



RIGA TECHNICAL
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of E-Learning Technologies and Humanities

Please note! This is a preliminary list of courses. Changes may occur!

AUTUMN SEMESTER

BACHELOR COURSES

(available only to translation/linguistics field students)

Code	Course name	CP	ECTS
VIL167	Introduction to Linguistics	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>Study course syllabus: language systems; language structure, origins and development; origins of writing; language classifications, etc. The course includes information on linguistics and its fields; history of linguistics and relevant research methods. The course is aimed at the students majoring in technical translation, researchers, academic staff, etc.</p>			
HVD123	Functional Communication (part 1)	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>Development of students 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.</p>			
HVD156	Fundamentals of Written Speech (part 1)	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>This course provides an introduction to writing clear, accurate messages and to understanding basic writing strategies. It is designed to help students to be more proficient at the kind of writing they need to do. This course will acquaint students with some typical techniques used for effective writing and will give them practice in writing various kinds of business letters, reports, summaries, reviews, abstracts and essays. Students will master vocabulary and terminology of business correspondence. Practical classes at which different types of letters, pieces of academic writing are analyzed, new vocabulary is mastered, writing and translating skills are developed. A short introduction into different types of business letters is given. Both individual and group work is implemented. Independent work of students is encouraged.</p>			
VSL716	Advanced Grammar Course (part 1)	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>Study course envisioned for the students in their capacity of competent language service providers and efficient communicators in the global environment. Knowledge of English grammar is acquired through the comprehensive study of theory and extensive practical drills.</p>			
VIA161	Analytical Reading (part 1)	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>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.</p>			
VIA166	Political and Economical System of English Speaking Countries	3.0 CP	4.5 ECTS
<p>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</p>			

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.

VIA151	Introduction to Translation Theory	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>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.</p>			

VIA311	Academic Writing (part 1)	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>The course provides students with practice they need in order to incorporate new knowledge and skills.. The first part of the course introduces students into comprehensive rhetoric, conventions and style of English academic writing. It intends to develop the basic skills of paragraph organisation, sentence structure and specific strategies of English academic writing.</p>			

VIA700	Theoretical Grammar	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>Grammar has to deal with the antithesis between form and meaning. The course in theoretical grammar is one of the basic courses for the students majoring in technical translation. The course provides description of grammatical structure of the English language; it offers an introduction into contemporary research in the field of grammar and insights into methodology of scientific grammatical analysis of language in use. Within the framework of the course morphology and syntax are treated as an integrated system of speech production. Particular attention is paid to discussion of grammatical semantics, this is consistent with the contemporary cognitive approach to the study of language.</p>			

ETH714	Terminology Research in the Era of Digital Humanities	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>The study course aims at providing students with introduction to the theoretical premises of current approaches to terminology research and at offering them extensive information on the set of established practices, computer-aided methods, terminological resources and organizational paradigms used to identify, coin, collect, annotate, describe, process (both monolingually and interlingually), align, apply and present terms in the digital environment and beyond.</p>			

VIA310	Development of Listening Comprehension Skills (part 1)	3.0 CP	4.5 ECTS
<p>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.</p>			

VSL714	Research Writing	4.0 CP	6.0 ECTS
<p>The study course aims at developing research writing skills, providing a comprehensive overview of genres, techniques and resources of research writing. The study course deals with the elaboration of a research paper, which is a piece of academic writing based on its author's original research on a particular topic. Students study basic scientific writing composition and development principles; acquire strategies for selecting relevant reference literature, glossaries and encyclopedias; develop strategies for stating a hypothesis, the aims and tasks of a research paper, and making conclusions. The tasks include independent, pair and group work at practical classes solving problems stated by an instructor, making conclusions, checking and assessing the achieved results.</p>			

VSL717	English Speaking Countries	3.0 CP	4.5 ECTS
<p>Recognizing the importance of socio-cultural aspects of language use, the syllabus of the study course dedicated to English speaking countries provides an overview of geography, history, culture, values, political and economic systems of such English-speaking countries as the USA, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Within the course, student advance and improve their cultural knowledge, develop their cultural awareness and acquire useful socio-pragmatic competence in order to be successful communicators in the English-speaking environment. The study course curriculum provides for highly interactive educational environment that promotes active learning, inquisitiveness and curiosity of the students. Students</p>			

discuss situations in different spheres of life and provide informed opinion on the economic, political and social processes occurring in the English-speaking countries.

Note! Full course description available by clicking on the course code!

MASTER COURSES

(available only to translation/linguistics field students)

Code	Course name	CP	ECTS
VIA605	Modern Methods of Text Analysis	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>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.</p>			
VTT704	Rhetorical Skills and Strategies	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>Traditional rhetoric has developed a set of rules, approaches, strategies and methods that are used to achieve a certain communicative purpose. The main postulates of rhetoric are invention, style, arrangement, delivery and memory. Modern multimodal professional texts are characterized by the application of both classical rhetorical strategies used to structure the content and rhetorical strategies characteristic of other genres to make the process of knowledge exchange more persuasive and expressive.</p>			
VIA604	Scientific Writing	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>Students study the characteristics of scientific and popular scientific style, basic scientific writing composition and development principles; acquire strategies for selecting relevant reference literature, glossaries and encyclopaedias; develop strategies for stating a hypothesis, the aims and tasks of a work, and making conclusions. Productive and reproductive, problem-solving and illustrative methods of teaching. Independent, pair and group work at practical classes solving problems stated by an instructor, making conclusions, checking and assessing the achieved results.</p>			
ETH713	Digital Discourse Studies	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>The present study course is intended to provide an interdisciplinary perspective on the nature of language in digital era. The course aims to familiarize students with the range of theories on discourse studies, providing practical analytical skills and methodologies for analyzing spoken, written and visual texts of different genre. Within the framework of the given study course new media technologies including instant messaging, text messaging, blogging, photo-sharing, mobile phones, gaming, social network sites, and video sharing are considered for multimodal information encoding and transfer both monolingually and multilingually. The role of the communicative context is emphasized, as well as its types (journalism, tourism, leisure, performance, public debate, etc.), participants of the communicative act (professional and lay, young people and adults, individuals, and groups) and languages of communication are considered. The course covers a range of topics including genre, style, stance, language ideology, and multimodality. Hands-on practical work with texts constitutes an important part of the course.</p>			
VTT706	Creative Writing and Stylistics	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>The course is envisioned for the students without prior knowledge in linguistics, lexicology and stylistics to establish a background for work with text and textual information, as well as to produce high quality content employing a variety of stylistic resources. The course introduces the fundamental notions of lexicology and stylistics: language units, word building, semantic changes, phraseology, borrowings, semasiology, neology, lexicography, methods of stylistic analysis, stylistic expressive means and their classification. It enables students to uncover the layers, patterns and levels that constitute stylistic description in the process of high quality content production.</p>			

<u>VTT701</u>	Cognition: Meaning Representation	2.0 CP	3.0 ECTS
<p>The study course provides insights into investigation of the relationship between the mind, human behaviour and language, representing a contemporary approach to language study and its conceptual structure. Currently, cognitive science is one of the most rapidly developing branches, which establishes a scientific approach to the study of language incorporating the tools of other disciplines, such as philosophy, psychology, computer science and engineering. The course addresses core notions in this area of study, including prototype, perspective, categorization, image schema, entrenchment, embodied cognition, generative grammar, attention and salience, and contingency learning. It also includes a survey of major theories about human cognition, along with an introduction to the kinds of methodologies available to modern cognitive science.</p>			

Note! Full course description available by clicking on the course code!