



SOUTH-WEST UNIVERSITY "NEOFIT RILSKI"

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Faculty of Philology

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

LINGUISTIC ASPECTS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

Master's degree

1. OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM:

This qualification profile defines the professional purpose of graduates of the Master's program *Linguistic Aspects of Foreign Language Teaching* who have completed a full-time course of study leading to the educational and qualification degree of "Master".

The Master's program is intended for non-specialists in the field of English and the traditional and contemporary theories of foreign (English) language acquisition. Eligible applicants include those who hold a Bachelor's or Master's degree in other fields, as well as teachers of other subjects who have successfully passed an entrance test in English at levels B1–B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, with a minimum grade of Very Good (4.50), and have an overall degree diploma grade not lower than Good (4.00).

Students enrolled in the Master's program *Linguistic Aspects of Foreign Language Teaching* specialize in English, building upon and expanding their knowledge and competencies in the theory and practice of English as well as in theories of its acquisition. The training is conducted in Bulgarian and English.

2. PURPOSE OF PREPARATION:

The leading objective in the training of students in this Master's program is the optimal combination of theoretical knowledge about the structure of the English language and its lexical specificities with practical skills in English language production. Students who wish to acquire teaching qualifications may do so alongside the main curriculum of the Master's program within the four semesters (two-year course).

Graduates of this Master's program may continue their education toward obtaining the educational and scientific degree of "Doctor".

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

Graduates of the Master's program *Linguistic Aspects of Foreign Language Teaching* possess knowledge and skills that ensure their successful and full professional realization either as philology Masters or as English language teachers, provided they hold or obtain the necessary teaching qualifications.

The program aims to develop students' knowledge and skills in core disciplines in the field of English language and literature, as well as in foreign language (English) acquisition.

Master's degree holders:

- Possess the knowledge and skills required by state standards for a Master's degree;
- Have in-depth theoretical and factual knowledge of the academic disciplines included in the curriculum;
- Can apply interdisciplinary approaches to language phenomena;
- Possess knowledge and skills in the field of language acquisition and foreign language learning, which are a prerequisite for teaching English;
- Demonstrate skills for critical analysis;
- Have the ability for independent professional development and continuous qualification improvement.

4. AREAS OF PROFESSIONAL REALIZATION:

Graduates of the Master's program *Linguistic Aspects of Foreign Language Teaching* with the professional qualification "Master of Philology" can hold the following positions in accordance with the National Classification of Occupations and Positions of the Republic of Bulgaria (NCOP - 211): editor, head of a correspondent office, radio and television journalist, correspondent, news agency journalist, linguist, and correspondence assistant. With an acquired teaching qualification, graduates can also work as English language teachers at various levels of the Bulgarian educational system.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Educational and Qualification Degree: MASTER

Professional Qualification: Master Philologist

Duration of Study: 2 years

Form of Study: part-time

Curriculum			
First Semester	ECTS credits	Second Semester	ECTS credits
Practical English Course	12.0	Practical English Course	10.0
Introduction into General Linguistics	6.0	British Studies	4.0
Phonetics and Phonology of the English Language	6.0	British Literature	4.0
		English Morphology	4.0
		Language Acquisition and Foreign Language Teaching	4.0
Electives – two from Group I and one from Group II	6.0	Electives – one from Group I and one from Group II	4.0
	Total 30.0		Total 30.0
Third Semester	ECTS credits	Fourth Semester	ECTS credits
Practical English Course	10.0	Practical English Course	6.0
Syntax of the English Language	5.0	English Lexicology	3.0
American Literature	6.0	Approaches and Methods of Foreign Language Teaching	2.0
Classroom Translation	5.0	Testing in Foreign Language Teaching	2.0
		Final State Exam or Thesis Defense	15.0
Electives – one from Group I and one from Group II	4.0	Elective from Group II	2.0
	Total 30.0		Total 30.0

ELECTIVE COURSES

GROUP I

№	Course Title	Semester	ECTS credits
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1	Computational and Mathematical Linguistics	I	2.0
2	English Punctuation and Orthography	I	2.0
3	Written and Spoken Norms of the Bulgarian Language	I	2.0
4	Practical English Grammar	I	2.0
5	Latin	I	2.0
6	Sociocultural Aspects of Translation	II	2.0
7	Statistical Methods in Linguistic Analysis	II	2.0
8	Translation and Editing	II	2.0
9	English Children's Literature	II	2.0
10	Introduction to Literary Theory	III	2.0
11	Linguistic Aspects of Translation	III	2.0
12	Specifics of Specialized Translation	III	2.0

GROUP II			
№	Course Title	Semester	ECTS credits
1	Global English	I	2.0
2	Contemporary Language Acquisition Theories	I	2.0
3	School documentation in primary and secondary education	II	2.0
4	Transcription, Transliteration, and Nominative Symbolism	II	2.0
5	Intercultural Communication	III	2.0
6	Historical Linguistics	III	2.0
7	Application of Artificial Intelligence Tools in Foreign English Teaching	III	2.0
8	Academic Ethics	IV	2.0
9	Aspects of Primary Foreign Language Teaching	IV	2.0

ENGLISH
(as a first foreign language)

ECTS credits: 12.0 (1 sem.); 10.0 (2 sem.). 10.0 (3 sem.); 6.0 (4 sem.);

Weekly workload: 0l+10s+14ind. (1 sem.); 0l+9s+11ind. (2 sem.); 0l+8s+12ind (3 sem.); 0l+6s+6ind (4 sem.);

Form of assessment: continuous assessment (3rd semester); examination (all other semesters)

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Team; Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528, filologia@swu.bg

Annotation:

The Practical English course aims to enrich students' active vocabulary through lexical exercises and practical use of new lexical units; to enable students to internalize already learned language structures and vocabulary through their active use in practical exercises; to further develop and improve students' existing skills in using not only basic language units in various everyday situations, but also specialized vocabulary and more complex morphosyntactic constructions; to develop students' skills in understanding authentic contemporary written and spoken English texts; to improve students' skills in expressing their own opinions on a range of topics from contemporary life, both orally and in writing. In addition, the course aims to enable students to build on and improve the knowledge and skills acquired in the first year, to develop students' skills in expressing themselves in a reasoned manner in writing in English, with special attention paid to the richness and expressiveness of the language in terms of vocabulary and morphosyntax, to consolidate and improve the skills already acquired in translating from English into Bulgarian and from Bulgarian into English, as well as to improve students' skills in working with dictionaries and other reference literature.

Course content:

The English language course is integrated and is conducted through the use of well-established textbooks and authentic teaching materials. The following teaching modules are included: special lexis embedded in the English–Bulgarian translation classes, general lexis embedded in the Bulgarian–English translation classes; practical grammar, writing, text linguistics and reading. The seminars focus on the acquisition and the correct use of lexical units, which can secure a high level of language competence and abilities to use them in real-life communicative situations. The seminars devoted to practical grammar are placed in the first two semesters. They aim at leveling the initial grammatical competence of the students, consolidating their knowledge and fostering the use of the basic grammatical structures. In the writing module the different genres of writing texts are presented and taught. They include essay writing, writing of reports, reviews etc. The translation module involves the two basic types of translation: from English into Bulgarian and vice versa as well as literary and special translation. Every semester during the first three years the education is integrated and each seminar includes two or more modules simultaneously. In the last two semesters of the studies the focus is put on the acquisition of advanced lexis and professional translation skills.

Teaching and assessment:

During classes, the students are supposed to participate actively in the class activities both oral and writing. The extramural activities involve individual tasks for students including presentations, work projects, written assignments etc. The assessment reflects the level of competence of every individual student.

INTRODUCTION INTO GENERAL LINGUISTICS /English language/

ECTS credits: 6

Form of assessment: examination

Semester: I

Methodological management:

Weekly hours: 21 + 1 sem. + 9 extramural classes

Course status: compulsory

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 *Introduction into General Linguistics* consists of 30 academic lectures dedicated to topics from general and comparative linguistics in a contrastive plan and 60 hours for self-study so that students be ready for participation in discussions during lectures, reading additional literature, deepening knowledge in the field of general and comparative linguistics, and preparation for the exam.

Course content:

Definition of the concept of “human language”. The relationship between language and thinking. Language and animal language. Body language. Paralinguistic aspects of communication. Definition of the discipline of linguistics. Main stages in the development of the discipline. Prescriptive and descriptive linguistics. Main branches in modern linguistics. State and trends in the division of the discipline. The concept of linguistic sign and linguistic value. Structural linguistics and basic principles of Saussure. Denotation, reference and meaning of the linguistic sign. Levels of linguistic analysis. Main characteristics of the levels. Intermediate levels – features. Phonetics. Types of phonetic analysis. Phoneme. Distinctive features. Phonology. Phoneme and allophone. Spontaneous phonological changes. Morphology. Morpheme, morph and allomorph. Morphological classification of languages. Parts of speech – principles of isolation. Grammatical and functional categories. Inflection and derivation. Word formation. Word formation types. Types of affixation. Syntax. Sentence and statement, sentence and judgment. Types of sentences. Modern approaches to sentence analysis. Formal generative syntax. Functional syntax. Modern approaches to speech analysis. Functional perspective. Theory of speech acts. Text linguistics. Text-forming elements. Cohesion and coherence. Text and discourse. Semantics. Meaning, meaning and denotation. Types of meaning. Systemic relations in the lexicon - hyponymy and incompatibility.

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.

PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ECTS credits: 6

Weekly hours: 2 l.+1 sem.+7 extramural classes

Form of assessment: examination

Course status: compulsory

Semester: I

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dafina Kostadinova, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies,
Assist. Prof. Dr. Krasimir Spasov, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies,
tel. +359 73 588 528, dafinakostadinova@swu.bg; krassi_spasov@yahoo.com

Annotation:

The main objective of the course in *Phonetics and Phonology of the English language* is to provide students with theoretical knowledge of the sound system of the English language with a focus on the ways of their functioning, organization and interaction as linguistic elements. Along with the linguistic aspects of English sounds, their articulatory and acoustic characteristics are also treated with due attention.

The course introduces the basic terminological apparatus and the leading contemporary theoretical approaches in the field of phonetics and phonology and continues with a detailed description of the way in which English vowel and consonant sounds are produced from the point of view of articulatory phonetics. English speech is analyzed as a sequence of sound segments, which are discussed from the point of view of their distinctive characteristics at the segmental level. At the suprasegmental level, such characteristics of English pronunciation as stress, rhythm and intonation are discussed. Students are introduced to the problems of intralingual and interlingual transcription /English and Bulgarian/ and of English spelling. In view of the practical focus on foreign language teaching and translation, comparisons are made with the Bulgarian language.

Course content:

Phonetics and phonology. Phonemes and allophones: criteria for phonemic status. Phonemic analysis. Feature theory. Jakobsonian distinctive features. Distinctiveness and redundancy. The production of speech sounds. Segmental phonology. Symbols and transcription. Articulatory Phonetics. The vocal tract. The English vowels. Short vowels and long vowels. The English vowels. Diphthongs and triphthongs. The English consonants. Plosives. Fricatives and affricates. The English consonants. Nasals and other consonants. The syllable. Structure of the English syllable. Strong and weak syllables. The vowel ə (schwa). Close front and close back vowels. Syllabic consonants. The nature of stress. Stress in simple words. Levels of stress. Placement of stress within the word. Complex word stress. Suffixes and prefixes. Compound words. Variable stress. Aspects of connected speech. Rhythm. Assimilation. Aspects of connected speech. Elision. Linking. Form and function in intonation. Tone, complex tones and pitch height. Functions of the English tones. Structure of the tone-unit. Pitch possibilities in the simple tone-unit.

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 an examination and continuous assessment, which is based on the teaching process and monitoring during the term.

BRITISH STUDIES**ECTS credits:** 4**Weekly workload:** 21+0s+4ind.**Form of assessment:** examination**Course status:** compulsory**Semester:** II**Methodological management:**

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Maria Anastasova PhD, Chief Asst. Prof. Yana Manova, PhD

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528, E-mail: m.anastasova@swu.bg; yana_georgieva@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course provides the students with basic theoretical knowledge about the countries on the British Isles: England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. It acknowledges them with their geography: physical and political, their history, the social and political structure. The course further aims at establishing cultural knowledge that will prepare them for deeper understanding of the language and its development in the next coming specialized courses of translation, lexicology and stylistics and brings their competence in English to a higher level.

Course content:

Physical geography of the British Isles. Countries and states on the British Isles. Periodization in the history of England: the Celts, the Romans, the Anglo-Saxons, the Vikings. The Norman Conquest and the English language. The Late Middle Ages. Stewarts' England. The 18th century England. The 19th century England: Queen Victoria and the British Empire. Modern England: 20th century – literature, art and architecture. The English Government. The Mass media in modern England. The Educational system. The Royal family.

Teaching and assessment:

The course consists of 120 academic hours, divided into 30 academic hours of lectures and 90 hours of extramural classes. During the lectures, students are required to be active and are expected to work independently on pre-assigned topics. They are also to participate in discussions during class. The lecturer presents the theoretical concepts on various topics to the students in class, and the students discuss individual topics under the guidance of the lecturer, applying what they have learned from their independent preparation. The assessment of the knowledge acquired in the British Studies course is carried out through one midterm test and one final exam.

BRITISH LITERATURE

ECTS credits: 4

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: II

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assist. Prof. Elena Andonova-Kalapsazova PhD,

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies,

Phone: +359 73 588 528,

E-mail: andonova.elena@swu.bg

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

Course status: compulsory

Annotation:

The *British Literature course* has the aims to provide an overview of the origins, trends, genres, movements, authors, works, and issues of English literature throughout the course of its formation and development; to take a closer look at specific authors and works focusing on interactions and influences. The lectures presented within the course, along with seminar activities, contribute to building knowledge about the sources, periods, key figures, developmental trends, and cultural interactions in the history of British literature.

Course content:

1. Old English poetry. Historical context. Basic traits of form and subject. Alliteration. *Beowulf*.
2. Middle English literature. Political, linguistic, and literary changes after 1066. The Arthurian theme: fact and fiction. The medieval romance. 3. The transition period. Late medieval social allegory. Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*.
4. English Renaissance literature. Poetry. The Petrarchan love sonnet and the Elizabethan sonnet cycle (Edmund Spenser, Sir Philip Sidney, William Shakespeare).
5. The Elizabethan theatre. Elizabethan drama before Shakespeare. Revenge tragedy and heroic tragedy.
6. William Shakespeare's plays - the history plays, the romantic comedies, the great tragedies and the romances.
7. Revolution and Restoration. The rearticulation of epic – Milton's *Paradise Lost*. John Dryden – poet, playwright and literary critic.
8. The Augustan period. The poetry of A. Pope. Satire – Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*.
9. The rise of the English novel – Danile Defoe. Samuel Richardson's sentimental novels. Henry Fielding.
10. English Romanticism. The poetry of W. Wordsworth, S. T. Coleridge, P. B. Shelley, G. G. Byron.
11. Jane Austen's novels.
12. The Victorian novel. The Bronte sisters, Charles Dickens, G. Eliot.
13. Modernist literature. The modernist novel – V. Woolf.
14. The English novel in the XX century – trends.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of lectures, seminars, and independent student work. The topics from the syllabus of the discipline are presented in the lectures and lecture course. The seminars are focused on the discussion of representative literary works or selected excerpts. The independent student activities include: individual work on the material presented in the lectures; reading the full texts or excerpts of the studied works; preparation for tests; consultations with the instructor. The assessment of the knowledge and skills acquired in the course is carried out through continuous assessment and a final exam.

ENGLISH MORPHOLOGY

ECTS credits: 4

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

Form of assessment: exam

Course status: compulsory

Semester: II

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assist. Prof. Mariya Bagasheva, PhD,

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528, E-mail: m_bagasheva@swu.bg

Annotation:

The aim of the course is to provide extended theoretical knowledge of English morphology to the students by introducing the basic systemic relations of the English grammar and the specific terminology related to the area. The topics encompass issues concerning the word formation and inflection, focuses on the different parts of the speech from the viewpoint of general linguistics and points out their specific traits characteristic of the English language. A systemic contrastive approach is applied throughout the course comparing the English and the Bulgarian morphological systems.

Course content:

The place of morphology among the linguistic disciplines. The word, the morpheme, the morph and the allomorphs. Types of morphemes. Inflection and derivation. Parts of the speech and grammatical categories. Nominal categories: the noun. Classification of the noun. Number,

Gender and Case of the noun in English. The adjective: types of adjectives, degrees of comparison. The pronoun: types of pronouns. The verb. Classification of the verb in English: finite and non-finite verb forms, transitive and intransitive verbs, the verb valence. The temporal system of Modern English. Types of tenses. Tense and time. Tense and aspect. Futurity. The Voice. Modal verbs and types of modality.

Teaching and assessment:

The course aims at introducing basic morphological categories from theoretical viewpoint and acknowledging them with the well-established bibliography in the area. During the lectures basic theoretical issues are presented whereas at the seminars some particular cases are discussed. The focus comes on the discussion of problematic issues which aims at building the students' ability to make decisions and analyze cases in narrower and broader linguistic contexts. Every student has to hand in a course work whose topic is chosen from a list prepared in advance reflecting the main course topics. The final assessment is in the form of a test that covers the whole teaching material including theoretical questions and practical cases. The final mark presents 70% of the final test and 30% of the mark of the course work.

LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: II

Methodological

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

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

Weekly workload: 15 l.+0 s.+105 ind.

Course status: compulsory

management:

Annotation:

This course is part of the programme "Linguistic Aspects of Foreign Language Teaching". Its aim is to provide students with a clear understanding of the processes involved in acquiring a native and a foreign language, the main schools of thought and theoretical approaches to language acquisition, and the key factors that influence it. The discipline also aims to build students' skills in transferring accumulated theoretical knowledge to the field of foreign language education, creating a clear understanding of the nature of problems in foreign language education, and the ways to overcome them. The course also focuses on developing strategies for overcoming the specific difficulties faced by Bulgarians learning English in a Bulgarian environment. Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to predict potential problems that may arise during foreign language instruction and develop effective strategies for overcoming difficulties in acquiring the English language.

Course

content:

Introduction. Psychological climate in the foreign language classroom. Psychological characteristics of the foreign language learner. Cognitive system. Motivational system. Emotional system. Interaction between the educational environment and the cognitive, motivational, and emotional systems. The age factor. Psychological characteristics of the foreign language teacher.

Teaching and Assessment:

Teaching is conducted through a combined lecture course that blends traditional instruction with pre-assigned topics to stimulate discussions on key issues in the psychology of foreign language teaching. Critical and creative thinking are encouraged. Extracurricular work includes independent study, preparation of essays, and participation in the electronic platform. The final grade is based on continuous assessment and written assignments. It takes into account participation in discussions, activity on the electronic platform, and the quality of the essays produced. The grading scale is six-point, and each passing grade is also converted according to the ECTS system. A student successfully completes the course upon receiving a grade no lower than satisfactory (3.00).

SYNTAX OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ECTS credits: 5

Weekly hours: 2 lecture+1 seminar+7 extramural classes

Form of assessment: exam

Course status: compulsory

Semester: III

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance, Studies Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dafina Kostadinova, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies,

Assist. Prof. Dr. Krasimir Spasov, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies,

tel. +359 73 588 528, dafinakostadinova@swu.bg; krassi_spasov@yahoo.com

Annotation:

The course *Syntax of the English language* is intended for students of the specialty Applied Linguistics. The main goal of the course is, first, to familiarize students with the most important theoretical statements in the field of syntax of the English language, and, second, to introduce the basic English linguistic terminology and tools for syntactic analysis. The main task is to introduce knowledge about the distinction of sentence types and possible transformations, as well as to build skills for the practical application of theoretical knowledge in the syntactic analysis of the different parts of the sentence. Particular attention is paid to the linear positioning of the individual parts of the sentence, the criteria for their classification according to their hierarchical arrangement, as well as the rules for constructing sentence types in modern English as a language with a relatively fixed word order. The content of the course is additionally oriented towards a comparison between the rules determining the similarities and differences between Bulgarian and English syntax.

Course content:

Features of syntactic description. Properties of sentence structure. Predication, types of predicates in English. Propositional content. Phrase structure. Phrase head, specifiers and modifiers. Structure of noun-based phrases. Structure of verb-based phrases. Valence of the verb predicate. Predicates and arguments. Thematic roles and deep cases. Types of sentences according to the manner of utterance and their syntactic specification. Types of sentences according to the number of predicates. Types of simple sentences in English. Main parts of the sentence. Subject and predicate. Secondary parts of the sentence. Predicate definition – types. Complement - types. Circumstantial explanation – types. Agreement and word order of the sentence in English. Impersonal sentences. Finite and non-finite sentences. Types of complex sentences – coordination and subordination. Complex compound and complex subordinate sentences. Informational structure of the sentence. Functional perspective of the sentence. Interrogative sentences and expression of negation in English. Peculiarities of subordinate definite sentences in 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 an examination and the continuous assessment, which is based on the teaching process and monitoring during the term.

AMERICAN LITERATURE**ECTS credits:** 6**Form of assessment:** exam**Semester:** 3rd**Methodological management:**

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Maria Anastasova PhD,

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528, E-mail: m.anastasova@swu.bg

Weekly workload: 2l+1s+9ind.**Course status:** compulsory**Annotation:**

The course aims at introducing the thematic diversity and traditions of American literature by presenting some key literary figures from different historical periods and their most significant works. The objective is to broaden students' knowledge in the field of American studies and English-language literature and to develop their skills in analyzing literary texts. By the end of the course, students are expected to have essential competence regarding major literary periods, trends, authors, and works belonging to the American literary tradition.

Course content:

The course traces chronologically the main periods and currents in the literature of the United States – from colonial times to the present – and thus it complements students' preparation in the field of English-language literature. The historical approach is intended to clarify the relationship between the socio-cultural conditions and the emergence of specific literary traditions. The primary focus is on colonial literature, Enlightenment literature, Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism, and Modernism, with an emphasis on the major representatives of each period. The course examines the literary development at each stage of U.S. history through representative works that reflect the characteristic themes, ideas, and stylistic features of the time.

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 based on ongoing monitoring during the term and a final exam.

CLASSROOM TRANSLATION**ECTS credits:** 5**Form of assessment:** exam**Semester:** III**Methodological management:****Weekly workload:** 1l+1s+8ind.**Course status:** compulsory

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

Annotation:

Students will be introduced to the specifics of translating common translations from various fields; they will be taught skills for dealing with difficulties in translation variants, finding equivalents, and learning time management techniques. They will be required to be active and are expected to work on documents and materials during the seminar exercise, based on the theoretical knowledge and guidance provided during the lecture course. The aim is to familiarize them with the most common difficulties in translating more complex syntactic constructions from Bulgarian into English and vice versa, as well as to expand their knowledge of translating non-fiction texts and documents from English into Bulgarian and vice versa, and to work with dictionaries, including electronic ones, and discuss different types of texts.

Course content:

Introduction to grammatical structures for constructing syntactically and semantically correct sentences. Guidelines for working with dictionaries, online sources, websites, and translation programs. Presentation of skills for dealing with difficulties in translation variants. Peculiarities and specific characteristics of translations from different fields. Equivalence, types, lack of equivalence, and time management techniques. Instructions and verification of the translation of journalistic texts. Instructions and verification of the translation of scientific texts. Instructions and checking of translations of frequently encountered instructions and manuals/guides/handbooks. Instructions and checking of translations of letters and online correspondence. Instructions and checking of translations of newspaper and magazine articles. Instructions and checking of translations of administrative documents in class. Instructions and checking of translations of medical texts in class. Instructions and checking of translations of legal texts. Instructions and checking of translations of financial texts. Discussion of the difficulties involved in specialized translation.

Teaching and assessment:

The course consists of lectures and seminars, as well as 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 an exam.

ENGLISH LEXICOLOGY

ECTS credits: 6

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: IV

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

Assist. Prof. Mariya Bagasheva PhD, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528, E-mail: m_bagasheva@swu.bg

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

Course status: compulsory

Annotation:

The aim of the course is to provide basic theoretical knowledge of English lexicology and semantics to the students by introducing the main semantic relations, features of the word and phrases, as well as the specific terminology related to the field. The topics encompass issues concerning levels of language, the place of lexical semantics, word formation, the basic semantic relations as synonymy, hyponymy, homonymy, polysemy, sentence semantics, origin of the English word stock, language in society etc. A systemic contrastive approach is applied throughout the course comparing the English and the Bulgarian lexical systems.

Course content:

Linguistic levels of description and the place of lexicology; semantics and society; types of meaning; the word – meaning; the word – structure; synonymy; polysemy; hyponymy; homonymy; opposites; semantic relations; sentence semantics; phraseology; idioms; free phrases; sources of Modern English vocabulary; lexicography; types of dictionaries.

Teaching and assessment:

The course aims at introducing basic lexico-semantic categories from a theoretical viewpoint. During the lectures basic theoretical issues are presented whereas at the seminars some particular cases are discussed. The focus comes on the discussion of problematic issues which aims at building the students' ability to make decisions and analyze cases in narrower and broader linguistic contexts. The final assessment is in the form of a test that covers the whole teaching material including theoretical questions and practical tasks. The final mark presents 70% of the final test and 30% of the mark reflecting students' achievements during the seminars.

APPROACHES AND METHODS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

ECTS credits: 2

Credit hours: 30 l.+0 s.+30 ind.

Form of assessment: exam

Course status: compulsory

Semester: IV

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

Annotation:

This course is part of the Master's program *Linguistic Aspects of Foreign Language Teaching* and is delivered in English. It introduces students to the main methods and approaches in foreign language teaching through lectures, observation of video lessons, and discussions about their relevance in the contemporary context. The independent work includes critical reading of additional literature, developing a sequence of teaching activities and materials to illustrate a chosen method/approach, and participation in the Blackboard e-learning platform. The course aims: to develop students' understanding of the methods and approaches applied from the beginning of the 20th century to the present day; to establish criteria for critical analysis of these methods; to assist students in developing skills for analyzing and adapting English language teaching systems and materials in accordance with the acquired knowledge. Students are expected to recognize and analyze the main methods and approaches, identify their strengths and weaknesses, compare them, use terminology appropriately, and apply their knowledge in practical tasks.

Course content:

Introduction to “Methods and Approaches in Foreign Language Teaching”. Grammar-Translation Method. Direct Method. Situational Language Teaching. Audiolingual Method. Silent Way. Community Language Learning. Total Physical Response. Suggestopedia. Communicative Approach. Natural Approach. Task-Based Language Teaching. Lexical Approach. Cooperative Learning. Multiple Intelligences Approach. Strategy-Based Instruction. English for Specific Purposes. Interlanguage Didactics. The Postmethod Era.

Teaching and assessment:

The lecture course combines a traditional delivery with pre-assigned topics for discussion aimed at clarifying key issues in language acquisition and use, and at developing critical and creative thinking. Independent work includes studying the assigned bibliography, internet research, activities in Blackboard, and the preparation of a course project presented to the instructor and peers.

Assessment consists of: continuous assessment (course project – 50%; participation in discussions – 20%; participation in Blackboard – 20%; timely submission of the project – 10%); final exam, including one theoretical question and the design of a teaching activity based on a chosen method/approach.

TESTOLOGY IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

ECTS credits: 2**Credit hours:** 15 l.+0 s.+45 ind.**Form of assessment:** exam**Course status:** compulsory**Semester:** IV**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

Annotation:

This course is part of the Master’s program *Linguistic Aspects of Foreign Language Teaching* (part-time study) and is delivered mainly in English. It presents key topics and methodological directions in the contemporary science of test design, development, evaluation, and administration in foreign language teaching. Students become familiar with different types of tests, the principles of test item construction, formats for assessing the four language skills, and the concepts of reliability and validity. Special attention is given to the distinction between assessment, evaluation, and measurement. The course develops skills for critical analysis and the practical application of theoretical concepts in language testing.

Course content:

History of language testing. Language testing as part of applied linguistics. The relationship between competence and performance in testing. Main types of tests according to purpose. Knowledge tests and skill tests. Validity and reliability of tests – overview. Principles for checking test validity. Principles for checking test reliability. Types of test items – overview. Test item types for assessing the four language skills. Test item types for assessing linguistic knowledge. Basic principles of scoring test items. International standardized English language tests.

Teaching and assessment:

The course lectures present the theoretical framework and recent developments in the field of language testing, supported by illustrative materials and electronic resources. Independent work includes developing test items based on given parameters, preparing for participation in a final

test project, engaging in discussions, preparing summaries, and critical reading of tests. Students are expected to have an English proficiency level of B1–B2. Assessment consists of continuous assessment (assignments, participation in discussions, online activities) and a final test. The final exam includes 30–40 questions covering the course content and a practical task. Grading follows the six-point system and the ECTS scale.

SOCIO-CULTURAL ASPECTS OF TRANSLATION

ECTS credits: 2

Weekly workload: 0l+1s+3ind.

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: II

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assist. Prof. Mariya Bagasheva PhD,

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528, E-mail: m_bagasheva@swu.bg

Annotation:

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 students 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.

COMPUTATIONAL AND MATHEMATICAL LINGUISTICS

ECTS: 2.00

Classes per week: 11; 0s; 3ind;

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course type: elective

Semester: I

Methodological management:

Department of Informatics, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Lecturers:

Associate Prof. Elena Karashtranova, PhD

Тел: 073/588528; e-mail: helen@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course aims to provide the students with theoretical knowledge and practical skills in the computational processing of language data. Attention is paid to the statistical procedures and their application in modern linguistic analysis. The students are expected to be able to work with stochastic and mathematical approaches in linguistic analysis.

The students are expected to have a good command of at least one foreign language and initial literacy in IT.

Course content:

Problems in the computational processing of natural language. Corpus linguistics. Statistical methods. Applications. Stochastic approaches. Categorization and classification. Machine translation.

Teaching and assessment:

During the lectures, the lecturer presents the theoretical principles regarding the different topics and illustrates their applications. The students are expected to discuss the topics under the lecturer's guidance and to apply them to the system chosen.

Individually, the students have to get acquainted with additional authors working in the respective fields. The final exam consists of a project of their own and a description of the chosen system.

STATISTICAL METHODS OF LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS

ECTS: 2.00

Classes per week: 11; 0s; 3ind;

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course type: elective

Semester: II

Methodological management:

Department of Informatics, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Lecturers:

Associate Prof. Elena Karashtranova, PhD

Тел: 073/588528; e-mail: helen@swu.bg

Annotation:

The aim of the course is to provide extended knowledge in modern theoretical linguistics to the students by introducing basic linguistic theories and the specific terminology related to the specific areas. The topics encompass the basic movements and schools in general linguistics and point out their specific application to different issues of analysis. After completing the course, the students are expected to be able to choose a particular theoretical framework that will best apply to a particular linguistic problem.

Course content:

Current linguistic movements and schools. Formal and functional approaches to the description of language. Interdisciplinary approaches in modern linguistics: morphonology and morpho-syntactic interface. History and stages of the development of the generative syntax. Optimality

theory. Minimalism. Speech Act theory. Logical semantics. Montague Grammar. Theory of prototypical meaning.

Teaching and assessment:

The course aims to introduce basic postulates in modern linguistic theories to the students with a well-established bibliography in the area. During the lectures, basic theoretical issues are presented. The focus is on the discussion of problematic issues, which aims at building the students' ability to make decisions and analyze cases in narrower and broader contexts. Every student has to hand in coursework where a given theory is critically discussed. The final assessment is in the form of a discussion on the problematic area in the coursework. The final mark presents 70% of the final discussion and 30% of the mark of the coursework.

ENGLISH PUNCTUATION AND ORTHOGRAPHY

ECTS credits: 2

Weekly workload: 11+0s+3ind.

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: I

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Mariya Chankova PhD, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

E-mail: mariya.chankova@swu.bg

Annotation:

English Punctuation and Orthography is a course which proposes ways to tackle punctuation and orthography difficulties (a practical approach) by considering them from a historical perspective, a morphosyntactic perspective and from a normative perspective. It utilizes the terminological toolbox of morphology and syntax in order to clarify punctuation and spelling conventions. Spelling practice is aligned with broader questions of Academic English style conventions. The course aims comprise acquiring deeper insight into how language works and improve students' general language proficiency; understanding what drives the development of writing systems and how they are organized; understanding what motivates English spelling and punctuation; understanding norms and conventions, and contrast them with language change; categorizing students' knowledge of English spelling and finding ways to improve it; and learning how to use resources effectively.

Course content:

Introduction. Writing and speech, writing systems, writing standards. A brief history of punctuation. Conventions and norms.

Module 1: Punctuation and Academic English. Punctuation: the use of comma, dash, colon, semi-colon, apostrophe. Inverted commas. Direct citation and indirect citation. Academic integrity and plagiarism. Capitalization. Using dictionaries and online resources. Information reliability and the internet.

Module 2: Orthography

General principles of spelling. Phoneme – grapheme correspondences. The Latin alphabet and the English language. Brief history of the English language. Word formation; derivation and inflexion; morphemes. Suffixes, prefixes. Silent final E in word formation. Doubling of the final consonant (adjectives, verb forms). Silent letters; Homonyms and confusable words. Compounding. Compound nouns, adjectives and verbs. Plurals. Diphthongs. British spelling vs. American spelling. Irregular verbs

Teaching and assessment:

The different topics are introduced using extensive examples. Students are asked to analyze examples and discern patterns. Their knowledge of English phonetics and morphology comes into play, as they are asked to propose a formulation of rules based on the patterns they find. Students make a portfolio of the assignments they are given in the seminars, including using online sources and working with bibliographic references. The final assessment is in the form of a test including practical cases, testing the students' ability to apply the rules of orthography and punctuation they have learnt. The final mark presents 65% of the final test and 35% of the mark of the course work.

WRITTEN AND SPOKEN NORMS OF THE BULGARIAN LANGUAGE**ECTS credits:** 2**Workload:** 15+0s+45ind.**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment**Course status:** elective**Semester:** I**Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Lachezar Perchekliyski, PhD, Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone. +359 73 588 528, E-mail: lper@swu.bg**Annotation:**

This course introduces students to the main orthographic, grammatical, and pronunciation norms of the standard Bulgarian language. Its primary goal is to help students develop accuracy in both written and spoken expression. In doing so, the course aims to enrich their overall language competence and address potential gaps in their prior knowledge. Special attention is given to the conventions of selected written genres within the academic style – such as the abstract, term paper, and thesis – that play a practical role in the learning process.

Course content:

principles. Spelling rules of a phonetic nature (insertion and omission of consonants and vowels; the clusters -ръ-, -ър-, -лъ-, -ъл-; spelling of double consonants, etc.). The spelling of variable я. Spelling rules of a grammatical nature. Use of the short and full definite article. The count form of masculine nouns. The forms кого, когото, някого, никого. The reflexive possessive pronoun. Transcription of Cyrillic words into the Latin alphabet. Use of capital and lowercase letters. Syntactic and stylistic functions of capitalization. Abbreviations. Solid, hyphenated, and separate spelling of compound words. Punctuation in the simple sentence. Punctuation in the complex sentence. Text formatting. Requirements and conventions for writing reports, essays, and term papers. Requirements and conventions for writing a thesis.

Teaching and assessment:

Classroom sessions are conducted using traditional teaching methods, with the course material presented and explained through visual aids such as tables, charts, and illustrations. Interactive approaches are also employed. As part of out-of-class assignments, students have the opportunity to apply in practice the spelling and language rules they have learned, as well as their knowledge of structuring and writing academic texts. They will complete language exercises and case studies, and will be encouraged to present and defend their ideas orally. The successful completion of these tasks contributes to the continuous assessment.

INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY THEORY

ECTS credits: 2

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: III

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Stiliyan Stoyanov, Department of Literature and Ethnology,
tel. +359 887 776791, stilyan@swu.bg

Weekly workload: 1+0s +3 ind.

Course status: elective

Annotation:

The aim of the course is to provide basic knowledge about the problematic field of literary studies. The boundaries and possibilities of literary studies, its various divisions are outlined, the terminological apparatus is commented on, and the main literary trends are characterized. The lecture course describes the science on literature in a diachronic aspect on the one hand, and on the other hand, the applicability of literary studies to contemporary processes and phenomena is sought. Special attention is paid to the translatability of the literary text in terms of content and form. The state of literature in the age of mass communications and the Internet is commented on, and the manifestations of popular and mass culture are discussed.

Course content:

The science of literature. Language of the literary work. The communicative status of literature. Literary process. Psychology of literary creation. Literary genres and types. The translation of a literary text from the point of view of literary theory. Popular and mass literature. Plot, plot and composition.

Teaching and assessment:

The training is based on both the principles of the classical lecture course as well as the use of multimedia presentations. Since the discipline is studied in the second semester of the first year, it is necessary to build a basic conceptual and terminological apparatus, on the basis of which the discussions can be held. The seminar classes provide for familiarization with and commenting on basic literary theoretical texts and building the ability for initial orientation in the field on literary theory. According to the current one normative base on Southwest University, the form of assessment is ongoing control.

PRACTICAL ENGLISH GRAMMAR

ECTS credits: 2

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I

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

Weekly workload: 0l+1s+3ind.

Course status: elective

Annotation:

The elective course of Practical English Grammar complements the course of English as a first foreign language. The main objective of the course is to develop students' skills in using specific

grammatical structures from the English grammar in a real-life environment. The following additional objectives are set: mastering the peculiarities of English grammar, correctly applying the rules of English grammar in real communication, formulating different types of grammatical structures, the ability to express emphasis and use complex grammatical structures in written text and spoken environment.

Course content:

The Tense System – Simple tenses. The Tense System – Continuous tenses. The Tense System – Perfect tenses. Passive Voice. Conditionals. Unreal Time and Subjunctive. Modality – present and future. Modality- past. Emphasis. Relative and non-finite clauses. Phrasal verbs. Verb Patterns.

Teaching and assessment:

Classroom attendance includes a series of seminars with a total of 30 academic hours. Classes are conducted in the traditional manner with the use of visual aids (tables, diagrams, grammar guides, presentations). Assessment of the knowledge acquired in the course is carried out through continuous assessment and the final grade is calculated by means of at least one midterm test and regular homework assignments.

TRANSLATION AND EDITING

ECTS credits: 2

Weekly workload: 11+0s+3ind.

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: II

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Maria Anastasova PhD, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528, E-mail: m.anastasova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course presents the specificities of editing translated texts and is designed to improve students' skills in both translation and editing. Apart from developing specific professional competence, the discipline is intended to improve students' level of overall proficiency in English. Additionally, the course focuses on assessing the quality of different translations. The emphasis is on identifying and correcting mistakes and inaccuracies in translated texts with the idea to produce a final version that is acceptable for presentation in the target culture. The working languages are English and Bulgarian, and the high level of proficiency in both is an essential requirement. The provided training may be highly beneficial for students interested in creative writing and editing, or those aiming at professional development in the fields of translation and editing.

Course content:

The course combines introductory theoretical instruction on editing with practical tasks, including translation and revision of various texts. After introducing the role of the editor in translation practice and some central issues related to the editing process, students complete individual assignments that include translation, correction of their own and others' grammatical, lexical, and stylistic mistakes, comparison of translation variants, and evaluation of the quality of translated texts. The selected materials include contemporary texts from various fields and genres: fiction, journalistic articles, advertising brochures, etc.

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 continuous and is based on ongoing monitoring during the term.

LATIN**ECTS credits:** 3**Workload:** 15 lectures, 45 seminars**Form of assessment:** Continuous assessment**Course status:** Elective**Semester:** I**Methodological management:**

Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Silvia Georgieva, Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies

Tel: +359 898 629 972, Email: silvial@swu.bg

Annotation:

This course introduces students to the fundamental morphological features of the Latin language, as well as selected aspects of its syntax, examined within the broader context of the historical development of the Romance languages. It addresses the multiple levels of Latin's linguistic influence, including phonetics, morphology, syntax, lexicology, and semantics. Particular emphasis is placed on developing proficiency in morphological analysis and translation from Latin into modern languages. Attention is also devoted to understanding the structural characteristics of a synthetic language, the function and significance of the case system, and the transition from synthetic to analytic linguistic structures. To enhance comprehension of Latin's foundational role in the evolution of modern languages and cultures, the course also explores selected historical and cultural aspects of Roman society and introduces students to major Roman authors and their works. An additional learning outcome is the acquisition of specialized linguistic terminology, which supports progress in related philological disciplines.

Course content:

Overview of the history of the Latin language and its influence. Alphabet and pronunciation. Vowel and syllable quantity; rules of stress. Basic characteristics of the verb system. Formation of the infinitive in the four conjugations. Present tense formation in the four conjugations. Basic characteristics of nouns. Classification of nouns into five declensions. First and second declensions of nouns and adjectives. Formation of the imperfect tense. Formation of the future tense I. Third declension of nouns and adjectives. Past tense stems and their forms. Nominal verb forms: participles, supine, gerund, fourth and fifth declensions of nouns.

Teaching and assessment:

Instruction is delivered through a combination of lectures and guided independent study. Out-of-class activities include consultations with the instructor, written assignments (course papers, translations, and text analyses), and other tasks designed to reinforce the material covered in class. Assessment is based on continuous evaluation, taking into account active participation, completion of assignments, and performance on ongoing assessments.

ENGLISH CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

ECTS credits: 2

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: II

Methodological management:

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers: Team

Phone: +359 73 588 528, filologia@swu.bg

Weekly workload: 11+0s+3ind.

Course status: elective

Annotation:

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the major works, authors, and trends in English-language children's literature, both classical and contemporary. The course emphasizes the role of literature in developing children's linguistic and cultural competencies, as well as in understanding its social, ethical, and educational dimensions. Special attention is given to the diversity of genres – fairy tales, children's poetry, novels, fantasy, and modern educational and literary texts.

Course content:

Introduction to English-language children's literature – genres, traditions, functions. Classical authors: Lewis Carroll, J. M. Barrie, Beatrix Potter, Kenneth Grahame, A. A. Milne. Literary trends in the 20th century: Roald Dahl, C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien. Contemporary authors and multimedia adaptations: J. K. Rowling, Philip Pullman, and others. Themes and issues: identity, friendship, fantasy vs. reality, education, and values. Children's literature as a means of learning the English language and culture.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures present key authors, works, and genres, together with their cultural and social contexts. Students are encouraged to read, analyze, and discuss selected texts, with emphasis on critical thinking and interpretation.

LINGUISTIC ASPECTS OF TRANSLATION

ECTS credits: 2

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: III

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

Weekly workload: 11+0s+3ind.

Course status: elective

Annotation:

The aim of the course is to develop and deepen the students' knowledge and skills in the area of translation 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 practice.

Course content:

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.

SPECIFICS OF SPECIALIZED TRANSLATION

ECTS credits: 2

Weekly workload: 11+3ind.

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: III

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

Annotation:

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 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.

ASPECTS OF PRIMARY FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

ECTS credits: 2

Credit hours: 15 l.+0 s.+45 ind.

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: IV

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

Annotation:

The course is an elective within the programme “Linguistic Aspects of Foreign Language Teaching.” It aims to familiarize students with the characteristics of learners aged 6–11 and to prepare them for designing and delivering effective and motivating lessons in primary school. The training develops skills for assessing pupils’ progress and for creating strategies to overcome specific challenges in early foreign language learning. The course provides knowledge of the methodology of early foreign language teaching and fosters critical thinking and the creative application of this knowledge in practice. It is linked to a number of core and elective pedagogical courses and supports preparation for teaching practice.

Course content:

Fundamental principles of foreign language teaching in primary school age. Learning and development. Teaching vocabulary and grammar. Developing listening and speaking skills. Developing reading and writing skills. Teaching through songs, poems, riddles, and tongue twisters. Teaching through didactic games. Teaching through stories. Teaching through project work. Integrating other school subjects into early foreign language learning. Specifics of assessing pupils’ progress. Contextualizing instruction. Designing thematic units and lesson plans. Coursebooks for early foreign language learning.

Teaching and assessment:

The course is delivered through a blended lecture format, combining traditional teaching with pre-assigned topics for discussion to encourage active student participation and critical engagement with key issues. Extracurricular work includes independent study, preparing written assignments, and participation in an online learning platform. The final grade is based on continuous assessment and written work, taking into account students’ participation in lectures, activity in the platform, and the quality of submitted assignments. The final grade is a whole number (from 2 to 6) and is aligned with the ECTS grading scale. Students successfully complete the course if they receive a grade of at least “Satisfactory” (3.00).

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

ECTS credits: 2

Weekly workload: 1+0s+3ind.

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: III

Methodological management:

Department of Bulgarian Language, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Borislav Popov, PhD, Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone: +359 73 588 528, E-mail: meristaf@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course presents the main theories and approaches to intercultural communication and the applied problems of foreign language teaching – bilingualism and teaching methods. As an interdisciplinary scientific field, the main problems are examined in the light of interactive sociolinguistics, social anthropology, and theories of intercultural communication. The concept of culture includes not only elite artistic culture, but also everyday national culture and values /mentality/. In the globalized world, intercultural competence is necessary to overcome ethnic stereotypes, prejudices towards marginalized groups, manifestations of racism and xenophobia. The classification of cultures according to universal criteria allows the delineation of the main cultural features and allows the overcoming of intercultural misunderstandings.

Course content:

Emergence, characteristics and essence of the discipline "Intercultural Communication". Language and consciousness, linguistic picture of the world. Linguistic universalism (R. Descartes, N. Chomsky) and linguistic relativism (I. Humboldt, E. Sapir, B. Whorf). Language, thinking and culture. Prototypical theory of thinking. Language acquisition and cultural acquisition. Types of cultures and speech behavior. Slavic and Germanic linguistic culture and picture of the world. Bilingualism and intercultural dialogue. Intercultural communication: interactive sociolinguistics, social anthropology /ethnography of speech, symbolic interactionism/. Linguistic pragmatics. Classification of cultures according to H. Hofstede and M. Minkov. Universal signs of cultures around the world. Collectivism /genericity/: individualism /nongenericity/.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of a lecture course and extracurricular work (independent preparation). Extracurricular activities include: consultations with the teacher, written development of reports and essays on topics with a theoretical and practical focus, solving tests, etc. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the subject is carried out through ongoing assessment, which is based on ongoing control.

SCHOOL DOCUMENTATION IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

ECTS credits: 2.0

Weekly workload: 0 l.+15 sem.+45

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: II

Methodological management:

Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Chief Assistant Dr. Pavel Filipov, Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528, pavel_filipov.16@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course *Educational Documentation* is offered as an elective for students in the LACEO program. The training is organized in a single module, which forms a relatively complete unit, encompassing the general content of this subject. The module includes a theoretical component aimed at familiarizing students with the core regulatory framework related to the educational process in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Course content:

Register of children subject to compulsory education up to 16 years of age. Class registers for grades 1–4 and student booklets. Class registers for grades 5–12 and student ID cards. Registers for after-school activities, extracurricular and out-of-school forms. Registers for groups in boarding schools, semi-boarding institutions, dormitories, childcare homes for children deprived of parental care, and for students in individual learning formats. Material record of conducted lessons. Master register for students in grades 1–8. Personal student records for part-time, individual, or self-study formats in general secondary schools, high schools, vocational schools, and specialized high schools. Personal records for full-time and evening study formats in the same institutions. Personal records for modular study programs in vocational schools and specialized institutions. Certificates for completion of Grade 1, completion of the initial stage of primary education, and for completion of a school year. Registration book for issued diplomas and certificates of education levels or professional qualifications. Documentation for the administration of examinations. Minutes books for meetings of the pedagogical council, school board, school trustees, and general assemblies. Lecturer's book, donations register, and chronicle book. Books for initial, periodic, daily, and emergency instructions.

Teaching and assessment:

The course includes seminar sessions and independent student work. Out-of-class activities include consultations with the lecturer, written tasks, and course paper development. The acquired knowledge is assessed through continuous evaluation based on ongoing control.

ACADEMIC ETHICS

ECTS credits: 2**Weekly workload:** 11+0s+3ind.**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment**Course status:** elective**Semester:** IV**Methodological management:**

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Mariya Chankova PhD, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

E-mail: mariya.chankova@swu.bg**Annotation:**

The primary aim of the course is to familiarize students with the specific features of academic discourse within the context of academic ethics and integrity, with a particular focus on the characteristics of academic discourse in English. This course introduces students to the principles and practices of ethical conduct in academic settings. It explores topics such as academic integrity, plagiarism, responsible research, authorship, and citation practices. Students will examine case studies, engage in discussions on ethical dilemmas, and develop critical thinking skills to navigate moral challenges in scholarly work. The course emphasizes

fostering a culture of honesty, accountability, and respect in all aspects of academic life. A central emphasis is placed on responsible citation practices and research: language use, incorporation of external sources through citation and paraphrase.

Course content:

English for academic purposes. Structure and types of academic writing. Stylistic and grammatical characteristics of academic writing. Working with sources. In-text citation. Paraphrases and summaries. Bibliographies and references. Citation formats. Academic ethics: plagiarism. Avoiding plagiarism. Responsible research conduct. Digital research ethics. Responsible use of AI tools in academia. Academic misconduct and its consequences.

Teaching and assessment:

The lecture course is conducted according to the *flipped classroom* method: students prepare a designated body of work in advance so that in-class sessions can focus on concrete work on their written projects and on in-depth discussion of relevant issues. The preparatory work consists of studying theoretical literature, producing annotations, and working with sources (review and selection). Ideally, students engage with their chosen thesis topic, while the assessed portfolio includes an evaluation in terms of academic integrity their own research and academic practice, by means of commenting on their compilation of the bibliography, a review of theoretical and methodological literature, and the literature overview.

ENGLISH HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS

ECTS: 2

Classes per week: 1I; 0s; 3ind

Form of assessment: continuous assessment Course status: elective

Semester: III

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Yana Chankova, PhD, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

e-mail: yana_chankova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The objective of this course is to provide the students with extended theoretical knowledge of the history of English on all levels of analysis, crucial to the explanation of the fundamental linguistic phenomena of Modern English in diachronic perspective. It comprises history of the sound and spelling systems, historical morphology and syntax, history of the lexicon. The course focuses on the representation of linguistic facts at successive stages of the language development from Old English via Middle English to Modern English and their further interpretation in order to reveal the evolution of the English language while drawing attention to its continuous nature. It also gives the students some preliminary information on the pre-Old-English stages of development, including proto-Indo-European, proto-Germanic, West Germanic, Ingwaeonic, Anglo-Frisian. Last but not least the course aims at presenting the peculiar historical, social, political and cultural facts which condition language development.

Course content:

Introducing Old English: origins and sources. From Proto-Indo-European to Proto-Germanic. Classification and brief characterization of the Proto-Germanic languages. The Proto-Germanic equivalents of the Indo-European vowel-sounds. The vowel-system at the close of the Proto-Germanic period. West-Germanic, Ingwaeonic and Anglo-Frisian developments. The Old

English development of the Proto-Germanic vowels of accented syllables. The First Consonant Shift (Grimm's Law), Verner's Law and other consonant changes. The Old English development of the general Germanic consonant-system. The Anglo-Saxon settlement. People, places and texts. The Old English dialects. The sound system of Old English. Basic elements of the Noun Phrase in Old English. Nouns. Adjectives. Pronouns. The Verb Phrase in Old English. Verb types. Weak verbs. Strong verbs. Preterite-presents verbs. The Old English Noun Phrases and Verb Phrases as syntactic elements. Tense. Aspect. Voice. Mood. Word order. Verb-second order. Verb-final order. Noun phrase order. Negation. The lexicon. The origins of Old English vocabulary. Word-formation: simple and derivative nouns, compound. Introducing Middle English. The dialects of Middle English. Middle English sounds and spellings. The Middle English development of the Old English vowel-system. The Middle English development of the Old English consonant-system. Basic elements of the Noun Phrase in Middle English. Nouns. Adjectives. Determiners. Pronouns. Numerals. The Verb Phrase in Middle English. Verb types. Weak verbs. Strong verbs. Irregular verbs. Modal Verbs. The syntax of Middle English Noun Phrases and Verb Phrases. Middle English sentence structure. The lexicon. The origins of Middle English vocabulary. Introducing Early Modern English. The Great Vowel Shift.

Teaching and assessment:

The course aims at revealing the fundamental linguistic phenomena of Modern English from diverse historical perspectives on all levels of linguistic analysis while acknowledging them with the well-established bibliography in the field. The lecturer is expected to discuss the linguistic facts on both the synchronic and the diachronic level while the focus always comes on the continuity and the developmental nature of the evolution of English. During seminars the students will read, translate and analyze two Old English and two Middle English texts in terms of phonology, morphology and syntax. Students will sit for one mid-term test. The final exam consists of two components, a theoretical and a practical one. The total score mark comprises 70% from the final exam (35% theoretical part + 35% practical part) and 30% from the mid-term test.

GLOBAL ENGLISH

ECTS credits: 2

Weekly workload: 0l+1s+3ind.

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: I

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assist. Prof. Mariya Bagasheva PhD, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528, E-mail: m_bagasheva@swu.bg

Annotation:

The Global English course aims to introduce students majoring in English Philology – Master's degree (Master's program "Linguistic Aspects of Foreign Language Teaching") with basic knowledge of countries where English is spoken as a first or second official language. The course focuses on the English language and its variants around the world. English, as a lingua franca, is the language of communication around the world, which defines it as a global language. The course examines the historical development of the English language and how this has contributed to its spread as a global language. Regional dialects are studied, with special attention paid to the American and Australian variants of English.

Course content:

Historical background – why English? History of the English language. Contemporary English language. Variants of the English language in the British Isles. English language in America – American vs British English. English language in Canada – Canadianisms. English language in Australia and New Zealand. English language in South Africa and South Asia. Political and cultural heritage. English as Lingua franca. Global English in the future perspective.

Teaching and assessment:

The lecture course is conducted in the traditional manner with the use of illustrative aids (tables, diagrams, illustrative material, multimedia).

In the lecture course, the lecturer presents the theoretical concepts on various topics to the students, taking into account the latest sociological research, political events, and various developments in the field of intercultural communication. Assessment is based on ongoing evaluation reflecting the degree of student participation in seminars and completion of the extracurricular activities specified in the curriculum. Extracurricular activities are assessed on the basis of their achievements in completing individual tasks – presentations, summaries, essays, etc.

TRANSCRIPTION, TRANSLITERATION AND NOMINATIVE SYMBOLISM

ECTS credits: 2

Weekly workload: 11+0s+3ind.

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: II

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

Annotation:

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 to 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.

CONTEMPORARY THEORIES OF LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

ECTS credits: 2

Credit hours: 15 l.+0 s.+45 ind.

Form of assessment: exam

Course status: elective

Semester: I

Methodological

management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

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

Annotation:

This course is part of the Master's program *Linguistic Aspects of Foreign Language Teaching*. It 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.

APPLICATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOOLS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

ECTS credits: 2

Weekly workload: 11+0s+3ind.

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester III

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies, Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Mariya Chankova PhD, Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

E-mail: mariya.chankova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course *Application of Artificial Intelligence Tools* offers an overview of working with AI-integrated tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, Grok, Qwen, and DeepSeek in the context of didactic material creation and lesson plan preparation. The course aims to prepare future teachers to utilize the potential of these tools in developing specialized didactic materials tailored to learners' language proficiency levels and instructional objectives. A thorough understanding of the characteristics of such tools, including their advantages and limitations in the context of foreign language education, will enable future teachers to streamline certain preparatory activities.

Course content:

The course provides an overview and introduction to AI-integrated tools and their specific features. The application of these tools is examined in three main areas: first, the development of didactic materials aimed at reading comprehension, including the didactic adaptation of authentic texts, the generation of customized texts based on parameters defined by the instructor (multilayered parameters such as lexical fields, grammatical structures and features, language proficiency level, etc.), as well as the creation of questions and accompanying exercises. Second, the design of test materials for assessing students' knowledge. Third, the use of AI-integrated tools to support the evaluation of written assignments and the preparation of personalized feedback notes with the aim of guiding error correction. A key competence to be developed for the effective use of these tools is the ability to formulate so-called *prompts*—written instructions to the AI that specify the particular task to be performed.

Teaching and assessment:

The in-class activities of the course *Application of AI-Integrated Tools* consist of guided sessions focused on using such tools to perform standard tasks in generating written output. Through an applied approach, the course examines both the potential and the limitations of AI-integrated tools, with students developing their own portfolios of prompts and the texts generated on their basis. Particular emphasis is placed on the critical evaluation of the generated content, the role of the human editor, as well as the importance of developing a thorough understanding of the underlying generative algorithms and the necessity of verifying the produced material. Portfolios are presented and defended *in viva*.