



## RTU Course "Introduction to Translation Theory"

01A01 Speciālā lietojuma valodu katedra

### General data

Code	VIA151
Course title	Introduction to Translation Theory
Course status in the programme	Compulsory/Courses of Limited Choice
Course level	Undergraduate Studies
Course type	Professional
Field of study	Languages
Responsible instructor	Larisa Iljinska
Academic staff	Tatjana Smirnova
Volume of the course: parts and credits points	1 part, 2.0 Credit Points, 3.0 ECTS credits
Language of instruction	LV, EN
Possibility of distance learning	Not planned
Abstract	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 analyze 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.
Goals and objectives of the course in terms of competences and skills	Aims and objectives of the course: -to provide an academic (professional) qualification for those intending to take up careers as professional translators working in a broad range of fields such as business, commerce, science and technology, etc.; -to acquire the necessary theoretical and practical background knowledge about different concepts of the theory of translation; -to consider the impact of modern linguistics on theoretical and practical aspects of interlingual translation and/or interpretation: the concept of meaning in translation, equivalence and the debates around the concept of equivalence.
Structure and tasks of independent studies	Independent selection and research of theoretical literature.
Recommended literature	1.Baker M. (2009) In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation, Routledge, GB 2.Baker M. (2005) The Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies, Routledge, GB 3.Baldunčiks J (2005) Tulkotāju viltusdraugu problēma: no vārdiem pie darbiem, VVA, Rīga 4.Bell R. (1991) Translation and Translating: Theory and Practice, Longman 5.Chesterman A. (1999) Translation Typology, The Second Riga Symposium on Pragmatic Aspects of Translation, Riga: LU 6.Cronin M. (2004) Translation and Globalization, Routledge, GB 7.Hatim B. (2001) Teaching and Researching Translation, England 8.Hatim B., Mason I. (1997) Discourse and the Translator, Longman, Singapore 9.Ilyinska L (2004) English for Science & Technology: Course design, text analysis, research writing, RTU Publishing House, Riga 10.Munday J. (2005) Introducing Translation Studies: Theories and Applications, Routledge, GB 11.Newmark P. (1995) Approaches to Translation, Phoenix, GB 12.Nord C. (1991) Introduction to Modern Translation Theories. In Lectures/ Seminars at Jakarta/ Bandung 13.Nord C. (1997) A Functional Typology of Translation in Text Typology and Translation, in A Trosbry (ed.) Benjamins 14.Reiss K. (1989) Text types, Translation Types and Translation Assessment, in A.Chesterman (ed.), Readings in Translation Theory, Finland: Loimaan, Kirjagaino Oy 15.The Translation Studies Reader (2004) edited by L.Venuti, Routledge, GB 16.Veisbergs A. (2005) Mutvārdu tulkošanas pamati, Rīga 17.Zauberga I (2001) Developing Translation Competence, Riga: the University of Latvia
Course prerequisites	English language skills at B2 level according to CEFR

### Course outline

Theme	Hours
The approach to translation. The "ideology of translation".	2
History of translation theory.	2
The process of translation. The unit of translation; the process of translation; the linear model.	2
Types of linguistic meaning and their transference in the process of translation.	2
The concept of equivalence. The nature of linguistic meaning and equivalence.	2
Grammatical aspects of translation. Types of grammatical transformation.	2
Functional theories of translation; text types.	2
Cultural context: culture specific problems; cross-cultural differences.	2
Discourse and register analysis approach: Language and discourse; Text and pragmatic level analysis.	2
Translation of terminology: parallel texts, consistency, term banks, coinage of new terms.	2

Genre in translation. Genre and related textual values in translation (aims, procedures, evaluation).	2
Technical Translation. Technical style and its varieties.	2
Interpreting: principles of consecutive interpreting; note taking; communicative skills; memory training.	2
Translator's skills; Translator's tools; machine translation; software translation, translation and IT.	2
Seminars. Discussions, case studies	4

### ***Learning outcomes and assessment***

Learning outcomes	Assessment methods
Students are able to use various translation theory concepts and select the most appropriate in each particular case; to select carefully translation methods in professional work.	Assessment: seminars, discussions, tests, exam.
Students are able to analyze, identify, and apply practically in the translation process the adequate tr. strategy, precise professional terminology.	Assessment: seminars, discussions, tests, exam.
Students are able to compare, evaluate and contrast cross-cultural communication features professionally, as well as lexical and syntactical features of ST and TT, synthesizing respective differences in the TT.	Assessment: seminars, discussions, tests, exam. Evaluation: tests – tested/not tested; exam – mark according to 10 grade scale.
Students are able to translate professionally texts in different fields (business, modern technologies, etc.), belonging to different registers and genres using skills and competences acquired during the course.	Assessment: tests, exam (translate text 1,000 pr. signs, substantiation the choice of the translation methods)

### ***Study subject structure***

Part	CP	ECTS	Hours per Week			Tests		
			Lectures	Practical	Lab.	Test	Exam	Work
1.	2.0	3.0	0.0	2.0	0.0		*	