Group 1:		
1.	Pragmatic aspects of contemporary English	I/ II	3.0
2.	Principles of language acquisition	I/ II	3.0
3.	Sociocultural aspects of translation	I/ II	3.0
4.	Theoretical principles of linguistic analysis	I/ II	3.0
	Group 2:		
1.	MA Thesis writing	I/ II	3.0
2.	Linguostatistics	I/ II	3.0
3.	Nominative symbolism	I/ II	3.0
4.	Specifics of specialized translation	I/ II	3.0
FACULTATIVE COURSES			
	Each student may study any academic discipline taught at the university as a facultative subject, regardless of the faculty.		

DESCRIPTION OF ACADEMIC COURSES

Specialty: English Philology

Master's program: English language and intercultural communication

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION DEGREE: MASTER

THEORIES AND STRATEGIES FOR INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

ECTS credits: 5

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I

Weekly workload: 2l+1s+7ind.

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Teodora Kiryakova-Dineva, PhD

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528

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Course outline: The main objective of the course is to provide basic knowledge in the development of theories and strategies of intercultural communication in the contemporary context of globalization and technology. The course aims to introduce students to the theoretical knowledge of the foundations of intercultural communication by focusing on three main tasks: (1) to introduce students to the issues and scientific tradition in the field of the theory of intercultural communication; (2) to present the main theories of culture, their common features and differences and (3) to introduce the basic conceptual apparatus and the relevant terminology.

Course content:

The concept of culture in anthropological terms. The relationship between culture and speech behaviour. Language and intercultural competence. Types of cultures - principles of classification.

Intercultural competence - definition, necessity, expectations. Hofstede's theory of cultures - an overview. Six cultural dimensions - statistics, reliability, implications. Major types of world cultures. Culture and educational system. Classification of cultures by Hall. Culture Shock Theory.

Development from cultural sensing to cultural understanding and adaptation. Theory of culture according to Kluckhohn and Schwartz - specifics and universals. Ethnic Identity Theory. Stereotypes and prejudices - reliability and ways of avoiding them. Specifics of non-verbal intercultural communication. Culture shock - stages and its overcoming strategies. Strategies for achieving successful cross-cultural communication in the global business world.

Teaching and assessment:

In due of this lecture course, the lecturer presents students with theoretical approaches to various topics, taking into account new research and developments in the field. Audio and video materials and case studies related to the theories and strategies of intercultural communication are used. During the seminars, various aspects of the clash of different cultures in the process of intercultural communication are discussed. Students are expected to participate actively in the discussions. Assessment is cumulative and based on five components: participation in discussions, group work on assignments, a test to check theoretical knowledge and skills, coursework, and a written examination.

COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS

ECTS credits: 5

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I

Weekly workload: 2l+1s+7ind.

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Yana Chankova PhD,
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Phone: +359 73 588 528
E-mail: yana_chankova@swu.bg

Course outline:

The main objective of the course in *Cognitive Linguistics* is to provide students with theoretical background of the approaches in the field of cognitive studies which have given rise to the most state-of-the-art trends in the development of cognitive linguistics, while focusing on the relevant theoretical frameworks and the essential principles and methods of analysis with respect to both their pros and cons. Another objective of the course is to outline and discuss the most important results and conclusions achieved by means of the cognitive approach to linguistic analysis, with special attention to those that bear relevance to language acquisition. While acknowledging that after 1980 most research in the field of cognitive linguistics is focused on semantics, the present course presents and discusses a number of studies where the cognitive approach is used to explain linguistic phenomena belonging to the areas of morphology, syntax, phonology, language acquisition, and historical linguistics as well.

Course content:

Preliminaries. Why cognitive linguistics after all? The major hypotheses of cognitive linguistics. Frames, domains, spaces: the organization of conceptual structure. Concepts: profile-frame organization. Domains and idealized cognitive models. Mental spaces. Linguistic construal operations. Attention/salience: a. selection/ b. scope /c. scalar adjustment/ d. dynamic adjustment . Linguistic construal operations. Judgement/comparison: a. categorization/ b. metaphor/ c. figure/ground. 9. Linguistic construal operations. Perspective/situatedness: a. viewpoint/ b. deixis/ c. subjectivity/objectivity. Linguistic construal operations. Constitution/gestalt: a. structural schematization/ b. force dynamics/ c. relationality

Teaching and assessment:

The course aims at discussing the essential frameworks, hypotheses, principles and methods, which comprise the theoretical basis of the cognitive approach to the study of linguistic phenomena, and it also aims at describing the main linguistic construal operations, while acknowledging the debate with the well-established bibliography in the field. During seminars the students are supposed to perform different types of graded tasks involving the main linguistic construal operations. Students are expected to hand in a term paper whose topic is chosen from a list prepared in advance and that reflects the main topics in detail. During the final exam students will be asked to discuss two topics from a questionnaire. The total score comprises 50% from the final exam and 50% from the term paper.

LANGUAGE AND STYLE. EDITING SPECIALIZED TEXTS**ECTS credits:** 5**Form of assessment:** exam**Semester:** I**Weekly workload:** 2l+1s+7ind.**Course status:** compulsory**Methodological management:**

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Sakareva PhD,
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Phone: +359 73 588 528
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Course outline: The course builds on the compulsory course in the bachelor's degree program in Specialized Translation and represents the next stage in the theoretical motivation and improvement of English-Bulgarian and Bulgarian-English specialized translation skills of students majoring in English Language and Intercultural Communication. It has cognitive, methodological, and practical aspects. The cognitive aspect includes expanding theoretical knowledge in the field of specialized translation theories, specific terminology, and style of this type of text. The cognitive aspect includes expanding theoretical knowledge in the field of specialized translation theories, the specific terminology and style of this type of text, as well as editing intralinguistic and interlinguistic

translation of specialized terminology. The methodological aspect is related to the development of one's own criteria for evaluating the source text and the translated text, the options for editing it, and the situations for using specialized translation editing in English language teaching. The practical aspect is expressed in the ability to identify linguistic and stylistic elements subject to editing, reconstructing a translated text, automating techniques for editing translations of texts from different functional styles, and improving the ability to self-assess and edit a translated text.

Course content:

Language and style of texts from scientific and artistic literature. Editing of translations of texts from this field. Language and style of texts from legal literature. Editing of translations of texts from this field. Language and style of texts from the field of economics and finance. Editing translations of texts in this field. Language and style of texts in the field of technical literature. Editing translations of texts in this field. Language and style of documents such as diplomas, certificates, academic transcripts, certificates, etc. Editing translations of texts in this field. Language and style of administrative documents: birth certificates, death certificates, address registrations, references, etc. Editing translations of texts in this field. Language and style of texts in the field of medical literature. Editing translations of texts in this field. Responsibility, professionalism, ethics, confidentiality in the translation of specialized texts. Citing and referencing within specialized texts. Comparative analysis of the language and style of texts from specialized fields in Bulgarian and English.

Teaching and assessment:

The course consists of lectures, seminars, and independent work by students. Classes are conducted in the traditional manner with the presentation of theoretical material, but also give students the opportunity to choose a topic or topics from the syllabus and present the material in their own way, describing the characteristics of translation in a given field. In addition to the materials related to the practical application of the theoretical material, students are also entitled to share their translation experience or suggest a problematic text for translation, analyzing its specifics. The assessment of the knowledge acquired in the course is done through an exam.

LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN THE HISTORY OF ENGLISH

ECTS credits: 5

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I

Weekly workload: 2l+1s+7ind.

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Yana Chankova PhD,
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Phone: +359 73 588 528
E-mail: yana_chankova@swu.bg

Course outline: The main objective of the course of Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in the History of English is to provide students with theoretical knowledge of the linguistic history of the English language necessary to explain the main grammatical phenomena in contemporary English from a diachronic perspective. The traditional descriptive approach is combined with the principles and methods of historical linguistics and the mechanisms for explaining language change. Special attention is paid to external linguistic factors – historical, political, social, and cultural – that have had a direct influence on the development of the English language. The main focus of the discipline is on presenting linguistic facts and phenomena as successive stages in the development of the language and interpreting them to construct a comprehensive picture of the evolution of the English language as a process that takes place through the interaction of various internal and external linguistic factors.

Course content:

Synchrony and diachrony. Internal vs. external factors. Variation and change. Old English: origins and sources. The Anglo-Saxon tribes. The Anglo-Saxon settlement. People, places and texts. The Old English dialects: West Saxon, Mercian (Anglian), Northumbrian, Kentish. Basic elements of the Noun Phrase and the Verb Phrase in Old English. Word order: verb-second and verb-final order. Old English foreign influences: Latin, Old Norse-Icelandic, Old French. Middle English: the main sources. The dialects of Middle English: Kentish, Southern,

Northern, West Midlands, East Midlands. The rise of Anglo-Norman. Written standardisation. Relevant historical events until 1500. The origins of Middle English vocabulary. Basic elements of the Noun Phrase and the Verb Phrase in Middle English. Middle English sentence structure. Middle English foreign influences: Latin, French. Early Modern English developments.

Teaching and assessment:

The lectures are conducted in the traditional manner with the use of illustrative aids (tables, diagrams, illustrative material). The lecturer uses examples from their long-standing scientific career.

During the lecture course, the lecturer presents the theoretical concepts on various topics to the students, taking into account the latest research and developments in the field. Audio and video materials as well as specialized computer programs are used.

During the seminars, students perform various types of tasks focused on mastering the tools for analyzing texts from the Old English and Middle English periods, applying what they have learned from the lecture course and their independent preparation.

CHARACTERISTICS AND TENDENCIES IN GLOBAL ENGLISH

ECTS credits: 4

Weekly workload: 2l+1s+5ind.

Form of assessment: examination/ continuous assessment

Semester: I

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Gergana Georgieva, PhD

Department of International Law and International Relations

Phone: +359 73 588 528

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Course outline: The aim of the course is to introduce students to basic knowledge about countries where English is the first or second official language. The emphasis is on the English language and its varieties around the world because as a lingua franca, it is the language of communication, which defines it as global. The development of the English language in historical terms is examined and how this contributes to its spread as a global language. Regional dialects are studied, paying special attention to the American and Australian English.

Course content:

Historical context: Why English? History of the English language. Modern English. English Varieties in the British Isles. English in America. English in Canada. English in Australia and New Zealand. English in South Africa and South Asia. Political and cultural heritage. English as a lingua franca. The future of Global English.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of lectures, seminars and independent student work. Independent student activities include: consultations with the lecturer, completing assignments, etc. Assessment is carried out through an examination as well as continuous assessment based on ongoing monitoring during the term.

CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS /English language/

ECTS credits: 3

Weekly workload: 2l+1s+3ind.

Form of assessment: exam

Course status: compulsory

Semester: II

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dafina Kostadinova,

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies,

tel. +359 73 588 528, dafinakostadinova@swu.bg

Annotation: The course Contrastive Analysis for the Master's program in English Language and Intercultural Communication is aimed at philology students who have studied the main linguistic disciplines in their bachelor's degree and have good theoretical knowledge in this field. The aim of this course is to present the main theoretical propositions in the field of contrastive/comparative analysis, to make a historical overview of its emergence and the reasons for this, the development of the theory and practice of contrastive analysis in general and in particular - in the comparison between the English and Bulgarian languages. Lectures and seminars are devoted to the linguistic levels of analysis, the analysis of errors, the phenomenon of an intermediate language, problems related to the acquisition and learning of a foreign language, etc.

Course content:

Specifics of contrastive analysis as a linguistic discipline. History and development of theoretical concepts in contrastive analysis. Divisions of contrastive linguistics. Main areas in the theory of contrastive analysis. Contrastive analysis at the phonetic and phonological level. Contrastive analysis at the morphological level. Contrastive analysis at the word-formation level. Contrastive analysis at the syntactic level. Contrastive analysis at the text level. Contrastive analysis at the macrolinguistic level – discourse. Practical application of contrastive analysis. Contrastive analysis and the principles of language acquisition. Principles of error analysis. Intermediate language. Contrastive analysis, intermediate language and error analysis. Academic writing – specifics and differences of texts in Bulgarian and English.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of lectures, seminars and self-study work. The extracurricular activities include: consultations with the lecturer, writing and completing assignments on different topics (coursework), fieldwork (collection and processing of material), etc. The assessment is conducted through examination and continuous assessment, which is based on the teaching process and monitoring during the term.

LINGUISTIC ASPECTS OF INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

ECTS credits: 2

Form of assessment: examination

Semester: II

Weekly workload: 11+1s+2ind.

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Teodora Kiryakova-Dineva
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Phone: +359 73 588 528
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Course outline: The main objective of the *Linguistic Aspects of Intercultural Communication* course is to provide basic knowledge about the use of linguistic and non-linguistic means of intercultural communication in the contemporary situation of globalisation. The course deepens students' language knowledge and develops their practical skills in seminars on the use of linguistic means in English in different registers and depending on the context of communication. The course focuses on the various aspects of the relationship between culture and speech behaviour. Against the backdrop of various theories (the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, Edward Hall's theory) and implying the components of cultural sensitivity, non-verbal expression, visual culture, and cultural synergy, cultural differences and similarities in the linguistic aspects of intercultural communication are analysed..

Course content:

The relationship between culture and speech behaviour. Edward Hall's theory – high and low contextual cultures. Connections between Hall's theory and Hofstede's theory. Intercultural competence – components and emergence of cultural sensitivity. Language and intercultural competence – interdependence and differences. Non-verbal expression in different cultures: proxemics, gestures, physical contacts. Visual culture – the language of spatial and external framing as an expression of cultural differences. Cultural synergy – stages of achieving cultural synergy. The concept of politeness in different cultures. Expression of politeness in Anglo-Saxon cultural context

– an overview. Conditions for successful intercultural communication in business – written and oral discourse. Conditions for successful intercultural communication in academic written and oral discourse. Conditions for successful intercultural communication in education. Conditions for successful intercultural communication in formal and informal contexts.

Teaching and assessment:

In due of this course, the lecturer introduces students to the practical aspects of developing language skills for intercultural behaviour. Audio and video materials and case studies related to competent intercultural communication are used. During the seminars, various aspects of language for interaction in an intercultural environment are discussed. Students are expected to participate actively in the discussions. Assessment is cumulative and based on five components: participation in discussions, group work on assignments, a test to check theoretical knowledge and skills, coursework and a written exam.

LINGUISTIC ASPECTS OF TRANSLATION AND TEXT EDITING

ECTS credits: 2

Form of assessment: examination

Semester: II

Weekly workload: 11+1s+2ind.

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Yana Chankova, PhD

Phone: +359 73 588 528

E-mail: yana_chankova@swu.bg

Course outline:

The aim of the course is to develop and deepen the students' knowledge and skills in the area of translation and editing from a linguistic perspective. The discussion topics are focused on the two major modern linguistic approaches: functionalism and formalism, whose potential for the translation theory is discussed in detail. Major attention is paid to the linguistic interpretation of the notions of linguistic meaning, the functional translation equivalent, the transposition of the meaning and the non-equivalent lexis. The students are introduced to the basic technical and organizational stages in the translation and editing practice.

Course topics:

Coming to terms: *On Linguistic Aspects of Translation* (R. Jakobson, 1959). The linguistic approach to translation theory within the frame of structural linguistics: Nida, Newmark, Koller. The linguistic approach to translation theory within the frame of structural linguistics: Vinay, Darbelnet, Catford and Zwart. The linguistic approach to translation theory within the frame of functional linguistics: Reiss, Holz-Mänttari, Vermeer, Nord. Halliday, Julianne House, Mona Baker, Hatim and Mason figuring prominently. The linguistic approach to translation theory within the frame of functional linguistics: Halliday, House, Baker, Mason.

The issue of 'types of translation' revisited. Meaning, equivalence and shift: what shifts in the theoretical perspective? Text purpose and text analysis, discourse register. Is equivalence possible to achieve: contemporary equivalence theories. Types of equivalence. Translation procedures and translation strategies. Text-editing procedures.

Teaching and assessment:

The academic classes are in the form of lectures. The students should submit a term assignment on a particular topic followed by a discussion. The final mark is the average of the submitted term paper and a discussion of two lecture topics at the exam.

FORMATION OF INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCES

ECTS credits: 2

Form of assessment: examination

Semester: II

Weekly workload: 11+1s+2ind.

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Teodora Kiryakova-Dineva

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

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Course outline: The lecture course traces important factors in the field of intercultural communication in order to identify the characteristics of the formation of the so-called *intercultural personality*. The introductory questions focus on understanding cultural differences (intercultural competencies aim to help people understand and appreciate the differences in cultural practices, values, beliefs, and customs between different cultural groups); *respect and tolerance* (by promoting respect and tolerance for different cultures and individual differences); *Adaptability and adaptive behavior* (the formation of intercultural competencies aims to help people adapt to different cultural contexts and be effectively accepted in new cultural environments); Communication skills (by developing the communication skills necessary for successful interaction with representatives of different cultures and by developing the ability to understand and use language effectively, as well as to learn communication codes and norms).

Course content:

Formation of cultural identity within the scope of civilisations. Metaphors of culture. Main types of world cultures and formation of global identity qualities. The place of language as part of intercultural competence. Culture, communication and ways of forming intercultural competences. Formation of intercultural competence when necessary and expectations for understanding with representatives of different cultural societies. Formation of intercultural competences as a result of migration in contemporary society. Formation of intercultural competences as a result of cultural shock. Prejudices, cultural stereotypes and stereotyping. Strategies for overcoming stereotyping. The concept of a 'critical incident' – case studies in organisational practice and the formation of social identity. Specifics of non-verbal intercultural communication. Intercultural competence in different social contexts. Cultural intelligence and intercultural sensitivity

Formation of *business culture competencies* in the theory of cultural organisations (Hofstede).

Teaching and assessment:

In due of this lecture course, the lecturer presents students with theoretical approaches to various topics, taking into account new research and practical innovations and the development of intercultural competencies. Audio and video materials and case studies related to competent intercultural communication are used. During the seminars, various scenarios of intercultural competencies acquisition. Students are expected to participate actively in the discussions. Assessment is cumulative and based on five components: participation in discussions, group work on assignments, a test of theoretical knowledge and skills, coursework and a written exam.

PRAGMATIC ASPECTS OF CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I/ II

Weekly workload: 11+1s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Mariya Chankova, PhD , Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Phone: +359 73 588 528
mariya.chankova@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course *Pragmatic Aspects of Contemporary English* deepens students' knowledge of levels of analysis in linguistics and examines linguistic phenomena at the intersection of syntax and semantics. Its aim is to acquaint students with another dimension of the sign-object-user triad—namely, the relationship between signs and their users—and to demonstrate how this relationship is realized and exploited in text production and oral communication.

Course topics:

Students are encouraged to distinguish between lexical/semantic meaning and speaker meaning, which constitutes the implicit, as well as to differentiate between what is explicitly said and what is implied in human communication (e.g., conversational implicatures). The course focuses on the pragmatic functions of language and their linguistic realizations, such as conventionalized structures with specific functionality, deixis, and linguistic markers of politeness that illustrate the complex interactions between linguistic signs and their users. *Pragmatic Aspects of Contemporary English* aims to familiarize students with the main analytical tools of pragmatics (discourse analysis, experimental pragmatics, etc.) and, in particular, with the principles of intercultural pragmatics. Core theoretical issues are problematized, including the relationship between language and communication, meaning and sense, propositional content and speaker meaning, and the role of context.

Teaching and assessment:

Students prepare for each lecture by reading the assigned literature in advance, enabling them to participate actively during class. In class, not only are the concepts and issues related to the implicit discussed, but illustrative linguistic material is also analyzed. Assessment for the course is based on a course project developed throughout the semester. The project involves active engagement with linguistic material, developing skills in linguistic analysis, identifying pragmatic aspects of English, and selecting an appropriate theoretical framework for analysis.

PRINCIPLES OF LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I/II

Weekly workload: 11+1s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zarina Markova,
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Phone: +359 73 588 528, zarinamarkova@swu.bg

Course outline: This course introduces students to contemporary theories of first (native) and second/foreign language acquisition, presenting the key perspectives of leading linguistic schools and approaches. The acquired knowledge deepens students' understanding of the processes of monolingual, bilingual, and multilingual acquisition, which is highly relevant for their future professional work as foreign language teachers or linguists. The course builds upon the discipline *Language Acquisition and Foreign Language Teaching*, expanding knowledge with the latest developments in areas such as multilingualism, cognitive, sociocultural, and neurolinguistic perspectives. The comparison of different theories develops students' skills for critical analysis, which is applied in essays, presentations, and potential future research.

Course content:

Monolingualism, bilingualism, and multilingualism in the contemporary global world. Social and contextual factors influencing multilingualism. Implicit and explicit learning of languages. The effect of input on language production. Relationship between language input and internal mechanisms of acquisition. Contemporary theories and models: cognitive theory, sociocultural interaction, acculturation theory. Psycholinguistic theories and models of acquisition. Current research on bilingualism and multilingualism in education. Cognitive perspectives on language acquisition. Cognitive constraint-based sentence processing models. Binding theory. Sociocultural

factors and theories of acquisition. Emergentism in first and foreign language acquisition. Neurocognitive perspectives on acquisition.

Teaching and assessment:

The course consists of lectures and independent work (reading additional literature, research, essay preparation). Lectures are interactive, encouraging discussions. Assessment is based on continuous performance, including participation for discussions and completion of independent tasks. The main component is an essay on a chosen and approved topic.

SOCIO-CULTURAL ASPECTS OF TRANSLATION

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I/II

Weekly workload: 1l+1s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturer:

Assist. Prof. Mariya Bagasheva PhD,

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528

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Course outline: The course aims at expanding the students' knowledge in translation studies gained in the BA degree program. It focuses on the optimization of the communicative situation and the role of the human translator as a mediator between the source and the target culture. The seminars examine the variations of the human-translator's role in the translation process where they are viewed as belonging to a particular cultural background. After completion of the course the students are expected to be able to identify the cultural differences embedded in texts that are to be rendered in another language, to diagnose particular cultural differences, to be able to evaluate the strategies and procedures in the translation process.

Course content:

The notion of 'language standard' and 'literary language'. The language of the world net and the world communication net. The role of the translator as a bilingual. The use of dictionaries and reference books. Universal language structures and the cultural diversification of the language idiom. Mechanisms of rendering culturally biased pieces of language. Sociolect and idiolect. Semiotics of language behaviour.

Teaching and assessment:

The topics are outlined at the lectures in the form of problematic fields. Students are asked to analyze examples under the lecturer's guidance. The seminars require active participation where problematic areas of intercultural communication and particular translation issues are raised and discussed. Individual work is crucial for the students are supposed to produce their own translations of pieces of text containing non-equivalent or difficult lexis. Within their extramural classes they work on a course project which is part of their course assessment. The assessment involves submission of a portfolio of the translations worked on during the course and a theoretical test.

THEORETICAL PRINCIPLES OF LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS

ECTS: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I/II

Weekly workload: 1l+1s+4ind

Course type: elective

Methodological management:

Bulgarian Language Department

Faculty of Philology

Lecturer(s):

Assoc. Prof. Bilyana Todorova, PhD

Bulgarian Language Department

Phone: +359898568951
E-mail: bilyanatodorova@swu.bg

Course outline: *Theoretical Principles of Linguistic Analysis* is an elective course within the Master's program in *English Language and Intercultural Communication*. It comprises 90 academic hours, encompassing various forms of academic engagement, including lectures, seminars, and independent study.

The primary objective of the course is to acquaint students with the specialized terminology of contemporary linguistics and to introduce a range of theoretical approaches used to describe linguistic phenomena across different structural levels. Particular emphasis is placed on modern formal and functional frameworks, as well as on key semantic and pragmatic theories. The course also explores emerging fields such as ecolinguistics and corpus linguistics.

By the end of the course, students are expected to competently assess which theoretical framework is most suitable for analyzing a given linguistic phenomenon and to recognize when and under what circumstances an interdisciplinary approach may be appropriate.

English at C1 (proficient) to C2 (fluent) level is required for successful participation in the course.

Course content:

Linguistic schools and trends – general overview. Approaches to language. Levels of linguistic analysis. Formal linguistic theories – general overview. Functional linguistic theories – general overview. Interdisciplinary approaches in linguistic analysis. History and development of generative linguistics. History and Development of functional grammar. Speech act theory – general overview. Conversation analysis – approaches and experimental studies. Types of semantic theories. Neuro- and psycholinguistics. Cognitive linguistics. Ecolinguistics. Anthropological linguistics and ethno linguistics. Sociolinguistics, pragmatics, and discourse analysis. Corpus linguistics.

Teaching and assessment: The course consists of lectures and extracurricular activities by students. Out-of-class activities include: consultations with the lecturer, written assignments and topics (coursework), some of which are on the Blackboard platform, collection and processing of empirical material, etc. The assessment of the knowledge acquired in the course is carried out through continuous assessment based on ongoing monitoring.

MA THESIS WRITING

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I/II

Weekly workload: 11+1s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dafina Kostadinova, PhD
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Phone: +359 73 588 528
E-mail: dafinakostadinova@swu.bg

Course outline: The basic aim of the course is to introduce the specifics of the academic discourse in English. It involves an outline of the historical development of this specific type of text. The students are required to have completed the basic courses in Morphology, Syntax and Lexicology of Modern English, as well as Stylistics. After completion of the course the students are expected to be able to identify different text sorts, to produce their own pieces of academic writing and to demonstrate critical thinking, editing and self-editing abilities.

Course content:

Specifics of the English academic discourse. Types of academic texts. Reading for academic purposes, listening for academic purposes. Specifics of oral presentation. Academic writing – types and specifics of the different types of academic texts: essays, reviews, summaries etc. In-text referencing and bibliography. Plagiarism. Types of citations.

Teaching and assessment:

The different topics are introduced at the lectures, using extensive examples. Students are asked to analyze scientific texts under the lecturer's guidance. Special focus is put on the illustration of some practical aspects. The seminars require active participation where problems are brought to the fore and discussions are evoked. Particular exercises are also done focusing on style, grammar and vocabulary.

Individual work is crucial for the students are supposed to produce their own texts on topics that are presented by the lecturer at the beginning of the course.

The assessment is based on a test consisting of a theoretical and practical part.

LINGUOSTATISTICS

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I/II

Weekly workload: 11+1s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Elena Karashtranova, PhD

Phone: +359 73 588 528

E-mail: helen@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course aims at providing the students with knowledge and skills of computer-assisted natural language processing. Statistical procedures are discussed together with their application within linguistic analysis. A basic aim of the course is to present stochastic and mathematical approaches to language analysis and their application to particular language models.

The students are expected to have language competence in at least one foreign language at a level above intermediate as well as working knowledge of information technologies.

Course content:

Basic problems in the computational processing of natural language, corpus linguistics, statistical methods, model applications, stochastic, text categorization, classification, multiple classifications, language models, comparison of two or more models, statistical significance, statistical machine translation.

Teaching and assessment:

The different topics are introduced at the lectures, using extensive examples. Students are asked to analyze language facts and statistical data under the lecturer's guidance. The course is interactive and requires active participation where problems are brought to the fore and discussions are evoked.

Individual extramural work is crucial as the students are supposed to read and become acquainted with the latest research in the area and be able to provide critical analysis.

The final assessment is based on a test consisting of a theoretical and practical part and individual assignment.

NOMINATIVE SYMBOLISM

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I/II

Weekly workload: 11+1s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Chief Asst. Prof. Yana Manova, PhD

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Phone: +359 73 588 528
E-mail: yana_georgieva@swu.bg

Course outline: The Transcription and Transliteration course aims to provide students with theoretical knowledge about the specificities of transcribing and transliterating names in English and Bulgarian, to supplement and expand their knowledge of the main ways of rendering names from one language into another, to provide students with theoretical knowledge of the various systems and normative documents that reflect transcription and transliteration in different languages, to discuss and analyze in detail the processes of transcription and transliteration, to describe in detail the linguistic factors involved in the rendition of names from one language into another, and to provide students with knowledge on how to perform a comparative, phonetic, and phonological analysis of the names under consideration.

Course content:

Theory of transcription. Transcription of names and the science of language. Types of names. General overview of the origin of English names. Ways of rendering names from one language to another. Translation of names. The state of transcription of English names in Bulgaria. Transliteration. Problems of intralingual transcription in English. Interlingual transcription. Transliteration. Cases of transliteration. Incorrect and erroneous transcriptions. Linguistic factors in the rendition of names from one language into another. Internal and external factors. Comparative analysis. Phonetic analysis. Phonological analysis. Transcription of proper and common nouns. Transcription of regional variants. Compliance with the peculiarities of the Bulgarian language. Scheme of phonological correspondences between English and Bulgarian. Extralinguistic factors and tradition. Made-up names. Names with uncertain traditional status. Dual spelling model. Translated names. Cyrillization and Latinization.

Teaching and assessment:

The course introduces students into the main issues of the discipline and provides guidance on the bibliographic base. In the lecture course, the lecturer presents the theoretical concepts on various topics to the students, taking into account the latest research and developments in the field. Outside of academic hours, students should deepen their knowledge of the topics covered in the lectures by referring to additional literature. The assessment of the knowledge acquired in the course is carried out through continuous assessment at the end of the course.

SPECIFICS OF SPECIALIZED TRANSLATION

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I/II

Weekly workload: 11+1s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Sakareva PhD,
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Phone: +359 73 588 528
E-mail: vanyasakareva@swu.bg

Course outline: The course builds on the compulsory course in the bachelor's degree program in Specialized Translation and represents the next stage in the theoretical motivation and improvement of English-Bulgarian and Bulgarian-English specialized translation skills of students. It has cognitive, methodological, and practical aspects. The cognitive aspect includes expanding theoretical knowledge in the field of specialized translation theories, the tradition of translation in Bulgaria, and the possibilities for the combined use of translation tools. The cognitive aspect includes expanding theoretical knowledge in the field of specialized translation theories, the tradition of translation in Bulgaria, the possibilities for the combinatorial use of the intersemiotic cultural context, intralinguistic and interlinguistic translation, and orientation in specialized sources, reference books, and dictionaries. The methodological aspect is related to the development of personal criteria for evaluating source and translated texts and situations for using translation in English language teaching. The practical aspect is expressed

in the ability to reconstruct a translated text, automate techniques for translating texts of different functional styles, improve the ability for self-assessment, and translate specialized texts..

Course content:

Specifics of translating scientific and literary works. Specifics of translating legal texts. Specifics of translating texts in the field of economics and finance. Specifics of translating technical literature. Specifics of translating diplomas, certificates, academic transcripts, certificates, etc. Specifics of translating administrative documents: birth certificates, death certificates, address registrations, references, etc. Specifics of translating texts from the field of medical literature. Responsibility, professionalism, ethics, and confidentiality in the translation of specialized texts.

Teaching and assessment:

The course consists of lectures, seminars and independent work by students. Out-of-class activities include: consultations with the lecturer, written assignments and topics, processing of materials, etc. The assessment of the knowledge acquired in the course is carried out through a continuous assessment.