



RTU Course "Professional Translation Practice"

01A01 Speciālā lietojuma valodu katedra

General data

Code	VIA177
Course title	Professional Translation Practice
Course status in the programme	Compulsory/Courses of Limited Choice
Course level	Undergraduate Studies
Course type	Professional
Field of study	Languages
Responsible instructor	Tatjana Smirnova
Academic staff	Jūlija Kučerova Diāna Rūpniece Antra Roskoša Jūlija Kuzņecova Nina Karagodina Marija Šulca
Volume of the course: parts and credits points	3 parts, 10.0 Credit Points, 15.0 ECTS credits
Language of instruction	LV, EN, RU
Possibility of distance learning	Not planned
Abstract	Students learn to translate the phenomena of the English language that are characteristic of professional and technical literature style, identifying language laws and transformations. Skills and competences are developed applying them in translation of specialised texts. Translation versions are discussed and analysed in groups. Students study informative, narrative, descriptive, operative and other texts in special fields, as well as stylistic, semantic and textual features of these texts. Students translate texts in special fields aimed at various target groups (students, professionals, non-professionals and other audiences concerned). Students answer questions of different level of complexity, work in pairs and groups.
Goals and objectives of the course in terms of competences and skills	The aim of the course: the development of skills and competences of written translation, working with intermediate and advanced professional texts from English into Latvian/Russian and vice versa. The tasks of the course: 1) to read and translate the source text, considering the theme, semantics (word meaning, synonymy, polysemy), lexis (terminology) of the ST, clichés and set expressions used in written English; 2) to develop translation strategy, identify and solve translation problems; 3) to develop the competence in working with dictionaries, glossaries and other reference literature; 4) to assess and evaluate translation, edit it if necessary.
Structure and tasks of independent studies	Home translation (1,800 pr. signs to be submitted at each practical class); independent and regular work with authentic texts in the special fields, developing individual terminology stock, as well as developing the competence to use grammatical constructions characteristic of written speech in English.
Recommended literature	1. Baker M. (2009) <i>In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation</i> , Routledge, GB 2. Baker M. (2005) <i>The Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies</i> , Routledge, GB 3. Baldunčiks J (2005) <i>Tulkotāju viltusdraugu problēma: no vārdiem pie darbiem, VVA, Rīga</i> 4. Gambier Y., van Doorslaer L. (2011) <i>Handbook of Translation Studies</i> . Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing 5. Hatim B. (2001) <i>Teaching and Researching Translation</i> , England 6. Ilyinska L (2004) <i>English for Science & Technology: Course design, text analysis, research writing</i> , RTU Publishing House, Riga 7. Munday J. (2005) <i>Introducing Translation Studies: Theories and Applications</i> , Routledge, GB 8. Newmark P. (1995) <i>Approaches to Translation</i> , Phoenix, GB 9. Reiss K. (1989) Text types, Translation Types and Translation Assessment, in A. Chesterman (ed.), <i>Readings in Translation Theory</i> , Finland: Loimaan, Kirjagaino Oy 10. Sofer M. (2009) <i>The Translator's Handbook</i> . Schreiber Publishing; 7th Revised Edition edition 11. Zauberga I (2001) <i>Developing Translation Competence</i> , Riga: the University of Latvia
Course prerequisites	English language skills at B2 level according to CEFR

Course outline

Theme	Hours
The aims and tasks of the study course. Requirements set forth a professional translation. Key concepts.	2
Text type classification (acc. to K. Reiss). Translation strategies of informative texts.	4
Pre-translation analysis (acc. to Ch. Nord). Internal and external factors of the text, role of analysis in translation	4
The work with parallel texts. The text on chemistry (EN-LV/RU)	6
Comparison and editing of the translation.	20
Terminology in translation process. Translation of the encyclopaedia article on material science.	4
Text types in the field of civil engineering. Encyclopaedia article. Work with reference literature.	8

Operative texts, stylistic features of operative texts. Product description in the field of civil engineering.	6
Translation and analysis of the text in the field of civil engineering (EN-LV/RU, LVRU-EN).	6
Translation methods, their classification.	4
Text types in the field of architecture. Article in popular-scientific magazine.	6
Article from specialised magazine. Work with terminology in the field of architecture.	6
Classification of translation problems (acc. to Ch Nord). Description of a project. Solution of translation problems.	6
Analysis and translation of an informative text on architecture (EN-LV/RU, LVRU-EN). Equivalence in translation	6
Text types in the field of economics. Article in popular-scientific magazine.	8
Article from specialised magazine. Work with terminology in the field of economics.	6
Operative text in the field of economics, stylistic properties. Analysis and translation of an advertisement.	6
Analysis and translation of an informative text on economics (EN-LV/RU, LVRU-EN).	6
Text types in the field of mechanical engineering. Article in popular-scientific magazine.	6
Article from specialised magazine. Work with terminology in the field of mechanical engineering.	6
Analysis and translation of an informative text on mechanical engineering (EN-LV/RU, LVRU-EN).	6
Text types in the field of transport. Article in popular-scientific magazine.	6
Article from specialised magazine. Work with terminology in the field of transport.	6
Analysis and translation of an informative text on transport (EN-LV/RU, LVRU-EN).	6
Test translation analysis. Characteristics of technical language. Summary.	10

Learning outcomes and assessment

Learning outcomes	Assessment methods
Students are able to analyze argumentatively intermediate and advanced professional texts (theme, semantics, lexis, grammar, style, etc.) and apply in practice relevant dictionaries, manuals, parallel texts, etc.	Assessment: texts, test translations, exam. Are able to conduct a profound analysis of the translated text and use relevant translation aids and tools.
Students are able to identify translation problems depending on the characteristics of the ST, solve them and select relevant translation strategy and methods.	Assessment: texts, test translations, exam. Are able to translate accurately different Professional texts using relevant strategies and methods (1,800 pr. s. per practical class).
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 in accordance with functional requirements of the TL.
Students are able to evaluate critically each target text version, as well as to improve on it if necessary.	Are able to edit translations at practical classes, tests, and exam. Students submit 4 test translations a semester (tested/not tested). Exam – mark according to 10 grade scale (1,500 pr.s. EN?LV/RU, 40min. 1,200 pr. s. LV/RU?EN, 40 min.)

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			*
2.	4.0	6.0	0.0	4.0	0.0			*
3.	4.0	6.0	0.0	4.0	0.0			*