



**SOUTH-WEST UNIVERSITY „NEOFIT RILSKI“
FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF BULGARIAN LANGUAGE**

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INFORMATION PACKAGE OF DOCTORAL PROGRAM

SCIENTIFIC FIELD: HUMANITIES

PROFESSIONAL FIELD: 2.1. PHILOLOGY

DOCTORAL PROGRAM: BULGARIAN LANGUAGE

EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC DEGREE: DOCTOR

LEVEL OF NATIONAL QUALIFICATION: 8

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: RESEARCHER (LINGUIST)

DURATION OF STUDY: 3 /three / or 4 /four / YEARS:

**FORM OF STUDY: FULL-TIME / SELF-STUDY
PART-TIME**

LANGUAGE OF STUDY BULGARIAN

Blagoevgrad, 2025

1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE DOCTORAL PROGRAM

The PhD program in Bulgarian Language is designed for graduates holding a Master's degree in the field of Philology (Professional Field 2.1), as well as for graduates from other professional fields who have a demonstrated interest in the area of linguistics.

The duration of the doctoral program is three or four years, and it is offered in full-time, part-time, and independent study modes.

The program encompasses a range of activities, unified by the core aims and specific focus of the doctoral training: (1) educational, (2) research, (3) teaching, and (4) other activities (including administrative and organizational tasks). These activities are structured to ensure that, upon completion, doctoral candidates meet the minimum national requirements set by the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and its Implementing Regulations, as well as the competences outlined at Level 8 of the National Qualifications Framework.

The PhD program in Bulgarian Language allows for specialization based on the doctoral student's research interests within the various branches of linguistic science. In this regard, the program offers specialization options in the following core areas of linguistics: Phonetics and Phonology; Grammar (Morphology and Syntax); Lexicology and Lexicography; Stylistics; Dialectology and Sociolinguistics; History of the Language; Text Linguistics

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE DOCTORAL PROGRAM

The primary goal of the PhD program in Bulgarian Language is to prepare highly qualified specialists capable of pursuing careers across various sectors of public life that require the professional qualification of "Researcher (Linguist)" and the academic degree of "Doctor" in the field of Linguistics, with a specific focus on the Bulgarian language. Such sectors include higher education institutions, research institutes, research centers, cultural and educational institutions, and others.

The program further aims to:

1. Develop skills for conducting scientific research in the field of linguistics (broadly defined), with a particular emphasis on the Bulgarian language;
2. Cultivate the necessary qualities and competencies for performing independent linguistic analysis;
3. Create conditions for the development of teaching skills;
4. Foster the ability to apply research findings in teaching by creating and interpreting new knowledge;
5. Build analytical, synthetic, and evaluative skills in working with scholarly literature and linguistic data;
6. Develop the ability to independently produce scholarly texts in various academic genres (e.g., conference papers, articles, studies, monographs);
7. Promote teamwork skills within the framework of a research project, as well as the ability to independently design and develop a research proposal on a linguistic topic.

3. GENERAL QUALIFICATION AND SPECIALIZATION OF THE PROGRAM

The PhD program in Bulgarian Language allows for specialization based on the doctoral student's individual research interests within the various branches of linguistic science. Accordingly, the program provides specialization options in the core areas of linguistics:

1. Phonetics and Phonology
2. Grammar (Morphology and Syntax)
3. Lexicology and Lexicography

4. Stylistics
5. Dialectology and Sociolinguistics
6. History of the Language
7. Text Linguistics

As part of the educational component, the program includes both compulsory and elective courses. The individual study plan of each doctoral student must include at least four courses: three are mandatory for all students in the program, and one is mandatory but chosen from the options in **Module A**, depending on the specifics of the doctoral research topic.

To further support students with varying academic backgrounds and specialization areas, the program also offers additional **elective courses in Module B**. These are not compulsory and up to two may be selected to complement the doctoral student's academic training.

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates are awarded the **educational and scientific degree of Doctor (PhD)** in the professional field **2.1. Philology**, with a scientific specialty in **Bulgarian Language**, and the professional qualification of **Researcher (Linguist)**.

4. ACQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND COMPETENCES ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATION FRAMEWORK

4.1. Knowledge (Theoretical and/or Factual)

Graduates of the PhD program in Bulgarian Language:

- Possess and apply specialized and systematized knowledge in the field of linguistics, enabling critical analysis and the generation of new ideas;
- Master various research methodologies in linguistics, including philological, comparative-historical, comparative-typological methods, internal reconstruction, and others;
- Demonstrate the ability to expand and transform existing knowledge in linguistics and in its interdisciplinary interactions with related scientific fields;
- Are equipped to conduct original research;
- Possess the skills necessary to engage in inter- and multidisciplinary research projects.

4.2. Skills (Cognitive and/or Practical)

Graduates of the program:

- Are capable of working effectively in teams and addressing complex linguistic problems;
- Efficiently locate, extract, and systematize relevant information from a wide range of linguistic sources;
- Are equipped to resolve critical issues encountered during the research process;
- Develop innovative solutions by combining various methods, strategies, and technologies applied in linguistic research;
- Can present their research findings in written form (e.g., articles, studies, monographs) and orally at linguistic, philological, and interdisciplinary academic forums;
- Are able to translate their original research findings into new linguistic knowledge applicable in teaching contexts.

4.3. Autonomy and Responsibility

Graduates:

- Create and interpret new knowledge through independent research in linguistics;
- Are capable of evaluating the outcomes of their own research critically;
- Demonstrate the ability to broaden the scope of the existing scientific domain through their scholarly contributions.

4.4. Learning Competence

Graduates:

- Show the capacity for systematic acquisition and understanding of large volumes of knowledge, including cutting-edge scientific developments in the field of linguistics;
- Are able to extract essential information from the vast body of existing linguistic research, as well as from their own scientific findings.

4.5. Communication and Social Competences

Graduates:

- Exhibit strong communication skills and the ability to engage effectively with national and international academic and research communities;
- Are capable of integrating into various social environments to collect necessary research data (e.g., during fieldwork, sociolinguistic studies, work with ethnocultural groups or individuals with communicative disorders, etc.).

4.6. Professional Competences

Graduates:

- Have an in-depth understanding of the techniques and tools used in linguistic research;
- Present their ideas and conclusions clearly and effectively to both specialist and non-specialist audiences;
- Possess the capacity to pursue further research in the field at increasingly advanced levels.

5. AREAS OF PROFESSIONAL REALIZATION

Professional Qualification and Career Opportunities

Graduates of the PhD program obtain the professional qualification of **Linguist** (code 2643), which encompasses a range of specializations such as linguist, etymologist, lexicographer, morphologist, phonologist, semanticist, semasiologist, and others.

Holders of a doctoral degree in Bulgarian Language are qualified to pursue professional realization in all sectors of public life where the qualification "**Researcher (Linguist)**" is required. These include, but are not limited to:

- **Higher education institutions** – classified under code 2310 "Higher Education Lecturer";
- **Research institutes and research and development centers** – classified under code 1223 "Research and Development Managers";
- **Cultural and educational institutions**, and other relevant professional domains.

CURRICULUM CONTENT

№	NAME OF ACTIVITIES	Preparation and realisation form			Recognition form
		ECTS Credits	Horarium	lectures, seminars, laboratory exercises, self-study, consultations, participation, other	Exam, current assessment, interview, certificate, report, protocol, endorsement, other
I.	EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY				
1.	Compulsory Course 1 Related to the Dissertation Topic (from Module A)	6.0	180	30 l, 30 s (60 auditory/120 self-preparation)	Exam
2.	Methodological principles of scientific research	5.0	150	30 l / 120 self-preparation	Interview
3.	Project development and management	2.0	60	30 l / 30 self-preparation	Exam
4.	English	2.0	60	15 l, 15 s (30 suditory / 30 self-preparation)	Exam
5.	Elective discipline ¹ (Module B)	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self-preparation	Continuous assessment
6.	Elective discipline (Module B)	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self-preparation	Continuous assessment
	Overall :	15 (minimum)	450 (minimum)		
II.	RESEARCH ACTIVITY				
1.	Literature review	36.0	1080	Supervision meetings, self-preparation	Proof Material
2.	Extraction of Linguistic Material and Thematic Organization of the Cited Sources	18.0	540	Supervision meetings, self-preparation	Proof Material
3.	Design of the Research Framework and Methodological Instruments	5.0	150	Supervision meetings, self-preparation	Supervision meeting
4.	Data Processing and Thematic Systematization of Empirical Evidence	15.0	450	Supervision meetings, self-preparation	Supervision meeting
3.	Scientific forum participation	9.0	270	Research presentation	Certificate

¹ The elective courses provide an additional opportunity for education. Up to two courses may be included in the doctoral students' individual plan at the discretion of the academical supervisor.

4.	Scientific publication	15.0	450	Supervision meetings, self-preparation	Scientific publication
6.	Drafting Parts/Chapters of the Dissertation	50.0	1500	Supervision meetings, self-preparation	Proof Material
8.	Refinement of the Dissertation and Preparation for Presentation to the Bulgarian Language Department	7.0	210	Supervision meetings, self-preparation	Supervision meeting
	Overall :	155	4650		
III. PEDAGOGICAL ACTIVITIES					
1.	Teaching - leading seminar, practical or laboratory exercises	5.0	150	30 s. 30 auditory / 120 self-preparation	Report
2.	Creating Tests for Written Exams	0.5	15	Self-preparation	Test exam
3.	Proofreading written work of students	0.5	15	Self-preparation	Report
4.	Supervision meetings	1.0	30	Supervision meetings	Report
	Overall :	7	210		
IV. OTHER					
1.	Participation in departmental and faculty meetings.	0.5	15		Protocol
2.	Participation and presentation in Department scientific seminars	0.5	15		Report
3.	Participation in organizing committees of conferences	1.0	30		Report
4.	Engagement with Educational and Institutional Documentation; Proctoring Duties	1.0	30		Report
	Overall :	3	90		
	Overall :	180	5400		
V. MODUL A (SPECIALIZED COURSES)					
1.	Comparative Indo-European linguistics	6.0	180	30 l, 30 s (60 auditory / 120 self-preparation)	Exam
2.	Theoretical and experimental methods in Phonetics and Phonology	6.0	180	30 l, 30 s (60 auditory / 120 self-preparation)	Exam
3.	Major grammatical and word-formation categories and types in the Bulgarian language	6.0	180	30 l, 30 s (60 auditory / 120 self-preparation)	Exam
4.	Syntactic structures and categories in the Bulgarian standard language	6.0	180	30 l, 30 s (60 auditory / 120 self-preparation)	Exam
5.	Historical linguistics	6.0	180	30 l, 30 s	Exam

				(60 auditory / 120 self-preparation)	
6.	Lexical semantics of Bulgarian language	6.0	180	30 l, 30 s (60 auditory / 120 self-preparation)	Exam
7.	Main approaches to the study of a dialect's lexical system	6.0	180	30 l, 30 s (60 auditory / 120 self-preparation)	Exam
8.	Rhetoric and functional stylistics	6.0	180	30 l, 30 s (60 auditory / 120 self-preparation)	Exam
9.	Linguistic dimensions of societies	6.0	180	30 l, 30 s (60 auditory / 120 self-preparation)	Exam

V. MODUL B (ELECTIVE DISCIPLINES)					
1.	Characteristics of contemporary media discourse as an object of scholarly research	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment
2.	Statistical methods in linguistic research	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment
3.	Synchronic and diachronic word formation	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment
4.	Presentation and vizualization of research data	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment
5.	Lexical layers in Bulgarian dialects	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment
6.	Slavic palaeography	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment
7.	Mytholinguistic method	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment
8.	Syntactic specifics of informal communication in non-official settings	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment
9.	Proper names in Bulgaria and the Balkans	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment
10.	Genre characteristics of academic communication	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment
11.	Application of modern computer technologies and programs in science	2.5	75	30 l / 45 self preparation	Continuous assessment

**COMPULSORY COURSES RELATED TO THE DISSERTATION TOPIC
(MODULE A) – SPECIALIZED / PROFILING COURSES**

COMPARATIVE INDO-EUROPEAN LINGUISTICS

ECTS credits: 6

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+2s+8sp.

Course status: specialized

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

Course outline:

This course builds on the knowledge of doctoral students from the course "Introduction to General Linguistics", focusing on some problems of Indo-European studies through a detailed presentation of the comparative-historical method. The directions and schools with the most important contributions to the development of this method are examined, as well as the phenomena related to them, in the context of a historical overview of comparative Indo-European linguistics. The main focus is on the languages of the Indo-European language family.

Course content:

Prehistory of comparative linguistics from the 13th to the end of the 18th century. The achievements of Fr. Bopp, R. Rask and J. Grimm as the primary basis for the development of comparative-historical linguistics. Darwinian scientific paradigm in linguistics – the naturalistic model of the family tree of A. Schleicher. The Indo-European proto-language and the Indo-European ancestral homeland – hypotheses and linguistic evidence. External and internal reconstruction. Newtonian scientific paradigm in linguistics – theoretical concepts of young grammarians. Sound laws relating to Slavic languages – Havlik's law, Pedersen's law, Wackernagel's law, etc. Sound laws relating to Germanic languages – Grimm's law, Werner's law, etc. Initial division of the Indo-European proto-language: centum and satem. Laryngeal theory and the Hittite language. Paleo-Balkan languages and their identification.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of a lecture course, seminars and extracurricular activities (independent preparation). Extracurricular activities include: consultations with the teacher, written development of reports and essays on topics with a theoretical and practical focus, development of a project for a conference presentation, etc. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the subject is carried out through an exam.

THEORETICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL METHODS IN PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

ECTS credits: 6

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I - III

Weekly workload: 2l+2s+8sp.

Course status: specialized

Methodological management:

Department of Bulgarian language

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Gergana Padareva, PhD,

Department of Bulgarian language

Phone: +359 73 588 528

E-mail: gerypadareva@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course builds upon doctoral students' existing knowledge of phonetics and phonology by introducing them to both theoretical and experimental methods for analyzing the segmental and suprasegmental systems, as well as the perception of specific speech parameters. The discipline aims to enhance doctoral students' ability to identify and work with phonetic and phonological categories, to navigate relevant methodologies, and to apply them effectively—enabling successful preparation of a dissertation focused on phonetic and/or phonological issues.

Course content:

Phonetics: Articulatory Phonetics, Acoustic Phonetics, Perceptual Phonetics, Experimental Phonetics.

Phonology: Phonetics, Phonemics, Phonological Theories – Generative Phonology, Autosegmental Phonology, Metrical Phonology, Dependency Phonology, among others. Phonological and Phonetic Representation. Interrelations between Phonetics and Phonology. Systematic Phonetics. Segments and Suprasegments. Experimental Studies. Acoustic Measurements.

Teaching and assessment:

The course involves the presentation of theoretical material, supported by illustrative examples, with the aim of facilitating the practical assimilation of theoretical concepts and enabling the application of this knowledge in real-world contexts.

Assessment of students' acquired knowledge in the discipline is carried out through continuous evaluation, active participation in discussions, and the development of a research proposal.

**MAJOR GRAMMATICAL AND WORD-FORMATION CATEGORIES AND TYPES
IN THE BULGARIAN LANGUAGE**

ECTS credits: 6

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I - III

Methodological management:

Weekly workload: 2l+2s+8sp.

Course status: specialized

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

Course outline:

The lecture course builds upon the doctoral students' existing knowledge of the grammatical categories in Standard Bulgarian and introduces them to the specific features of each word-formation category and type, with a focus on mutation structures, transposition structures, and modification structures. The course aims to further develop the doctoral students' skills in conducting comprehensive grammatical analysis and to equip them with the knowledge necessary to identify, analyze, and classify individual word-formation categories and types across the different parts of speech.

Course content:

he Derived Word as an Object of Study. Theoretical Foundations of Word-Formation Research and the Functional Aspect of Word Formation. The Onomasiological Approach in Word-Formation Studies. Key Concepts and Structural Units. The Structure of the Derived Word. Main Word-Formation Methods. The Concept of Word-Formation Formant and Word-Formation Meaning. Formation of Nouns, Adjectives, and Verbs. The Derived Word – Semantics, Semantic Scope, and Synonymy.

Teaching and assessment:

The lectures address pre-defined topics related to specific issues concerning grammatical and word-formation categories in the standard language. The newly acquired knowledge from the lectures is reinforced through practical exercises and tasks during the seminar sessions. The course concludes with a final examination.

**SYNTACTIC STRUCTURES AND CATEGORIES IN THE BULGARIAN
STANDARD LANGUAGE**

ECTS credits: 6

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+2s+8sp.

Course status: specialized

Methodological guidance:

Department of Bulgarian Language
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radoslav Tsonev
Department of Bulgarian Language,
Phone: 073/ 588 523
E-mail: radoslavltsonev@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course builds upon the PhD students' knowledge of syntactic structures and categories in the Bulgarian standard language, the rules by which words combine into phrases and sentences, the syntactic function of words in the sentence, the structural relations within the sentence, the typology of phrases and sentences, the conditions under which sentences acquire a coherent and meaningful structure, their correct usage, intonation, word order, and more. Knowledge of syntactic structures in the Bulgarian standard language has important theoretical significance as it helps to understand the relationship between language and thought, as well as practical application in text construction and in preparing a dissertation devoted to issues of syntax and its categories.

Course content:

Syntax and its subject matter. Definitions and theories of the sentence. Logical theory of the sentence. Psychological theory of the sentence. Formal-grammatical theory of the sentence. Contemporary definitions of the sentence. Main features of the sentence. Predication, modality, intonation, grammatical structuring. Structural representation of the sentence. Phrase. Study of the phrase (constituent grammar). Types of phrases. Types of sentences. Sentence elements. Doubling of syntactic categories. Syntactic parallelism. Word order. Punctuation and syntax. Contemporary theories of the sentence. Theory of binding.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of lectures, seminar sessions, and independent work by the PhD students. Assessment of the acquired knowledge is carried out through continuous assessment and a written examination. The final grade summarizes the examination result (a written paper on a topic from the syllabus), in-class and independent work of the PhD student – consultations with the lecturer, reviewing scientific literature, preparing written tasks and topics (course papers), fieldwork (collecting and processing material), and more.

HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS

ECTS credits: 6**Form of assessment:** exam**Semester:** I – III**Weekly workload:** 2+2s+8sp.**Course status:** specialized**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: llper@swu.bg

Course outline: The lecture course builds on the theoretical knowledge of doctoral students acquired during their bachelor's and master's studies in the disciplines Old Bulgarian Language, History of the Bulgarian Language, History of the Bulgarian Literary Language, and Comparative Grammar of the Slavic Languages. The course traces the history of both spoken and literary Bulgarian from the time it emerged as an independent language (6th

century) to the present day. It examines the outcomes of the transition of Bulgarian from a synthetic to an analytic type, as well as the factors that shaped this development. Special attention is devoted to the position of Bulgarian among the Slavic and Balkan languages. As doctoral students are often required to work with monuments of the South Slavic and East Slavic written traditions, the course also includes topics on the dissemination of different recensions of the Old Bulgarian literary language among other Slavic peoples (Russia, Serbia, etc.) and non-Slavic peoples (Romania). The course discusses the specific features of the history of the literary norm and its relationship to the current state of Bulgarian dialects. Emphasis is placed on historical continuity in the development of both the literary language and the dialects across the entire Bulgarian linguistic territory. Doctoral students are also introduced to the scholarly tradition in historical linguistics, as well as to the main hypotheses regarding disputed issues in the history of Slavic studies.

Course content:

Classical and modern research on the history of the Bulgarian language. Major periods in the history of spoken Bulgarian. Linguistic characteristics of Old Bulgarian (literary language). Bulgarian as a Slavic and as a Balkan language. Linguistic contacts of Bulgarian with other languages. Common Slavic phonetic developments and their reflection in Bulgarian. Evolution of the phonetic system of Bulgarian. Phonetic recensions of the Old Bulgarian literary language in other Slavic and non-Slavic countries. Development of the Bulgarian nominal system (nouns, adjectives, numerals). Development of the Bulgarian pronominal system. Development of the Bulgarian verbal system. Periodization of the history of the Bulgarian literary language (pre-national and national stages). Vernacular-based written language during the Bulgarian Pre-National Revival. Formation of the foundations of the national Bulgarian literary language in the second quarter of the 19th century. Establishment and consolidation of the norms of the national Bulgarian literary language in the third quarter of the 19th century.

Teaching and assessment:

The course consists of lectures, seminar classes, and independent student work. As part of extracurricular activities, doctoral students carry out individual tasks such as bibliographic research, preparation of term papers and essays, and linguistic analyses of texts. Assignments for independent research are always tailored to the topic of the doctoral dissertation. Assessment of students' knowledge in the discipline is conducted through continuous evaluation, based on ongoing performance, and a written examination.

LEXICAL SEMANTICS OF THE BULGARIAN LANGUAGE

ECTS credits: 6

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+2s+8sp

Course status: specialized

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

Course outline:

This discipline contains knowledge about the subject, tasks and structural varieties of lexical semantics in thematic, chronological and areal terms. The terminological apparatus used by Bulgarian lexicology, the types of lexical-semantic relations and the dynamics of their contextual manifestations are clarified. The systematic nature of the vocabulary and its projections in the field of polysemy, synonymy, semantic paradigmatics and taxonomy are clarified. Knowledge is given about the structural models of vocabulary and phraseology, as well as their application in speech.

Course content:

Semantics, semasiology and semiotics. Lexical and grammatical meaning of the word. Semantic structure of the word – seme, sememe and semantheme. Internal form of the word – Frege's triangle. Onomasiological and semasiological approach to studying meaning. Figurative meanings of the word – metaphor and metonymy. Polysemy. Synonyms. Polysemy and homonymy. Antonymy and enantiosemy. Paronymy. Lexicon according to the sphere of use – popular, dialectal, terminological and slang vocabulary. Method of component analysis. Method of case (role) grammar. Cognitive methods.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of a lecture course, seminars and extracurricular activities (independent preparation). Extracurricular activities include: consultations with the teacher, written development of reports and essays on topics with a theoretical and practical focus, development of a project for a conference presentation, etc. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the subject is carried out through an exam.

MAIN APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF A DIALECT'S LEXICAL SYSTEM

ECTS credits: 6

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+2s+8sp

Course status: specialized

Methodological guidance:

Department of Bulgarian Language
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radoslav Tsonev
Department of Bulgarian Language
Phone: 073/ 588 523,
E-mail: radoslavytsonev@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course builds upon the PhD students' knowledge of the dialectal features of the Bulgarian language, focusing on the lexical systems of today's dialects and the ways to study them. The aim of the discipline is to develop skills in distinguishing and analysing groups of lexical items in terms of their thematic diversity, origin, and word-formation features. Knowledge of the

main methods and approaches for studying the lexical system of a dialect has important theoretical and practical applications in preparing a dissertation devoted to dialectological issues.

Course content:

Specific features of dialect vocabulary. Composition of nominative units in terms of structure. Types of dialectisms (phonetic, grammatical, semantic). Distribution of nominative units across lexical systems. Thematic diversity of dialect vocabulary. Classification of single-word nominative units by lexico-grammatical classes. Composition of single-word nominative units from the perspective of origin. Onomasiological characteristics of nominative units. The essence of the onomasiological approach to studying dialect vocabulary. Intra-dialectal types of lexeme configurations. Semasiological characteristics of nominative units. The essence of the semasiological approach to studying dialect vocabulary. Characteristics of nominative units in terms of the nature of their semantic structure.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of lectures, seminars, and independent work of the PhD students. Assessment of the acquired knowledge in the discipline is carried out through continuous assessment and a written examination. The final grade summarizes the examination result (a written paper on a topic from the syllabus), in-class and independent work of the PhD student – consultations with the lecturer, reviewing scientific literature, preparing written tasks and papers (course works), fieldwork (collecting and processing material), and more.

RHETORIC AND FUNCTIONAL STYLISTICS

ECTS: 6

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I-III

Weekly workload: 2l+2s+8sp

Course type: specialized

Methodological management:

Department of Bulgarian language

Faculty of Philology

Lecturer(s):

Assoc. Prof. Bilyana Todorova, PhD

Department of Bulgarian language

Phone: +359 73 588 528

E-mail: bilyanatodorova@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course helps doctoral students' to improve their knowledge of the achievements of ancient rhetoric, known to us from the works of Aristotle, Cicero, and Quintilian, its transformation over the centuries, and the renewed interest in this science in recent decades, linked to the development of public relations, marketing, advertising, and other related sciences. Since rhetoric is essentially the study of persuasion and successful communication, the course focuses on its diverse applications.

The other main part of the lecture course is related to the theory of functional styles, its transformations from the time of the Prague Linguistic School to the present day, the

applicability of this theory today, and the possible adaptation of stylistic differentiation in a digital environment.

Knowledge of the rhetorical devices used and the stylistic specifics of texts is of important theoretical significance because it helps to understand the relationship between language, thinking, and expression, to understand the ways of constructing language structures that are appropriate for the relevant linguistic context, and to successfully analyze texts according to their adequacy to the relevant communicative situation.

At the end of the course, doctoral students are expected to have acquired skills that enable them to easily distinguish between rhetorical devices, tropes, and figures, as well as the characteristics and genre-specific features of functional styles in the Bulgarian language, and to use them in their work.

Course content:

History of rhetoric. Rhetoric in Ancient Greece. Rhetoric in Ancient Rome. Rhetoric in the Middle Ages. Old Bulgarian Rhetoric tradition. History of rhetoric from the Middle Ages to the present day. Rhetoric today. Rhetorical and stylistic figures. Rhetorical and stylistic figures of a phonetic nature. Rhetorical and stylistic figures of a grammatical nature. Rhetorical and stylistic figures of a lexical nature. Phraseology as a source of rhetorical and stylistic usage. Tropes. Types of tropes. Metaphorical and metonymic tropes. Theories of metaphor. Types of metonymic tropes. Humor as a rhetorical and stylistic device. Types of rhetorical and stylistic devices of a humorous nature. Functional styles. History of the theory of functional style division. Formal business style. Academic style. Media style. Literary style. Colloquial style.

Teaching and assessment:

The course includes lectures, seminars, and extracurricular activities. Theoretical knowledge is presented in relation to specific cases in order to approach problems from different perspectives and outline different views and solutions to the theoretical and practical issues under discussion. During the seminars, practical issues are discussed, and rhetorical analysis of texts is performed, examining different language levels. As independent work outside of class, doctoral students must prepare assignments related to the content presented during the classes. The course ends with an exam. During the exam, questions from the syllabus, set by the members of the examination committee, are presented in written form.

LINGUISTIC DIMENSIONS OF SOCIETIES

ECTS credits: 6

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I-III

Weekly workload: 2l+2s.+8sp

Course status: specialized

Methodological guidance:

Departement 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

Ass. Professor Sofiya Mitsova PhD
Departement of Bulgarian Language
Phone: +359 73 588 528
E-mail: sofiamitsova@swu.bg

Course outline:

The lecture course constitutes theoretical part of the program for the discipline. It is focused on clarifying the relationship between language and the society in which it functions. The emphasis is on the interaction between language (particularly its manifestation in individual speech) and members of different types of social groups, in order to highlight the characteristics that define both the society (and its individual members) and its language.

On one hand, language is examined as a variant of a national language. On the other hand, the languages present in societies are also approached from a socio-critical perspective, outlining the different speech situations and variables that influence them, such as the socio-psychological context, cultural environment, political and historical situation. The lecture course emphasizes theoretical frameworks that explore linguistic patterns in societies from various perspectives.

Course topics:

Social structures. Are the concepts “speech community” and “language community” synonymous?

Language and regional variants. Language and social variants.

Language and ethnicity: Linguistic markers; Pidgins and creole languages; Social situation and linguistic situation of ethnic groups.

Language planning and policy.

Youth cultures and linguistic identity.

Language in subcultural societies: Anti-languages. Linguistic characteristics; Anti-languages and social structures; Anti-languages and speech communities.

Language and social class. Restricted and elaborated speech codes: Role systems and codes; Code and social class; Codes and responses.

Language and gender: “Gender” vs. “Sex” (Opposition of the concepts of gender and biological sex); “Male” and “female speech”: Assertions and evidence.

Language and identity: Language variants as a means of self-identification; Language and its variants as tools for socialization.

Language planning and policy. Language management: Language planning; Language policies; Language management.

Language in the online space: Computer-mediated communication; Online and offline communication; Language in social media. Variants and identity.

Course organization and assessment:

The course consists of lectures and independent student work. Out-of-class activities include: consultations with the lecturer, written assignments and topic papers (course projects), fieldwork (collecting and processing material), and more. Assessment of the knowledge acquired in the course is conducted through continuous assessment based on ongoing performance monitoring.

COMPULSORY DISCIPLINES

METHODOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

ECTS credits: 5

Form of assessment: interview

Semester: I-III

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+6sp.

Course status: compulsory

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

Course outline:

This course presents the general methodological principles of scientific research. The proposed course introduces doctoral students to the way in which they can use different methods and approaches in their research. Methodological issues are presented, relating to the practical application of the three main methods in linguistics, as well as a number of other more specific methods. The problem of distinguishing between method and approach is also touched upon.

Course content:

Basic methods in linguistics and their practical application. The comparative-historical method and its practical application. Areal method and its practical application. Structural method and its practical application. Other more specific methods and their practical application. Distinction between method and approach. Diachronic approach and its practical application. Synchronic approach and its practical application. Onomasiological approach and its practical application. Semasiological approach and its practical application.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of a lecture course and extracurricular activities (independent preparation). Extracurricular activities include: consultations with the lecturer, written development of reports and essays on topics with a theoretical and practical focus, etc. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the discipline is carried out through an interview with the doctoral student.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

ECTS credits: 2

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I-III

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+2sp

Course status: Compulsory

Methodological guidance:

Finance and Accountability department

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Ivan Todorov, PhD

Finance and Accountability department

E-mail: ivanK.todorov@swu.bg

Course outline:

The aim of the course Project Preparation and Management is to train highly qualified professionals in the preparation and management of projects at both national and trans-European levels by providing knowledge and skills related to various types of projects and programs.

Course topics:

National and international instruments for supporting projects and programs with different scopes and purposes;

The nature and key characteristics of project management and project team management;

Strategic and tactical decision-making in the context of project management;

Project development and project design in various fields.

Course organization and assessment:

Achievement of the course objectives is assessed through two tests: an entry (diagnostic) test and a final (summative) test.

ENGLISH

ECTS кредити: 2

Form of assessment: exam

Semester: I-III

Weekly workload: 1l + 1s + 2sp

Course status: compulsory

Methodological guidance:

German and Roman studies

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Sakareva, PhD

Department of German and Roman Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528

E-mail: vanyasakareva@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course aims to provide practical training in English language for doctoral students. The focus is on acquiring fundamental knowledge of vocabulary and grammar at lower proficiency levels, and on enhancing and expanding language skills at higher levels of proficiency.

Course topics:

Special emphasis is placed on the development of speaking and listening skills, as well as on mastering the basic principles of academic writing in English. Students also develop skills for preparing presentations, CVs, abstracts, and academic articles in English. The English course for doctoral students includes the following core modules: practical grammar, vocabulary, written exercises, reading and listening comprehension, and conversation.

Depending on the specific needs of learners from different faculties and specializations, the course also incorporates domain-specific vocabulary and exercises in both specialized and general translation.

Course organization and assessment:

The course is typically held annually during the first month after the end of the summer semester. Its duration may vary depending on the formation of groups according to language proficiency levels.

Each student's level is determined by an entry placement test, based on which participants are grouped into beginner, intermediate, or advanced levels, corresponding to A1, A2–B1, and B2–C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The course follows an integrative approach, where the acquisition of new knowledge and skills is based on the development of the four main language competencies: reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

MODUL B (ELECTIVE DISCIPLINES)

CHARACTERISTICS OF CONTEMPORARY MEDIA DISCOURSE AS AN OBJECT OF SCHOLARLY RESEARCH

ECTS credits: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I - III

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+3sp.

Course status: elective

Language of teaching: Bulgarian

Methodological management:

Department of Bulgarian language

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Gergana Padareva, PhD,

Department of Bulgarian language

Phone: +359 73 588 528

E-mail: gerypadareva@swu.bg

Course outline:

Media discourse has attracted scholarly interest for several reasons. Due to its evolving characteristics in recent decades and the media's increasing tendency to approximate everyday communication, a hybrid form of discourse has emerged—combining both formal and informal registers, the latter displaying all the features of colloquial speech. Thus, media discourse can be studied not only in its own right but also as a means of examining certain aspects of informal, everyday communication. Moreover, the media offer a rich diversity of genres and communicative forms. These features invite linguistic research across multiple levels—phonetic, morphological, syntactic, and lexical—as well as interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary studies.

Course content:

Contemporary Bulgarian Media and Media Communication. Regional and National Media. Electronic, Print, and Online Media. Genre Diversity. Media Discourse. Key Features. Linguistic Analysis of Media Discourse Across Different Levels. Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary Research on Media Language.

Teaching and assessment:

The course involves the presentation of theoretical material, supported by illustrative examples, with the aim of facilitating the practical assimilation of theoretical concepts and enabling the application of this knowledge in real-world contexts.

Assessment of students' acquired knowledge in the discipline is carried out through continuous evaluation, active participation in discussions, and the development of a research proposal focused on media discourse.

STATISTICAL METHODS IN LINGUISTIC RESEARCH

ECTS credits: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I - III

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+3sp.

Course status: elective

Language of teaching: Bulgarian

Methodological management:

Department of Informatics

Faculty of Mathematics

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Elena Karashtranova, PhD,

Department of Informatics

Phone: +359 73 588 528

E-mail: helen@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course aims to introduce students to fundamental statistical procedures and their application in contemporary linguistics;

- to familiarize students with key models used in linguistic research;
- to enhance students' proficiency in using modern information technologies.

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of basic statistical procedures and their applications in linguistic research;

– apply fundamental statistical methods and interpret the results of linguistic studies.

Course content: Organization and implementation of linguostatistical experiments. Data collection and representation. Data grouping. Descriptive statistics. Analysis of dependencies. Correlation analysis. Statistical significance of correlation coefficients. Contingency tables. Chi-square analysis. Rank correlation. Comparison of empirical and theoretical distributions. Statistical significance. Confidence intervals for proportions. Non-parametric statistical methods and their applications. Sign test and Wilcoxon test. Median test. Kolmogorov–Smirnov test. Kendall's coefficient. Similarity coefficient. Data scaling. Types of scales. Models of linguostatistical research

Teaching and assessment:

In the lecture course, the instructor presents the theoretical foundations of the various topics and illustrates their application in contemporary linguistics. During the sessions, students engage in guided discussions and apply the acquired knowledge using a selected system. Over the course of the semester, students are required to prepare a term paper on an assigned topic.

SYNCHRONIC AND DIACHRONIC WORD FORMATION

ECTS credits: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2+0s+3sp.

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Bulgarian Language

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Lachezar Perchevski, PhD

Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone. +359 73 588 528

E-mail: llper@swu.bg

Course outline:

This lecture course builds on the theoretical knowledge that doctoral students acquire during their bachelor's and master's studies in Morphology and Lexicology, where word formation is usually treated either as a combination of morphemes or as the creation of new lexical items through the addition of various affixes. The course expands students' understanding of the two main approaches to word formation: (1) the synchronic and (2) the diachronic (etymological) method. Synchronic word formation was established as a separate field of study in the 1960s by the Czech linguist Miloš Dokulil. He defined it as a type of lexical morphology, since it stands at the boundary between lexicology and morphology. In practice, the synchronic method can also be applied to texts from earlier periods, where word-formational material is studied in connection with all lexical items attested within a given stage of the language. The diachronic method, on the other hand, allows doctoral students to apply and further develop their knowledge gained in Old Bulgarian, History of the Bulgarian Language, and Comparative Grammar of the Slavic Languages. Etymological analysis helps researchers uncover the inner structure of words and their original meanings, which are often obscured over time by different degrees of lexicalization.

Course content:

Word formation as a discipline. Scholarly tradition and new theories. Major studies in the field of word formation. Word formation within morphology. Word formation within lexicology. Synchronic word formation (lexical morphology). Terminology of lexical morphology. Types of word-formation processes (mutation, conversion, modification). Diachronic word formation (etymological analysis). Features of the comparative-historical method. Discovering the inner form of words.

Teaching and assessment:

The course is taught through lectures and independent student work. As part of their extracurricular activities, doctoral students complete individual tasks such as bibliographic research, preparation of term papers and essays, and linguistic analyses of texts. Assignments for independent research are always aligned with the topic of the doctoral dissertation. Assessment of students' knowledge is carried out through continuous evaluation, based on their performance in ongoing tasks.

PRESENTATION AND VIZUALIZATION OF RESEARCH DATA

ECTS credits: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I – III

Schedule: 2l+0s+3sp.

Course status: elective

Methodological guidance:

Departement of Bulgarian language

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Professor Dr. Radoslav Tsonev,

Departement of Bulgarian Language

Phone: +359 73 588 528,

E-mail: radoslavytsonev@swu.bg

Ass. Professor Sofiya Mitsova,

Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone: +359 73 588 528,

E-mail: sofiमितsova@swu.bg

Course outline:

The lecture course provides both theoretical and practical training for the successful presentation of scientific work. The focus is on the communicative, multimedia, and organizational aspects involved in the preparation and delivery of presentations before an academic audience, as an integral part of the overall philological research process. During the course, both traditional and multimedia tools are employed, and through the analysis of sample scientific presentations, theoretical and practical competencies for effective academic presentation are reinforced.

The aim of the discipline is to enrich and enhance the knowledge and skills of doctoral philology students in mastering the competencies required for presenting scientific research to an academic audience. Doctoral students plan and prepare presentations based on the analysis of the scientific interests and expectations of their audience. They also develop a presentation plan and script, assess the balance between text and visual elements, and design slide or poster structures to maximize impact on the audience.

Expected outcomes: Doctoral students will acquire fundamental knowledge and skills regarding the most important principles, norms, and rules applied in written, oral, multimedia, video, and combined presentations. Graduates of the course will be able to successfully conduct oral, written, multimedia, and online presentations of their research, participate effectively in academic discussions, and articulate reasoned positions. Furthermore, doctoral students will learn to competently use specialized scientific terminology characteristic of oral academic communication.

Course topics:

The nature of presentations; types of presentations; Elements of academic presentations; Presenter and audience: communicative connection and perceptual characteristics; Preparation for presenting: audience analysis, structuring the presentation, researching scientific material, and constructing the presentation; Presentation formats; Technical preparation and organizational aspects; Technological aspects of presentations: use of specialized software, content structuring; Communicative strategies for successful presenting

Course organization and assessment:

The course consists of lectures and independent student work. Out-of-class activities include: consultations with the lecturer, written assignments and topic papers (course projects), fieldwork (collecting and processing material), and more. Assessment of the knowledge acquired in the course is conducted through continuous assessment based on ongoing performance monitoring.

LEXICAL LAYERS IN BULGARIAN DIALECTS

ECTS credits: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+3sp

Course status: elective

Methodological guidance:

Department of Bulgarian Language

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radoslav Tsonev

Department of Bulgarian Language,

Phone: 073/ 588 523

E-mail: radoslavytsonev@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course provides PhD students with knowledge about the specific features of the vocabulary in Bulgarian dialects in terms of their lexical layers. The aim of the discipline is to enrich and

improve the knowledge and skills of PhD students in philology regarding the nature of vocabulary in Bulgarian dialects, enabling them to easily distinguish lexical units according to their origin, to master and competently use the specific scientific terminology characteristic of oral (dialectal) communication.

Course content:

The genesis of the Bulgarian people and the emergence of the Bulgarian language. Old Bulgarian – the classical language of the Slavs. Bulgarian historical lexicology. Ancient folk words. The concepts of substrate, superstrate (hyperstrate) and adstrate in linguistics. Native vocabulary in contemporary Bulgarian dialects. Vocabulary of Proto-Slavic origin. Proto-Bulgarian words. Old Bulgarian words. Vocabulary from related languages in contemporary Bulgarian dialects. Vocabulary from unrelated languages in contemporary dialects: vocabulary from/through Turkish, vocabulary from unrelated Balkan languages, vocabulary from classical languages, vocabulary from Western languages.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of lectures and independent work by the PhD students. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the discipline is carried out through continuous assessment. The continuous assessment summarizes the results of in-class and independent work of the PhD student. The main evaluation criteria include participation during lectures (on pre-assigned topics related to the specific features of lexical layers in Bulgarian dialects and others), timely submission of assignments for independent preparation (developing a conference presentation project, collecting and processing linguistic material, publishing an article related to the dissertation topic, etc.).

SLAVIC PALAEOGRAPHY

ECTS credits: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2+0s+3sp.

Course status: elective

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: llper@swu.bg

Course outline:

Palaeography (from Greek παλαιός ‘old’ and γράφειν ‘to write’) is the study of ancient writing. It focuses not only on reading, describing, and dating old manuscripts, but also on their distinctive physical and stylistic features. This lecture course traces the history of the Glagolitic and Cyrillic scripts as used in the Bulgarian language. It examines both the alphabetic inventory and the graphic forms of the letters in these two writing systems. In the development of Cyrillic, attention is given to the different types of script/handwriting (uncial, semi-uncial, cursive) and

their stylistic variations. In addition to writing itself, the course also considers the materials and tools used for writing, as well as methods and criteria for dating manuscripts. The course builds on the theoretical knowledge that doctoral students acquire in their bachelor's and master's studies in Old Bulgarian and History of the Bulgarian Language, where palaeography is only marginally covered due to the focus and aims of those disciplines.

Course content:

Palaeography as a discipline. Key works in palaeography and codicology. The origins of Old Bulgarian writing. Old Bulgarian graphic systems (Glagolitic and Cyrillic). Development of Glagolitic script. Development of Cyrillic script. Types of script/handwriting (uncial, semi-uncial, cursive). Types of manuscripts according to the material used. Writing tools and instruments. Decoration of medieval manuscripts (initials, ornamental headings, miniatures, etc.). Marginal notes and additions in medieval Bulgarian/Slavic manuscripts (pagination, marginalia, colophons, etc.). Linguistic and orthographic features of old Bulgarian manuscripts. Dating medieval Bulgarian/Slavic manuscripts. Watermarks on paper.

Teaching and assessment:

The course is taught through lectures and independent student work. As part of their extracurricular activities, doctoral students complete individual tasks such as bibliographic research, preparation of term papers and essays, and linguistic analyses of texts. Assignments for independent research are always tailored to the topic of the doctoral dissertation. Assessment of the knowledge acquired in the course is carried out through continuous evaluation, based on performance in ongoing tasks.

MYTHOLINGUISTIC METHOD

ECTS credits: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+3sp.

Course status: elective

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

Course outline:

This course presents the general issues outlining the essence of the discipline "Mytholinguistics", clarifying the terminology used, and presenting the main theoretical achievements in existing research on the intersections between mythology and language. The proposed course introduces doctoral students to the reflection of the mythological consciousness of the ethnos in language and the formation of the method of the new science of mytholinguistics. The method of the science of mytholinguistics with its two models is presented. The main theses and more specific topics are developed on the basis of material

from the Bulgarian language, Slavic and Balkan languages, and in a more general sense - in comparison with a number of other Indo-European languages.

Course content:

Essence of comparative mythology. Specificity of mythological knowledge and types of myths. Prehistory of mytholinguistics – main ideological trends and researchers seeking the connection between mythology and language. Main features and specificity of mythological thinking. Comparison with logical thinking. Characteristics of the cosmic model of the world among Indo-Europeans. Vertical and horizontal cosmic models with their codes and symbols. The connection between language, ethnicity, culture and mythology. Theory of linguistic relativity. Specificity of the Bulgarian mythological worldview. Distinguishing mythological-religious beliefs from rational-everyday representations. Method of mytholinguistics – essence of the two mytholinguistic models. Implementations of the first mytholinguistic model in theonyms. Mytholinguistic model in the nomination of Indo-European zoonyms. Application of the second mytholinguistic model in the names of the weasel. Implementations of the second mytholinguistic model in the names of some chthonic animals. Application of the mytholinguistic method in the names of colors.

Teaching and assessment:

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

SYNTACTIC SPECIFICS OF INFORMAL COMMUNICATION IN NON-OFFICIAL SETTINGS

ECTS credits: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+3sp

Course status: elective

Methodological guidance:

Department of Bulgarian Language
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radoslav Tsonev
Department of Bulgarian Language,
Phone: 073/ 588 523
E-mail: radoslavltsonev@swu.bg

Course outline:

The aim of the course is to enrich and enhance the knowledge and skills of PhD students in philology regarding Bulgarian syntax, as compulsory syntax courses at the Bachelor's and Master's levels focus mainly on standard language issues. The course provides PhD students with knowledge of the syntax of informal communication in non-official settings, which is

characterized by expressiveness, spontaneity, strong subjectivity, insufficiently prepared utterances, informality, strong dependence on context, absence of rigid etiquette, predominantly everyday thematic content, and increased activity of paralinguistic factors (facial expressions, gestures), etc. These features of informal communication provoke the realization of two main contradictory tendencies at the phonetic, morphological, syntactic, textual, and lexical levels: a) a tendency to shorten utterances (realized through omissions, interruptions, etc.) and b) a tendency to repeat parts of the utterance through doubling, accumulation of new elements, etc.

Course content:

Bulgarian colloquial speech – essential features. Features of the syntax of Bulgarian colloquial speech. Main syntactic concepts used in research on colloquial speech. Symbols for transcribing colloquial speech. Word order in colloquial speech. Syntactic frame constructions in Bulgarian colloquial speech. Constructions with elided elements. The phenomenon of competition in language and competition in Bulgarian. Colloquial coordinating conjunctions in Bulgarian oral communication. Competition between the copulative conjunctions *ta* and *pa* in Bulgarian colloquial speech. Competition between adversative (contrastive) conjunctions *ama*, *ami*, and *pŭk* in Bulgarian colloquial speech. Competition between correlative (disjunctive) conjunctions *tu-tu*, *khem-khem*, and *ya-ya* in Bulgarian colloquial speech. Competition between parataxis and hypotaxis in Bulgarian colloquial speech. Utterances that are coordinative in form but may be subordinative in function. Asyndetic (conjunctionless) constructions.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of lectures and independent work by the PhD students. Assessment of the acquired knowledge is carried out through continuous assessment. The continuous assessment summarizes the results of in-class and independent work of the PhD student – consultations with the lecturer, reviewing scientific literature, preparing written tasks and topics (course papers), fieldwork (collecting and processing material), and more.

PROPER NAMES IN BULGARIA AND THE BALKANS

ECTS credits: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+3sp

Course status: elective

Methodological guidance:

Department of Bulgarian Language
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radoslav Tsonev, Department of Bulgarian Language,
tel. 073/ 588 523, radoslavytsonev@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course provides PhD students with knowledge related to proper names in Bulgaria and the Balkans, within the framework of linguistic diachrony and in the context of ethnolinguistic contacts in Southeastern Europe. Some issues of language policy in the field of anthroponymy

are also included. The course aims to familiarize PhD students with the main hypotheses regarding the origin of proper names, to enable them to distinguish features of the Balkan toponymic, anthroponymic, and related systems, and to master and competently use the specific scientific terminology characteristic of the discipline.

Course content:

Onomastics as a scientific discipline. Problems of the general theory. Specifics of Balkan onomastics – main historical layers. Issues of the pre-Indo-European – Mediterranean layer. Hypotheses. Pelasgian hypothesis of Georgiev. Evidence and critiques. Georgiev's method and its significance for global linguistics. General characteristics of the Indo-European onomastic system – reconstructions. Toponymic suffixes and anthroponymic models. Paleo-Balkan onomastics. Thracian toponymic layer. Thracian language – Thracian language complex. Daco-Moesian component in toponymy – hypotheses and evidence. Illyrian component: anthroponymic and toponymic. Heritage. Helleno-Macedonian component in toponymy. Certification of Greek loans in toponymy. General characteristics of Slavic toponymic heritage. General characteristics of Slavic anthroponymic heritage. Certification of Slavic toponymic heritage. Area of Bulgarian toponyms. Christian layer in toponymy and anthroponymy. Language policies in onomastics.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of lectures and independent work by the PhD students. Assessment of the acquired knowledge is carried out through continuous assessment. The continuous assessment summarizes the results of in-class and independent work of the PhD student. The main evaluation criteria include participation during lectures (on pre-assigned topics related to specific problems in the field of Balkan onomastics, etc.) and timely submission of assignments for independent preparation (developing a conference presentation project, collecting and processing linguistic material, publishing an article related to the dissertation topic, etc.).

GENRE CHARACTERISTICS OF ACADEMIC COMMUNICATION

ECTS: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I-III

Weekly workload: 2+0s+3sp

Course type: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Bulgarian Language

Faculty of Philology

Lecturer(s):

Assoc. Prof. Bilyana Todorova, PhD

Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone+359 73 588 528

E-mail: bilyanatodorova@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course is designed to equip doctoral students with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand the specific features of academic communication, its genre distinctions, and the particular characteristics of various types of texts within scientific discourse. As members of

the academic community, doctoral students are expected to develop a deep and comprehensive understanding of the nature and conventions of scholarly communication.

To that end, the course explores both the general features of academic discourse and the distinctive traits of its individual genre both written and oral.

By the end of the course, doctoral students are expected to be able to clearly identify and differentiate between the genres of academic communication, as well as competently comprehend and produce texts across a range of these genres.

Course content:

Academic communication. Foundations. Scientific vs pseudoscientific communication. Types of academic communication. Oral and written forms. Monologic and dialogic genres. Academic communication in real and virtual environments. Linguistic features of academic communication. Scientific style: characteristics and genres. Overview of academic communication and the main features of scientific style. Genres of written academic communication. Abstract. Purpose and function of abstracts. Structural and stylistic specifics. Guidelines for preparing an abstract. Coursework. Role of coursework in academic discourse. Specific features and structure. Writing and formatting requirements. Academic essay. Defining the academic essay. Key characteristics and structure. Stages of developing an academic essay. Bachelor's and master's thesis. Characteristics and requirements. Preparation and defense of a diploma project. Review of an Academic Text. Types of reviews (articles, books, theses, etc.). Specifics of structure, content, and evaluation criteria. Article. Preparation and planning. Stages of writing an academic article. Structural elements: title, abstract, introduction, methodology, results, discussion, conclusion. Scientific report. Purpose and structure of a scientific report. Guidelines for preparation and presentation. Academic Referencing and Ethics. Compiling a bibliography. Citation norms and academic standards. Plagiarism: forms, risks, and prevention. Genres of Oral Academic Communication. Lecture. Features of lectures as an academic genre. Differences between live and digital lectures. Language, structure, and delivery techniques. Seminars and Practical Exercises. Preparing for participation and leading discussions. Interactive and dialogic elements. Structuring seminar contributions. Scientific Conferences and Congresses. Preparing for academic events. Scientific presentations and posters. Adapting content for digital environments. Round Table Discussions. Preparation and participation strategies. Developing presentations, posters, or oral contributions. Engaging in real-time and virtual formats. The role of artificial intelligence in academic communication. Academic integrity and ethical standards in the digital age

Teaching and assessment:

The course consists of lectures and independent PhD student's work. Independent activities include: consultations with the lecturer, developing a project for a conference presentation, collecting and processing bibliographic data, publishing an article/articles related to the topic of the dissertation, etc. Assessment is continuous and is based on ongoing monitoring during the term.

APPLICATION OF MODERN COMPUTER TECHNOLOGIES AND PROGRAMS IN SCIENCE

ECTS credits: 2,5

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+0s+3sp

Course status: elective

Methodological guidance:

Department of Bulgarian Language
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radoslav Tsonev
Department of Bulgarian Language
Phone: 073/ 588 523
E-mail: radoslavytsonev@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course provides PhD students with knowledge of how to apply modern electronic technologies (print and electronic media, computer programs, multimedia, etc.) in research and teaching. PhD students become familiar with recommended scientific literature and search for other reliable and high-quality sources of information on the topic from the Internet or national and international libraries. They develop and present various types of visual materials – graphs, tables, figures, statistical data; collect, process, and analyze linguistic material using modern computer programs and applications, etc. The main aim of the course is to train PhD students to apply current technological tools in their work (in research, teaching, media, public institutions, etc.).

Course content:

Traditional audio-visual technical tools. Modern information technologies in education. Sound illustrations. Visual illustrations. Electronic books, textbooks, and teaching aids. Multimedia. Working with Windows and its applications. Working with computer word-processing programs running under Windows. Computer programs for creating multimedia applications (PowerPoint). Computer programs for creating multimedia applications (Adobe). Presentation. Interactive multimedia. Internet resources. Computer-based tests. Application of didactic testing in schools.

Teaching and assessment:

The training consists of lectures and independent work by the PhD students. Assessment of the acquired knowledge is carried out through continuous assessment. The final grade summarizes the results of both in-class and independent work of the PhD student. The main evaluation criteria include participation during lectures (on pre-assigned topics related to specific issues in applying modern computer technologies and programs in research, etc.), timely submission of assignments for independent preparation (developing a conference presentation project, analyzing and processing linguistic material with the help of electronic programs and applications, publishing an article related to the dissertation topic, etc.).

2025

Assoc. Prof. Gergana Padareva-Ilieva, PhD
Head of the Bulgarian language department