



SOUTH-WEST UNIVERSITY "NEOFIT RILSKI"

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Faculty of Philology

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

TRANSLATION AND CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

Master's Degree

I. Purpose of the Master's Program "Translation and Contemporary Literature in English", Field 2.1 Philology

This qualification profile defines the professional training of graduates of the Master's Program *Translation and Contemporary Anglophone Literature*.

The program has a duration of 2 semesters (one academic year) and is offered in full-time study mode. It is intended for individuals who have obtained a Bachelor's or Master's degree in the same professional field, as well as for those who hold degrees in other professional areas, provided they have a B2 level of English proficiency according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. This level must be demonstrated through a certificate, a passed state exam in English, or a successfully passed entrance test.

Based on the knowledge and skills acquired in their Bachelor's studies, students further develop, expand, and refine their professional competencies in the fields of translation theory and practice, as well as English philology as a whole. Special emphasis is placed on:

- Anglophone literature and literary studies as an academic discipline;
- Linguistic and cultural studies, and the sociocultural specifics of translation between English and Bulgarian;
- The theory and practice of various types of translation to and from English;
- General philological and specialized literary research activities.

The program pays particular attention to enhancing students' skills in translating from a foreign language into Bulgarian and vice versa, as well as to the features of classical and contemporary Anglophone literature.

Graduates who obtain the Master's degree are eligible to continue their education in the next academic and scientific degree: Doctoral studies (PhD).

II. Requirements for Graduates

Graduates of the Master's Program *Translation and Contemporary Anglophone Literature* acquire knowledge and skills that enable them to succeed and thrive in their future professional work in translation and literary studies.

The organization of the Master's level training is aimed at developing students' competencies in key disciplines in the fields of literature, literary theory, and translation theory and practice, as well as improving their practical oral and written language skills.

Graduates of the program are expected to:

- Possess in-depth theoretical and factual knowledge in the disciplines included in the curriculum;
- Be able to work with specialized academic conceptual and terminological frameworks;
- Apply interdisciplinary approaches to linguistic and literary phenomena;
- Demonstrate the ability to independently conduct collective, exploratory, analytical, and theoretical research tasks;
- Show skills in critical analysis and academically grounded interpretation of various cultural phenomena.

III. Professional Realization

Graduates of the Master's Program *Translation and Contemporary Anglophone Literature* can pursue careers as: writers and related professionals (e.g. writer/poet, literary collaborator, reviewer, screenwriter, editor, critic); editors and journalists (e.g. newspaper/magazine editor, head of correspondent office, commentator, correspondent, reporter, journalist); translators and linguists (e.g. graphologist, etymologist, lexicographer, linguist, morphologist, translator, editor, semasiologist, philologist, semanticist).

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION: 2. HUMANITIES

PROFESSIONAL FIELD: 2.1. PHILOLOGY

SPECIALITY: TRANSLATION AND CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

EDUCATIONAL AND QUALIFICATION DEGREE: MASTER

FORM OF TRAINING: FULL-TIME

LANGUAGE OF STUDY: **BULGARIAN**

Year I			
<u>Semester I</u>	ECTS credits	<u>Semester II</u>	ECTS credits
Literary Translation Theory	5.0	Literary Translation and Editing - part II	3.0
Literary Translation and Editing - part I	5.0	Specifics of Specialized Translation	3.0
Contemporary Literary Theories and Schools	5.0	Intertextuality and Translation	1.0
Academic Ethics	5.0	Socio-cultural Aspects of Translation	2.0
Contemporary Bulgarian Literature	4.0	Diploma Thesis Defense or State Exam	15
Students choose one from both group I and II of the elective disciplines	6.0	Students choose one from both group I and II of the elective disciplines	6.0
	Total 30		Total 30
TOTAL ECTS CREDITS: 60			

ELECTIVE DISCIPLINES			
Nº	Discipline Title	Semester	ECTS credits
Group I			
1.	Text Interpretation. Translating Implicit and Explicit Meaning	I	3.0
2.	Transcription, Transliteration and Nominative Symbolism in Translation	I	3.0
3.	Global English – Characteristics and Tendencies	I	3.0
4.	Emotions and Literature	II	3.0
5.	Simultaneous and consecutive interpreting – Challenges and Strategies	II	3.0
6.	Application of Artificial Intelligence Tools	II	3.0
Group II			
7.	Contemporary Translation Technologies	I	3.0
8.	Film Translation	II	3.0
9.	Metaphor and Language	I	3.0
10.	Fiction and cinema	II	3.0
11.	Modernism	II	3.0

LITERARY TRANSLATION THEORY

ECTS credits: 5

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+8ind.

Course status: compulsory

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

Course outline: The course aims at introducing the fundamental literary translation theories, as well as some contemporary publications in the field. It examines the traditions of literary translation in Bulgaria and in other countries. The primary objective is to develop students' critical thinking and analytical skills in the field of literary translation and to extend their knowledge of translation theory. The course prepares them for their future careers in translation, teaching, and publishing.

Course content: The discipline is theoretical and it presents some key literary translation theories and their relation to practice. The theoretical overview includes several fundamental theoretical perspectives, such as those of Edwin Gentzler, Itamar Even-Zohar, Vladimir Nabokov, and others. The course also focuses on some contemporary trends in theorizing literary translation like the approaches rooted in postcolonial criticism, feminism, LGBTQ+ perspectives, etc. Specific literary texts are also analyzed with regard to their translation challenges and the strategies for overcoming them.

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of lectures 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.

LITERARY TRANSLATION AND EDITING – I PART

ECTS credits: 5

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I

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

Course status: compulsory

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

Course outline: The main objective of the course is to develop students' skills in translating and editing fiction from English into Bulgarian and to prepare them for the practice of professional translators and editors of literary texts. Emphasis is also placed on the development of critical thinking and the ability to assess the quality of translations. Upon successful completion of the course, students are expected to be able to translate fiction from English into Bulgarian meeting the standards of publishers, to edit both their own translations and those of others, and to be acquainted with the practices of translating English-language literature in Bulgaria.

Course content: The course has a theoretical and practical orientation, with a primary focus on literary translation and editing. Special emphasis is placed on the editing of translated literary texts until they are ready for presentation in the target culture. As part of their training, students are introduced to authors and texts that pose particular challenges for literary translation and editing, as well as to the work of prominent Bulgarian translators of English literature. In addition to the covered in the lectures key editing issues and relevant translation theory principles, students engage in the practical aspects of the profession through various translation and editing tasks. They analyze and discuss different cases of appropriate translation and editing strategies, and correct grammatical, lexical, and stylistic mistakes in their own and their peers' translations.

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.

CONTEMPORARY LITERARY THEORIES AND SCHOOLS

ECTS credits: 5

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I

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

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assist. Prof. Elena Andonova-Kalapsazova PhD,
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
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Course outline: The course aims to introduce students to the main literary theories and schools that have emerged from the beginning of the 20th century to the present day. Each topic is centered around a specific literary theory or school and introduces the key principles and concepts defined by its major representatives. Another goal of the course is to present the possibilities for applying interpretative approaches characteristic of the different literary theories to the reading of specific literary works, and to help students develop the skills to independently apply these reading and interpretative practices. The coursework provides students with the opportunity to develop skills in identifying the conceptual frameworks of the various theories and schools, as well as in applying their respective approaches to specific literary texts.

Course content: 1. Literary theory – subject and specifics. Literary theory as a branch of literary studies. 2. Formalism. Russian Formalism. American New Criticism. 3. Structuralism and semiotics. Structuralist approaches to genre. Narratology. 4. Literary theory of deconstruction. 5. Reader-response theory. 6. Psychoanalytic literary theory. 7. Feminist literary theory. 8. New Historicism. 9. Postcolonial literary theory. 10. The ethical turn. The constitution of the Self and the Other in narrative. 11. The posthuman. Humanism, posthumanism, transhumanism.

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of lectures, seminars, and independent student work. The lectures present the main topics of the course, and along with the introduction of theoretical concepts, illustrations of their application in the analysis of specific literary texts are provided, where the respective theory allows for such application. Within the seminar exercises, texts representative of the respective literary theory are examined and discussed. The independent student activities include: reading the theoretical texts (in full or in part, according to the instructor's requirements) related to the topic to be discussed in the upcoming classes; work on course papers; 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.

ACADEMIC ETHICS

ECTS credits: 5

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I

Weekly workload: 2l+2s+6ind.

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. prof. Mariya Chankova, PhD

Asst. prof. Hristo Dimitrov, PhD

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

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Course outline: moral challenges in scholarly work. A central emphasis is placed on responsible citation practices and research. 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 academic writing and the research process in general. It explores topics such as topic selection, literature search, compilation of a bibliography, writing a literature review, conducting research, 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: language use, incorporation of external sources through citation and paraphrase.

Course topics: 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).

CONTEMPORARY BULGARIAN LITERATURE

ECTS Credits: 4

Assessment Method: exam

Semester: I

Weekly Workload: 2l + 2 s + 4 ind

Course Status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of German and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Albena Vacheva,

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Phone: +359 73 588 528

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Course outline: The curriculum of the course *Contemporary Bulgarian Literature* includes several thematic blocks aimed at familiarizing students with the issues of Bulgarian literature, literary studies, and criticism of the 20th century, placing them within the context of a modern humanitarian debate. Topics in literary history and theory are discussed, specific issues of reception are included, and special attention is given to the literary field within the broader cultural context, considering its aesthetic pursuits.

The course engages the audience with the examination of current literary processes during an open and dynamic period. This brings to the forefront both the mechanisms through which

language and literature shape the cognitive aspect of social and cultural reality, and those related to the European literary dialogue of the 20th century.

Course Content: Literary life after the First World War, Bulgarian poetry in the 1920s and 1930s, Bulgarian poetry in the 1930s and 1940s, generations and directions in Bulgarian women's literature, fiction and the conventions of modern realism, characteristics of modern narrative strategies, the modern idea of history and the poetics of historical prose, languages of power and languages of literature, rhetoric of poetic discourses – part 1, rhetoric of poetic discourses – part 2, literature reads history, modern narrative strategies, challenges facing fiction, practices of critical reflection, problems of modern drama.

Teaching and assessment: The course consists of lectures and independent student work. Out-of-class activities include consultations with the lecturer, written assignments and topics (course papers), and more. Knowledge assessment is conducted through an exam.

LITERARY TRANSLATION AND EDITING – Part II

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: II

Weekly workload: 0l+2s+4ind.

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Chief Asst. Prof. Yana Manova, PhD; Chief Asst. Prof. Mariya Bagasheva, PhD

Phone. +359 73 588 528, yana_georgieva@swu.bg; m_bagasheva@swu.bg

Course outline: The main objective of the course is to further develop and improve students' skills in translating and editing literary works from Bulgarian into English, as well as to prepare them practically for work as translators and editors of literary works. Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to translate literary texts from Bulgarian into English to a degree that allows them to be published by a publishing house, and to edit both their own and other people's translations into English and Bulgarian.

Course content: The course is practico-theoretical in nature, with a primary focus on the translation and editing of literary works. The emphasis is placed on editing translated literary texts with the aim of crafting them into finished products ready for presentation to the target audience. As part of their training, students become familiar with authors and texts that pose a particular challenge for translation and editing. During the seminars, students gain practical experience of the profession through exercises in translating and editing literary texts. They analyze and discuss appropriate translation strategies in different situations, work on real cases related to translation and editing problems, and correct grammatical, lexical, and stylistic errors in both their own translations and those of their colleagues.

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of 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 as well as a final exam.

SPECIFICS OF SPECIALIZED TRANSLATION

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: II

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

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Sakareva PhD,

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

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Course outline: Students will work on a variety of specialized texts, which will give them the opportunity to practice and improve their translation and editing skills. The main focus is on editing already translated texts in order to turn them into acceptable versions of finished products that are ready to be used in the target culture. During the seminars, students discuss practical problems in translation and editing and correct their own grammatical, lexical, and stylistic errors. The course could be useful for students whose interests are related to text creation and who wish to pursue a career in translation and editing.

Course content: Introduction to grammatical structures for constructing syntactically and semantically correct sentences. Guidance on working with terminology dictionaries. Translation and editing of scientific articles. Translation and editing of administrative documents. Translation and editing of technical manuals and documents. Translation and editing of medical documents and patents. Translation and editing of legal documents. Translation and editing of financial documents. Translation and editing of diplomas and academic transcripts.

Teaching and assessment: The course consists of lectures and seminars, as well as independent work by students. Independent student 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, which is based on the completion of independent assignments, participation in classes, and the results of a final test.

INTERTEXTUALITY AND TRANSLATION

ECTS credits: 1

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: II

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

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assist. Prof. Elena Andonova-Kalapsazova PhD,
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
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Course outline: The course *Intertextuality and Translation* serves as an introduction to the theoretical field shaped around the various formulations of the concept of intertextuality. The lecture series presents, in a diachronic sequence, the different theoretical approaches and perspectives from which intertextuality has been defined. It explores the characteristics of intertextual reading as a process in which readers do not simply decode the text, but—based on their reading experience—are engaged as active participants in the creation of textual meanings. The course work is oriented toward cultivating skills for intertextual reading by involving students in discussions related to the various manifestations of intertextuality in selected literary texts. At the same time, attention is given to the importance of the ability to identify the intertextual presence of one text within another, in order to achieve accuracy and completeness in the translation of literary works.

Course content: 1. Mikhail Bakhtin and the understanding of the dialogic nature of language. Monologic and dialogic elements in literature. Heteroglossia in the novel. 2. Julia Kristeva and the concept of intertextuality. 3. Roland Barthes. The theoretical concepts of *work* and *text*. 4. Influence in literature. Harold Bloom. 5. The structuralist hermeneutics of Michael Riffaterre. 6. Gérard Genette. Classification of types of transtextual relationships. 7. The intertextual fairy tales of Angela Carter. 8. Contemporary transformations of fairy tales in verse. 9. Shakespeare's plays as intertext. 10. J. M. Coetzee's novel *Foe* as a hypertextual transposition of Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*.

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of lectures and independent student work. The lectures present the main topics of the course, and alongside the introduction of theoretical concepts, analyses of the intertextual presence of one text within another in its various modes are illustratively presented. The assessment of the knowledge and skills acquired in the course is carried out through continuous assessment and a final exam.

SOCIO-CULTURAL ASPECTS OF TRANSLATION

ECTS credits: 2

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: II

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+2ind.

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturer:

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

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

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

TEXT INTERPRETATION. TRANSLATING IMPLICIT AND EXPLICIT MEANING

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturer:

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

Course outline: The aim of the elective course "*Text Interpretation: Implicit and Explicit Meaning in Translation*" is to familiarize students with another dimension of the triadic relationship sign-object-user—namely, the relationship between signs and their users—and to demonstrate how this relationship is realized and exploited in textual interpretation, particularly in the context of translation. The course addresses these issues within the framework of translation theory and practice, with the objective of developing students' skills in discourse analysis grounded in pragmatic theories of meaning.

Course topics: Students are invited to distinguish between semantic meaning and pragmatic enrichment, and to identify different layers of speaker meaning that constitute the implicit (e.g., conversational implicatures). The course examines various types of implicit and explicit content encoded through language - compositionality, context-dependent meaning, speaker's intentions, implicature, presupposition, semantic and pragmatic enrichment—with a view to addressing the question of which aspects of implicit content are subject to translation. Pragmatic phenomena are presented from the perspective of the translator and translation practice, engaging with classical issues in translation theory: what and how much the translator actually translates, the extent of the translator's freedom to interpret, as well as broader semiotic questions, such as whether a text possesses an objectively existing meaning. Special attention is given to the notion of *bias*; strategies for critical text analysis are introduced, and possible approaches to translation are considered. The processes of conventionalization and grammaticalization of content are also discussed, particularly with regard to the fixation of functional expressions. Finally, the course highlights the role of implicit knowledge (cultural, historical, and literary references) in text interpretation and translation, as well as the interplay between bias and interpretation.

Teaching and assessment: During class sessions, the *flipped classroom* principle is applied, enabling students to actively participate in discussions and to engage with linguistic material used for illustration. The illustrative material includes original texts and their translations, journalistic texts (translations and adaptations based on foreign media sources), as well as texts drawn from various internet genres. Students are invited to analyze the translator's choices. Their analysis is directed toward examining differences in the interpretation of a text by different readers and the influence of various factors (context, attentional constraints, interest, subject knowledge, etc.) on the interpretation of implicit meaning.

TRANSCRIPTION, TRANSLITERATION AND NOMINATIVE SYMBOLISM IN TRANSLATION

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Chief Assist. Prof. Yana Manova, PhD

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528

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Course outline: The Transcription, Transliteration and Nominative Symbolism in Translation course aims to provide students with theoretical knowledge about the specificities of transcribing and transliterating names in English and Bulgarian, to supplement and expand their knowledge of the main ways of rendering names from one language into another, to provide students with theoretical knowledge of the various systems and normative documents that

reflect transcription and transliteration in different languages, to discuss and analyze in detail the processes of transcription and transliteration, to describe in detail the linguistic factors involved in the rendition of names from one language into another, and to provide students with knowledge on how to perform a comparative, phonetic, and phonological analysis of the names under consideration.

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

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

GLOBAL ENGLISH: CHARACTERISTICS AND TENDENCIES

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Gergana Georgieva, PhD

Department of International Law and International Relations

Phone: +359 73 588 528

E-mail: georgieva@law.swu.bg

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

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

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

EMOTIONS AND LITERATURE

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: II

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

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

Course outline: The course *Emotions and Literature* has an interdisciplinary character and aims to introduce students to some of the new approaches to literary texts in the context of the so-called affective turn from the late 20th to the early 21st century. The topics covered in the course introduce students to the multidisciplinary field of emotion theories, exploring—both synchronically and diachronically—the various conceptualizations of emotions in philosophy, psychology, and contemporary neuroscience, as well as their reception as fundamental to the approach to literary texts by a number of contemporary literary theorists and critics. The course also outlines some of the new directions in literary theory and criticism that have emerged as a result of this renewed interest in emotions as a vital aspect of human existence. These include: the study of the emotional impact of literary texts on the reader; the analysis of literary texts with the aim of identifying historically conditioned specificities in the understanding and experience of the emotions represented in them.

In this context, the literary text is viewed as a field that not only thematizes and problematizes subjectivity in its intellectual/rational and linguistic existence, but also expresses the embodied existence of emotions.

Course content: 1. What is an emotion? A diachronic overview of the cognitive epistemes—philosophical, theological, natural-philosophical, and psychological—within which emotions have been studied and theorized. 2. A synchronic overview of contemporary scientific and humanities-based frameworks in which the study and theorization of emotions take place. 3. What can we learn about emotions from literature? 4. The humoral theory of the passions and early modern literature. Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. 5. 18th-century moral philosophy and the theory of moral sentiments. The sentimental novel. Samuel Richardson's *Clarissa*. 6. Sentimentalism

and horror. The Gothic novels of Ann Radcliffe. 7. The gendering of emotions in 19th-century English literature. 8. Sympathy and empathy – experienced and enacted. Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*.

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of lectures and independent student work. During the lectures, the instructor presents the course topics and organizes discussions on them, for which students prepare in advance by familiarizing themselves with the literature assigned for the respective session. The independent student activities include: work with the texts—both primary and secondary literature—planned for discussion in class; independent work on tasks assigned by the instructor; consultations with the instructor. The assessment of the knowledge and skills acquired in the course is conducted through continuous assessment.

SIMULTANEOUS AND CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETING – CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: II

Weekly workload: 21+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

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

Course outline: The course is practically oriented and the main goal of the training is to demonstrate and gradually build initial skills for simultaneous and consecutive interpreting and analytical awareness of the interpreting procedure based on developing one's own style of interpreting communication behaviour and technical improvement of immediate language transformation.

Course content: During interpreting classes, students learn the symbols used in consecutive interpreting, learn about the differences between consecutive and simultaneous interpreting—their characteristics and difficulties; they interpret dialogues played on a computer, interviews with singers, writers, artists; translations are made of civil marriage ceremonies, confessions of deals, various journalistic and informational texts, popular science programs, speeches by politicians and government officials, and, in general, texts that are often the subject of interpreting.

Teaching and assessment: The course consists of lectures and seminars that require active participation from students and a high level of language proficiency in order to cope with simultaneous or consecutive interpreting. The main activities include interpreting from English into Bulgarian and vice versa in various contexts of different types: interviews, public speeches, court hearings, interpreting before a notary public, etc., as well as training in memorizing longer

phrases and using symbols for note-taking during interpreting. The course finishes with a continuous assessment, consisting of interpreting from English into Bulgarian and vice versa, evaluating students' ability to cope with interpreting.

APPLICATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOOLS

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: II

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Mariya Chankova PhD,

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528

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Course outline: 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 text creation and writing assistance. Its aim is to equip students with the ability to harness the potential of these tools for producing content for diverse purposes, as well as for supporting the writing process. A thorough understanding of the specific features of such tools, along with their advantages and limitations in the context of written production, will enable students to optimize certain stages of the writing process. Particular emphasis is placed on issues related to academic integrity and the status of AI-generated content.

Course topics: 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 directions: first, the production of written materials and the generation of customized text *à la carte*, based on user-defined parameters (multi-layered parameters such as thematic domain, genres, personalization, etc.); second, the use of AI-integrated tools for brainstorming—generating ideas, structuring, and developing approaches to specific types of problems; and third, the use of AI-integrated tools to support the processing of existing texts, including remixing, summarization, annotation, and related tasks. A key competence to be developed for the effective use of such tools is the ability to compose effective *prompts*—written instructions to the AI specifying the precise 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*.

CONTEMPORARY TRANSLATION TECHNOLOGIES

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Sakareva PhD,

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528

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Course outline: The course contains a theoretical description of translation software, which are tools for computer-assisted translation. Students will learn about the main advantage of working with these programs, namely the creation of a memory—a tool that increases efficiency by allowing the reuse of previously translated terms. The lectures will explain how to create a database of translated sentences and phrases that can be used repeatedly whenever the relevant text is updated or when translating a new text in the same field. The main programs that will be presented to students are: TRADOS 2007 (up to v8.2), TRADOS Studio 2011 (incl. SDLX, Synergy, Passolo 2009), memoQ Professional, memSource, Across, Transit 3.0, Transit XV, Catalyst 8.0, Déjà vu, WimTrad, IdiomWorldserver, Wordfast, Wordbee; Microsoft applications: MS Localisation Studio 4.8, MS Helium 6, MS Jet stream, as well as the use of other software programs such as XLIFF Editor, Taipan, Localisation Toolbox, PoEdit, Linguistic Toolbox.

Course content: Analysis of contemporary machine translation systems – advantages and disadvantages. Translation software – types, similarities, and differences. TRADOS Studio 2011 (including SDLX, Synergy, Passolo 2009), memoQ Professional, memSource, Across, Déjà vu. Transit 3.0, Transit XV, Catalyst 8.0, WimTrad, IdiomWorldserver, Wordfast, Wordbee. Functions and significance of XLIFF Editor, Taipan, Localisation Toolbox, PoEdit, Linguistic Toolbox. Databases and database management systems. Creating your own translation database. Creating terminology dictionaries. Translation editing and verification programs: Xbench and Linguistic Toolbox. Professional ethics and responsibility. Deadlines.

Teaching and assessment: The course consists of lectures in which students discuss certain aspects of existing translation programs, artificial intelligence, and software. The assessment of the knowledge acquired in the course is carried out through continuous assessment, which is based on participation in classes and the results of a continuous test.

FILM TRANSLATION

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: II

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Sakareva PhD,

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528

E-mail: vanyasakareva@swu.bg

Course outline: The lecturer presents the main theoretical issues related to film translation, as well as the specifics of film translation from English into Bulgarian and vice versa. The course aims to 1) provide students with knowledge about the specifics of film translation and introduce them to the specific terminology in the field; 2) to familiarize students with and provide them with knowledge about the different genres of film translation and the specifics of language and translation in each genre; 3) to present the skills necessary for high-quality film subtitling; 4) to improve students' command of the English language.

Course content: Film translation as a specific type of translation activity. Types of film translations. Translation from a script. Translation from a phonogram. Simultaneous translation of a film. Subtitling on a subtitling machine. Creating subtitles without technical support. Critical cases in film translation from script and from phonogram. Main types of errors in film translation. Strategies for eliminating errors. The problem of cultural realities and their translation in films. A critical approach to film translation as a special type of visualised translation. Ethics in film translation. Linguistic imperialism in film translation. Film translation and censorship.

Teaching and assessment: The course consists of lectures in which students discuss certain aspects of existing film translations under the guidance of the lecturer, applying what they have learned from the lectures and their independent preparation. The assessment of the knowledge acquired in the course is carried out through continuous assessment, which is based on participation in classes and the results of a continuous test.

METAPHOR AND LANGUAGE

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I

Weekly workload: 1l+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. prof. Milena Levunlieva PhD,
Department of Management of Education and Special Education
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Course outline: The course Metaphor and Language introduces students to modern approaches to metaphor that go beyond traditional rhetoric, establishing metaphor as a subject of interdisciplinary study in linguistics, psychology, cultural studies, and ethnology. Students will explore key theoretical frameworks in both micro- and macro-metaphor research, along with their practical applications in translation and the identification of universal cognitive schemas in language-based constructions of reality. Emphasis is placed on developing skills for identifying and analyzing conceptual metaphors and their linguistic manifestations across cultural contexts.

Course content: The study of metaphor from Aristotle to the late XX century; Gianbattista Vico and the role of metaphor in cognition; Ivor Richards and the interaction theory of metaphor; Max Black and the development of interaction theory; Bickerton's multidimensional grid and linguistic studies of metaphor; Michael Reddy: imagination, context, and gestalt in metaphor identification; From semantic anomaly to empirical falsity: structural semantics and metaphor; Macro-studies of metaphor: towards a general theory; Cognitive implications of the structuring power of metaphor; Figurative vs. literal meaning: pragmatic vs. conceptual approaches; The graded salience hypothesis and conceptual integration; Category structure in the unlimited semiosis; Figurative basis of literal meaning: conceptual metaphor theory; Ad hoc categories, prototypes, and radial categories; Metaphor, mythology and culture: cultural models in language.

Teaching and assessment: Teaching is delivered through lectures, seminars, and independent study, supported by online learning platforms. Methods include discussions, presentations, and term projects, with emphasis on analytical and research skills.

Assessment:

- Homework assignments (2 written projects on selected topics) – 25%
- Participation in presentations and discussions – 15%
- Final course project – 35%
- Final test – 25%

Grading follows the Bulgarian six-point system. Students are awarded 3 ECTS credits upon successful completion of the course with a minimum grade of "Satisfactory (3)".

FICTION AND FILM

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: II

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Maria Anastasova PhD,
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
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E-mail: m.anastasova@swu.bg

Course outline: The course is interdisciplinary and is aimed at presenting the art of film adaptation of fiction. It deals with the specifics of the two art media and introduces some basic film studies terminology. The focus is on differentiating between the methods and approaches of film and fiction analysis, considering the uniqueness of the means of expression characteristic of each medium.

Course content: The course is theoretical and its objective is to introduce some of the basic theories of film adaptation. It presents the theoretical toolkit used in film analysis and explores both contemporary and classic screen adaptations of fiction. Students are expected to work with visual materials and film criticism. Comparisons are made between different adaptations of the same literary work in order to trace its metamorphoses across various cinematic interpretations.

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of lectures (including film lectures), 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.

MODERNISM

ECTS credits: 3

Assessment form: continuous assessment

Semester: II

Weekly hours: 2l+0s+4ind.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assistant Professor, Hristo Dimitrov, PhD
Department of Germanic and Romance Studies
tel: +359886512477, hristo_dimitrov@swu.bg

Annotation: This course aims to provide students with basic knowledge of modernism as a literary movement. Its task is twofold: to familiarize students with the historical development of modernism and to introduce them to the basic aesthetic elements that characterize this movement. Attention is paid both to the cultural and historical dynamics of the period and to the intellectual context from which modernism emerged. Students will be introduced to selected works by the most influential and famous modernist authors, including Ezra Pound, T. S. Eliot, W. B. Yeats, William Carlos Williams, James Joyce, Marion Moore, H. D., Robert Frost, and others. Through their works, the course draws attention not only to the diversity of approaches

that each author has introduced into modernism, but also to the critical and aesthetic philosophies that have shaped their work. By the end of the course, students will have developed a deeper understanding of the complexity of modernism, its experimental spirit, and its lasting influence on the evolution of literature.

Course content: The course is structured to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of modernism, combining historical context, aesthetic theory, and in-depth study of literary texts. Students will be introduced to selected works by the most influential modernist writers, as described in the course annotation. Along with these texts, students will gain insight not only into the historical and cultural dynamics that led to the emergence of modernism, but also into the political and intellectual forces that shaped the movement.

Teaching and assessment methodology: Assessment is based on two main tests and class participation. The first is a theoretical test that assesses students' knowledge of the historical formation, key characteristics, and main ideas of modernism. The second test focuses on the analysis of one of the works discussed in class, requiring students to demonstrate their ability to apply their theoretical understanding and critical thinking to a specific text.