



## RTU Course "General Translation Practice"

01A01 Speciālā lietojuma valodu katedra

### General data

Code	VIA176
Course title	General Translation Practice
Course status in the programme	Compulsory/Courses of Limited Choice; Courses of Free Choice
Course level	Undergraduate Studies
Course type	Professional
Field of study	Languages
Responsible instructor	Tatjana Smirnova
Academic staff	Marija Šulca Inese Kočote
Volume of the course: parts and credits points	3 parts, 8.0 Credit Points, 12.0 ECTS credits
Language of instruction	LV, EN, RU
Possibility of distance learning	Not planned
Abstract	The course provides an overview of selected theoretical translation problems, stylistic, semantic and textual features of different texts. Students translate texts on economics, politics, science, technology, etc, as well as manuals, official papers, orders, reports, interviews, advertisements, and patents.
Goals and objectives of the course in terms of competences and skills	<p>The aims of the course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•develop and improve translation skills and competences, translating intermediate popular scientific and technical texts;</li> <li>•identify and solve translation problems;</li> <li>•analyse source and target texts.</li> </ul> <p>The objectives of the course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•to study and apply translation methods, translating intermediate popular scientific and technical texts;</li> <li>•to master terminology translations methods;</li> <li>•to select the most appropriate translation variant.</li> </ul>
Structure and tasks of independent studies	Submit and analyse test translations; identify translation problems, analyse and evaluate criteria selecting possible translation variants; analyse text types and differences in translation approach; work with reference literature and dictionaries.
Recommended literature	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Baker M. (2009) In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation, Routledge, GB</li> <li>2. Baker M. (2005) The Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies, Routledge, GB</li> <li>3. Baldunčiks J (2005) Tulkotāju viltusdraugu problēma: no vārdiem pie darbiem, VVA, Rīga</li> <li>4. Hatim B. (2001) Teaching and Researching Translation, England</li> <li>5. Ilyinska L (2004) English for Science &amp; Technology: Course design, text analysis, research writing, RTU Publishing House, Riga</li> <li>6. Munday J. (2005) Introducing Translation Studies: Theories and Applications, Routledge, GB</li> <li>7. Newmark P. (1995) Approaches to Translation, Phoenix, GB</li> <li>8. Reiss K. (1989) Text types, Translation Types and Translation Assessment, in A.Chesterman (ed.), Readings in Translation Theory, Finland: Loimaan, Kirjagaino Oy</li> <li>9. Zauberga I (2001) Developing Translation Competence, Riga: the University of Latvia</li> </ol>
Course prerequisites	The study course develops English language skills acquired at the secondary school.

### Course outline

Theme	Hours
Equivalence. Degree of equivalence. Analysis, discussion and translation of the ST.	4
Factors that determine the complexity of translation task: language norms, author, reader, etc.	4
Stages in translation process.	4
Denotational and connotational meaning of a word.	4
Differences in SL and TL systems.	4
Types of grammatical transformations.	4
Lexical layers. Polysemy and synonymy as translation problems.	4
Main types of lexical transformations	4
Translation of phraseology	4
Stylistic aspects of translation.	4
Characteristics of informative and scientific texts. Translation strategies.	6
Dictionaries. Structure of a dictionary. Different types of dictionary. Technical dictionary.	4
Translator's responsibility. Unfindable words.	4
Computer aided translation. Translation software.	4
Translation assessment criteria.	4

Analysis and translation of economic text. Comparing ST and TT.	8
Analysis and translation of popular scientific text. Comparing ST and TT.	8
Analysis and translation of manuals and instructions. Comparing ST and TT.	6
Analysis and translation of IT text. Comparing ST and TT.	8
Analysis and translation of publicistic text. Comparing and discussing ST and TT.	8
Analysis and translation of operative text. Comparing and discussing ST and TT.	6
Terminology. Translation and analysis of technical texts.	10
Tests	12

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

Learning outcomes	Assessment methods
Students are able to purposefully select and use reference literature and additional reference sources necessary for translation of different text types (dictionaries, Internet, etc.)	Assessment: texts, discussions, exam. Are able to purposefully and accurately apply theoretical knowledge translating texts from the SL.
Students are able to identify translation problems in the ST, select relevant translation strategies and methods.	Assessment: texts, test translations, exam. Are able to translate successfully ST (1,800 pr.s. per practical class) argumentatively editing and selecting the most appropriate translation version.
Students are able to select and use accurately lexical and terminology translation methods in accordance with linguistic functional requirements.	Assessment: texts, test translations, exam. Are able to use vocabulary and terminology accurately according to the context.
Students are able to identify stylistic, semantic, grammatical and textual features of texts and practically apply different translation theory methods, translating intermediate and advanced popular scientific texts.	Students submit 3 test translations a semester (tested/not tested). Exam – mark according to 10 grade scale (1,200/1,500/1,500 pr.s. EN?LV/RU, 40 min.; 600/800/1,200 LV/RU?EN pr.s., 40 min.)

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

Part	CP	ECTS	Hours per Week			Tests			Tests (free choice)		
			Lectures	Practical	Lab.	Test	Exam	Work	Test	Exam	Work
1.	4.0	6.0	0.0	4.0	0.0		*			*	
2.	2.0	3.0	0.0	2.0	0.0		*			*	
3.	2.0	3.0	0.0	2.0	0.0		*			*	