



FACULTY OF E-LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND HUMANITIES

Please note! This is a preliminary list of courses for the study year 2016/2017. Changes may occur!

AUTUMN 2016 BACHELOR COURSES

VIL167 Introduction to Linguistics

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

The content of subject: In the lectures and seminars the essence of language is considered, as well as its structure and functioning, the origin and development of language, the diversity of world languages, their classification and methods of research.

HVD118 English Speaking Countries (Part 1)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

Geography, history, culture, traditions, holidays, political and economic situation, applied information on customs and way of life in the USA and UK are covered within the framework of the course. Students complete oral and written tasks. Students work individually, in pairs, in groups, present their achievements to their colleagues. Regular work with different tasks; individual, independent work with the textbooks; analysis of the new material. Students discuss situations in any sphere of life, compare processes and problems in the USA, Europe and Latvia. Discussions, reports and essays on the course topics.

VIA161 Analytical Reading (Part 1)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

The course provides extensive reading and text analysis of professional literature in engineering, culture, economics, etc. Integration of communicative situations to master different skills of work with a text as well as professional situations thereby modelling students' professional activity.

HVD144 Basic Grammar Course (Part 1)

3.00 CP (4.5 ECTS)

Acquisition of basic English grammar skills by applying them in written and oral speech (in reports, conversations, summaries, essays). Knowledge of English grammar is acquired through the study of theory and practical drills.

HVD123 Functional Communication (Part 1)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

Development of student's skills in speaking and making presentations on professional subjects at conferences. Communication in a foreign language at a conversational level. The content of the course includes developing competence in spoken business language. Presentations are made on the following subjects: professional, economic, cultural, and historical issues.

VIA151 Introduction to Translation Theory

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

The course aims at familiarizing students with theoretical fundamentals of translation theory; introduction of the basic concepts of translation, which also involves the application of these to

authentic translation assignments. The course provides opportunity to analyse and study the characteristic features of operational languages (Latvians, Russian, English, German), provides knowledge of culture, competence in the communicative aspects of translation, knowledge of language for special purposes, as well as knowledge of translation theory and linguistics.

VIA203 Machine Translation (Basics of Computer Translation)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

Students study stylistic, semantic and other features of informative, descriptive, evaluative texts on the theme "Machine Translation". Within the framework of the course students translate texts in various special fields aimed at different target groups (young adults, students, non-specialists, people interested in the field). They analyse communicative situations in the written form, examine mistakes in machine translated texts. Students present their portfolios, ask and answer questions of various degrees of complexity, work in pairs and groups evaluating personal and other students' performance.

VIA310 Development of Listening Comprehension Skills (Part 1)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

Development of speaking, reading, and listening skills. Situational communicative, pseudo-professional and professional communicative situations are used to develop listening skills in the English language. Students study definite issues developing oral and written speech, as well as listening skills. Discussion topics: professional, popular scientific, social economic, scientific technical issues. Practical classes based on various tests, communicative – situational tasks, pair / group work, discussions, denotative graphs (logical schemes of the text), brainstorming, regular listening practice, etc.

VIA165 Practice in Consecutive Interpreting (Part 1)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

Students get acquainted with the course of Consecutive Interpretation, its aim and specific character of consecutive interpreting as well as with the work of an interpreter. They acquire the note-taking technique, perform different tasks, participate in role-plays and interpret simulated seminars, conferences, etc. Communicative and interactive study method. Independent and responsible learning, cooperative learning. Pair work at practical classes.

VIA164 Translation of Specialization Texts (Part 1)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

Students read and analyse the source text (ST) paying attention to the following translational categories: topic (the place and the year of publishing of the ST, the publishing house, formal features of the ST, specific features of language pairs; composition of the ST, status of the ST); semantics (word meaning, synonymy, polysemy, idiomatic meaning, functions of a linguistic sign, connotations, associations); lexis (terminology); pragmatics (the function of the target text (TT), translation tasks, the recipient, cross-cultural differences), and stylistics (the style of the ST, stylistic analysis, syntax, functional styles, cohesion etc.). Students learn to determine the text type of the ST, identify translation problems and solve them, develop translation strategies, and select appropriate translation methods. Students work with dictionaries, glossaries and other reference literature. They translate the text, revise and assess the translation editing it if necessary.

VIA166 Political and Economical System of English Speaking Countries

3.00 CP (4.5 ECTS)

The course aims at providing students with information and extending their knowledge on political and economic systems of English speaking countries, UK in particular. Simulations, role plays and case studies are used so as to develop students' communicative skills in English. To develop reading and listening skills students are provided with a definite amount of authentic texts for reading and a list of special topics for speaking practice and listening comprehension. Practical classes using pair/group work, discussions, reports, denotative graphs (Mind Mapping), brainstorming, etc. Topics discussed: Structure of governments, parliament, electoral and party systems, media, major sectors of economy, etc.

VIA170 Terminology of Business and Law

3.00 CP (4.5 ECTS)

On completion of the course, participants will have enhanced their knowledge of international business and legal systems and have developed their ability to use English language effectively in a professional, business, legal and social context. In addition, students will have developed an extensive range of appropriate English language skills, as well as having produced a very useful portfolio of commercial correspondence and written work. Language skills are developed through many stimulating, realistic communicative activities. Translation languages: English-Russian, Russian-English.

MASTER COURSES

VIA603 Theoretical Linguistics *(graduate)*

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

The course is designed as a one-semester course for Master Programme students. This means that there will be 16 classes of two hours each. The course presupposes a full command of English, the revision of the key concepts in the field of Theoretical Linguistics. This subject examines the ways in which languages change over time, and the techniques used to infer what these changes have been. As the nature of the translator's profession requires constant enhancement of broad general knowledge while focusing on new technical terminology and specialized information associated with a narrow field or a particular subject matter, the Master Programme in Theoretical Linguistics is designed as an academic qualification for prospective or practicing professional translators.

VIA602 Main Concepts of Translation Theory *(graduate)*

3.00 CP (4.5 ECTS)

This course consists of a series of lectures and seminars which deal with selected topics in translation theory and provide a forum for students to conduct critical discussions. The course Readings will be assigned for the theoretical component of the course. Articles and handouts should be read in advance for class discussions.

Throughout the course, the students are encouraged to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject as well as to undertake independent reading both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught.

Students develop their competence in Translation Theory they acquired during the Bachelor studies. Case studies and discussion of translation problems help students to improve their professional performance. The course provides students with the survey of literature on Translation Studies promoting further reading on the subject.

VIA607 Translation of Texts in the Special Field - Part I *(graduate)*

3.00 CP (4.5 ECTS)

The students translate authentic texts in English and native languages, focusing on the type of the text, its structure, function, target readership, style, etc. The students work individually, in groups, consult with the tutor. While translating and analyzing the translated text the students pay special attention to the semantic, lexical, stylistic features of the source text, bear in mind the aspect of pragmatics. They translate the text, revise and assess the translation editing it if necessary. The students enrich the stock of professional terminology, using bilingual, explanatory and electronic dictionaries. Illustrative and explanatory teaching method. Individual, pair and group work at practical classes solving and discussing the problems, posed by the lecturer, making conclusions, checking and evaluating the achieved result.

VIA605 Modern Methods of Text Analysis *(graduate)*

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

This course provides students with a necessary knowledge and skills of text analysis (discourse/register/genre analysis). The course consists of lectures, seminars and workshops in the following areas: study of discourse/register/genre theory; an examination of text analysis tools based on discourse/ register/genre theory; discussion of strategies for reading and writing based on functional grammar and discourse/register/genre theory; modern computer- and corpus-based text analysis tools.

VIA611 Semantics and Pragmatics in Translation (*graduate*)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

The first part of the course deals with meaning in language ranging from words to texts. The second part gives insights into theories of language use, particularly the part of pragmatics. It is explored to what degree meaning of a word depends on linguistic, conceptual, or contextual knowledge. The course will cover: (1) various approaches to the interpretation of various theories in the fields of Semantics and Pragmatics, (2) the principles of pragmatic and semantic analyses of selected scientific technical texts. The course content is based on appropriate examples from the translations of professional literature. Acquisition of the course is through a combination of lectures and guided seminars. Throughout the course, the students are encouraged to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject as well as to undertake independent reading both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught.

VIA617 Advanced Course in the Second Language (the Spanish language) - Part I (*graduate*)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

Students perform various activities in accordance with the aims and the objectives of the course: they read and translate adapted and authentic texts, make dialogues, take part in discussions, listen to study and authentic records, write essays, letters and other written works, search for the information using the Internet resources in the Spanish language.

VIA618 Advanced Course in the Second Language (the German Language)- Part I (*graduate*)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

Students read, analyze, translate and interpret, summarize the texts in oral and written form. They perform various communicative activities; discuss the topics in accordance with the curriculum of the course. They listen to recordings performing listening comprehension tasks. Communicative, research and problem-solving methods of teaching. Independent, pair and group work at practical classes consolidating the theoretical knowledge, solving problems, posed by the lecturer, and evaluating the achieved result. Master students should demonstrate their theoretical and creative competences analysing and translating texts, interpreting the content of the texts, and summarising information. During the semester students pass 2 written tests on the material covered, write test translations, submit translation portfolios with translations of the texts in the selected technical field (15,000 printed signs in two semesters) and glossaries of professional terminology. At the end of the first semester students pass a credit test, at the end of the second semester students sit an exam.

VIA615 Consecutive Translation (Practical Classes) (*graduate*)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

The aims of the course: To develop the existing skills and to form new systematic skills of listening comprehension, multi-tasking and note-taking in consecutive interpreting; To teach students to identify and solve various translation problems applying new translation methods; To provide students with the opportunity to increase personal professional competence in consecutive interpreting. The course aims at developing of systematic skills of listening comprehension, multi-tasking and note-taking. Students are trained to identify, reformulate and summarize the main ideas, to use contemporary technical tools, i.e. to acquire complex interpreter's communicative skills.

VIA604 Scientific Writing (*graduate*)

2.00 CP (3.0 ECTS)

The aim of the course: to study characteristic features of scientific style: syntactic, morphological, terminological; to study the forms of scientific expression: referencing, writing annotations, quoting, cross-referencing; to develop the skills of organising academic texts: introduction, theoretical part, practical part, conclusion, theses, bibliography and appendices. Objectives of the course are: 1. to develop strategies for selecting a topic for scientific research that corresponds to individual interests and competences; 2. to develop strategies for stating a hypothesis, the aims and tasks of a scientific research; 3. to acquire strategies for selecting relevant reference liter.