



RTU Course "Translation and Comprehension of Professional Literature"

01A01 Speciālā lietojuma valodu katedra

General data

Code	VIA156
Course title	Translation and Comprehension of Professional Literature
Course status in the programme	Compulsory/Courses of Limited Choice
Course level	Undergraduate Studies
Course type	Professional
Field of study	Languages
Responsible instructor	Diāna Rumpīte
Academic staff	Antra Roskoša Tatjana Smirnova Jūlija Kuzņecova Jūlija Kučerova Marina Platonova Oksana Samuilova Iveta Karitone Nina Karagodina Anita Eiholca
Volume of the course: parts and credits points	2 parts, 8.0 Credit Points, 12.0 ECTS credits
Language of instruction	LV, EN, RU
Possibility of distance learning	Not planned
Abstract	<p>Students read and analyze different texts in the major in order to develop the following skills and competences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Understanding meaning: deducing the meaning of unfamiliar words and word groups; relations within the sentence/complex sentences; implications - information not explicitly stated, conceptual meaning, e.g. comparison, purpose, cause, effect. •Understanding relationships in the text: - text structure; the communicative value of sentences; relations between the parts of a text through lexical and grammatical cohesion devices and indicators in discourse. •Understanding important points; distinguishing the main ideas from supporting detail; recognising unsupported claims and claims supported by evidence - fact from opinion; extracting salient points to summarise; following an argument; reading critically/evaluating the text. •Reading efficiently: surveying the text, chapter/article, paragraphs, skimming for gist/general impression; scanning to locate specifically required information; reading quickly. •Note taking. •Summarizing. <p>Discussions on the following subjects: fundamental principles of text analysis; text types; semantic, syntactic and lexical characteristics of professional texts; communicative function of the text; structure of the text; semantic and pragmatic features of the text; content structure of the text; comprehension and interpretation of the text; efficient reading and interpretation of informative, narrative and descriptive texts in the major in English.</p>
Goals and objectives of the course in terms of competences and skills	<p>The aim of the course: To develop and improve reading, comprehension and interpretation skills while working with professional original texts of intermediate and advanced level in English identifying, solving and explaining problems of text comprehension. Objectives of the course:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To read and analyze informative, narrative and descriptive texts in the major in English, to discover stylistic, semantic and textual characteristics of the text. 2. To improve reading comprehension and text visualization techniques (skimming, scanning, mind mapping). 3. To analyze the content of the text discussing, commenting, summarizing information writing summaries, annotations and reviews.
Structure and tasks of independent studies	Individual work with study and reference literature reading and analyzing professional texts, formulating the topic and the gist, writing a summary. Work with terminology and lexical chunks performing vocabulary building exercises. Study of word polysemy, synonyms, antonyms, semantic and lexical fields.
Recommended literature	<p>Profesionālās literatūras lasīšanai un interpretēšanai izmantojamie materiāli: 1. Baye M., Managerial Economics & Business Strategy, 2005 2. Guide to Economic Indicators: Making Sense of Economics, The Economist, 2007 3. McConnell C. R., Brue S. L., Economics: Principles, Problems, and Policies, 16th Edition, 2004 4. Mishkin, The Economics of Money, Banking, and Financial Markets, 2006 5. Allen E., Thallon R., Fundamentals of Residential Construction, 2006 6. Allen E., Iano J., Fundamentals of Building Construction: Materials and Methods, 2003 7. Chen W.F., Richard Liew J.Y., The Civil Engineering Handbook, on (New Directions in Civil Engineering), CBS Press, 2002 8. Stevenson N., Architecture: The World's Greatest Buildings Explored and Explained, DK Publishing, 1997 9. Goleniewski L., Jarrett K. W., Telecommunications: A Beginner's Guide, McGraw-Hill/Osborne, 2006 10. Gross L.S., Fink E. J., Telecommunications: An Introduction to Electronic Media with PowerWeb, 2005</p>
Course prerequisites	English language skills at B2 level according to CEFR

Course outline

Theme	Hours
Fundamental principles of text analysis	4
Text types	4
Semantic, syntactic and lexical characteristics of professional texts	4
Communicative function of the text	2
Structure of the text	4
Text analysis contrasting language pairs	6
Semantic and pragmatic features of the text	6
Efficient reading and interpretation of informative, narrative and descriptive texts in the major in English	10
Reading strategies	4
Summarizing	4
Reading, comprehension and analysis of a professional text. Discussion. Terminology.	60
Tests	20

Learning outcomes and assessment

Learning outcomes	Assessment methods
Students are able to read, comprehend and analyze in detail intermediate authentic texts in different fields (architecture, building, economics, power engineering, computers, mechanics, telecommunications).	Assessment: texts with problem solving tasks, tests, exam (text 3,300 pr. signs, 8-10 tasks, 20 min)
Students are able to argue and interpret orally the information extracted from the texts, discuss it, commenting on tables, diagrams, etc.	Assessment: texts with problem solving tasks, tests, exam.
Students are able to summarize texts orally and in written form, write an annotation, complete the tasks connected with the text.	Assessment: texts, oral/written tasks, exam (oral summary).
Students are able to apply professional lexis and terminology in practice.	Assessment: tests, vocabulary and terminology tests, exam. Evaluation: tests – tested/not tested; exam – mark according to 10 grade scale.

Study subject structure

Part	CP	ECTS	Hours per Week			Tests		
			Lectures	Practical	Lab.	Test	Exam	Work
1.	4.0	6.0	0.0	4.0	0.0		*	
2.	4.0	6.0	0.0	4.0	0.0		*	