

*Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution of Higher Education
“Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia” – RUDN University*

Philological Faculty

Recommended by ICSU

PROGRAM OF DISCIPLINE

Title of the discipline:

Comparative and Historical Linguistics

45.06.01 Linguistics and Literature Studies

Specification:

Comparative and Historical, Typological and Contrastive Linguistics:

Typology and Language Classification

2021

1. Aims and goals of the discipline:

The discipline is aimed to prepare highly qualified scientific and pedagogical professionals, to form and develop competences according to professional standards as well as to finalize an original scientific research thesis contributing to elaboration and development of knowledge in the linguistic sphere.

Mastering the educational programme is aimed to form theoretical-and-methodological basis crucial for comparative-historic, typological and contrastive research, pedagogical or some other professional activity of a PhD student and is introduced and taught during the first year of PhD studies. In addition, mastering the discipline is also aimed to sit and pass the final state exam and the defense of the graduate work.

2. The rank of the discipline in the educational complex programme structure: Comparative and Historical Linguistics is a discipline of the variative part of the Block-1 of the PhD studies of the specialization 45.06.01 «Linguistics and Literature Studies». Its main content concerns the elaboration and development of linguistic methodology on the basis of linguistic research and language description.

Table 1

Precedent and following disciplines to form various competences

Precedent and following disciplines to form various competences

No	Competence code and label	Precedent disciplines	Following disciplines (groups of disciplines)
	PC- 3	Scientific Seminar on Comparative-and- Historical, Typological and Contrastive Linguistics	Scientific Research
	PC-4	Information TechnologiesScientific Seminar on Comparative-and- Historical, Typological and Contrastive Linguistics	Scientific Research
	PC-6	Scientific Seminar on Comparative-and- Historical, Typological and Contrastive Linguistics	Scientific Research

3. Requirements to the results of mastering the discipline

The process of studying the discipline is aimed to form the following competences:

Professional competences

PC-3 mastering of modern scientific paradigm in the fields of linguistics and the ability to integrate and actualize self-research results within the scientific paradigm;

PC-4 the ability to take part in theoretical, empirical or practical researches (to develop language resources: the corpus of texts, dictionaries, historical-comparative, typological, contrastive, terminological, and other databases); PC-5 the ability to participate in the development of educational-methodical materials necessary for the specialized discipline education in higher education institutions;

PC-6 the ability to demonstrate and apply knowledge in the chosen field of linguistics considering the modern principles of language study (integrity, anthropocentricity, textual centrality, communicativeness, functionality).

Finally, PhD students should:

Know: principle comparative and contrastive methods, and modern native and foreign trends in linguistic comparative studies and typology.

Be able: independently set and solve complex theoretical and applied tasks in the field of comparative historical, typological and comparative linguistics; analyze the results of scientific activities of colleagues in the field of study; integrate and update the results of own research in the framework of the scientific paradigm

Be skilled in: modern linguistic scientific paradigm and linguistic research methodology.

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4. Discipline scope and the forms of studies

General labour intensity makes up 3 credit units

Kind of Training	Total of Working Periods	Semesters			
		1	2	3	4
Classroom-based studies (total)	20			20	
<i>including:</i>					
lectures	10			10	
practical work (PW)					
seminars (S)	10			10	
SELF-STUDIES (TOTAL)	88			88	
WORKING HOURS (TOTAL)	180			108	
CREDITS	3			3	

5. Discipline's content

5.1. Content of the discipline's sections

No	Title of the section	Content of the section
1	Basic concepts and history of comparative-historical	Modern ideas about the genetic classification of world languages. Major language families.

	linguistics	<p>The subject of comparative historical linguistics, genetic relatedness of languages; genealogical tree theory, wave theory. The concept of "parent language."</p> <p>Principles of reconstruction of pro-linguistic states. Internal and external reconstruction. Ways of verification of reconstructions.</p> <p>Principles of the genetic classification of languages. Traditional methods of genetic classification. Integration of languages based on joint innovation. Language family and language union. The role of Indo-European studies in the development of the comparative historical method.</p>
2	Phonetic laws. Proto-language reconstruction	<p>The principle of regular phonetic correspondences as the basis of comparative historical linguistics. Problems of reconstruction of vocal, consonant, accent and tonal systems. The ratio of phonetic reconstruction and phonetic typology. Problems of morphological and syntactic reconstruction. The problem of phasic development of the language. The concept of phonetic law among neogrammarians and in modern linguistics. Phonetic laws in groups and families of related languages. Results of research in the field of Indo-European studies. Grammatical and lexical reconstruction. Modern ideas about proto-linguistic states.</p>
3	Current issues of comparative-historical linguistics	<p>Modern look at the structure of Proto-Indo-European language. Indo-European homeland. Classification of Indo-European languages. Brief description of the main groups of Indo-European languages. The limits of the possibilities of the comparative-historical method in linguistics. Principles of scientific etymology. Criteria of scientific competence in comparative linguistics.</p> <p>Forms of language interaction: substratum, superstratum, adstratum, and language unions. Pidgins and Creoles. Linguistic geography: problems and methods. Language areas. Correlation of comparative-</p>

	historical and typological methods in linguistics.
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5.2 Discipline sections and formes of studies:

No	Title of a section	Lectures.	Seminars	Self-studies	Total (periods).
1.	Basic concepts and history of comparative-historical linguistics	4	4	28	36
2	Phonetic laws. Proto-language reconstruction	2	2	32	36
3	Current issues of comparative-historical linguistics	4	4	28	36
		10	10	88	108

NO LABORATORY TASKS

Seminars

No	Sector	Themes of seminars	Labour intensity (periods)
1.	Basic concepts and history of comparative-historical linguistics	<p>Modern ideas about the genetic classification of world languages. Major language families.</p> <p>The subject of comparative historical linguistics, genetic relatedness of languages; genealogical tree theory, wave theory. The concept of "parent language."</p> <p>Principles of reconstruction of pro-linguistic states. Internal and external reconstruction. Ways of verification of reconstructions.</p> <p>Principles of the genetic classification of languages. Traditional methods of genetic classification. Integration of languages based on joint innovation. Language family and language union. The role of Indo-European studies in the development of the comparative historical method.</p>	4
2.	Phonetic laws. Proto-language	The principle of regular phonetic correspondences as the basis of comparative	2

	reconstruction	historical linguistics. Problems of reconstruction of vocal, consonant, accent and tonal systems. The ratio of phonetic reconstruction and phonetic typology. Problems of morphological and syntactic reconstruction. The problem of phasic development of the language. The concept of phonetic law among neogrammarians and in modern linguistics. Phonetic laws in groups and families of related languages. Results of research in the field of Indo-European studies. Grammatical and lexical reconstruction. Modern ideas about proto-linguistic states.	
3.	Current issues of comparative-historical linguistics	Modern look at the structure of Proto-Indo-European language. Indo-European homeland. Classification of Indo-European languages. Brief description of the main groups of Indo-European languages. The limits of the possibilities of the comparative-historical method in linguistics. Principles of scientific etymology. Criteria of scientific competence in comparative linguistics. Forms of language interaction: substratum, superstratum, adstratum, and language unions. Pidgins and Creoles. Linguistic geography: problems and methods. Language areas. Correlation of comparative-historical and typological methods in linguistics.	4

8. Material and technical provisions of the discipline Programme:

The PhD Programme realization and studies are provided with library book funds and online resources granting PhD students free excess to professional databases, informational and search systems, as well as other resources. RUDN library fund contains textbooks, manuals, journals and periodicals, methodical and other types of publications useful to master the Programme.

9. Software for the discipline Programme:

Software installed in RUDN University is one hundred percent license: the bulk of Microsoft Office and more – professional packages of Sound Forge, Cool Edit, Adobe PhotoShop, Adobe Premier.

– **databases, search engines and reference data:**

Online library ‘Russian State Library’: <http://www.rsl.ru/>

RUDN library online site: <http://lib.rudn.ru/>

‘Russian Virtual Library’ site: www.portalus.ru

St.-Petersburg University online linguistic library site: www.project.phil.pu.ru

Online Linguistic Library: www.lib.fl.ru

EBSCO <http://search.ebscohost.com>, Academic Search Premier database containing information both on natural sciences and humanities

Oxford University Press <http://www3.oup.co.uk/jnls>. Database of journals both on natural sciences and humanities – HSS (Humanities & Social Sciences collection of Oxford University Press publications)

Taylor & Francis <http://www.informaworld.com> – HSS collection of 1000 titles of publications and 40 journals

Web of Science journals: <http://www.isiknowledge.com>

Educational and methodical provisions

An Introduction to Language and Linguistics / Fasold Ralph W., Connor-Linton Jeff. - Cambridge : Cambridge University Press, 2006. – 540 p.

Optional

Valentinova, Olga I.; Preobrazhenskii, Sergey Iu.; Rybakov, Mikhail A. Explanatory possibilities of G.P. Mel'nikov's system linguistics: updating of unknown // Journal of Siberian Federal University. Humanities & Social Sciences 12 (2017 10) 1950-1956 – http://elib.sfu-kras.ru/bitstream/handle/2311/68777/14_Valentinova.pdf;jsessionid=0D6CC07B5256F81DFF61213378BC2E8C?sequence=1

Valentinova, Olga I.; Rybakov, Mikhail A. Basic Principles of Analysis of the Inner Determinant in Linguistic Systemology // Journal of Siberian Federal University. Humanities & Social Sciences 2020. № 13(3). Pp. 413–422. – <http://elib.sfu-kras.ru/handle/2311/135168>

11. Course Studies Recommendations

General outline

Students are expected to be in class on time and it is crucial that they come prepared to talk

about the readings. Participation includes active speaking as well as attentive listening. An atmosphere of respect, openness and patience is expected in the classroom. Students are required to do the tasks at home and come to class ready to participate. The final assignment covers all course modules/units/content/topics/issues and thus helps consolidate students' learning activities.

The teacher determines the overall process of learning activities, offers recommendations to make use of various resources with the view of developing and improving knowledge, skills and abilities that are crucial for understanding the material. The student is expected to search for additional important material, use individually selected resources to perform independent work, taking into account the teacher's recommendations. Involvement in all the course academic activities is compulsory. In order to get the most out of the recommended readings, the unique contributions of all members of the group are vital.

12. Assessment and Grading Fund

Materials for assessing the level of mastering the educational material of the discipline (assessment materials), including a list of competencies indicating the stages of their formation, a description of indicators and criteria for assessing competencies at various stages of their formation, a description of assessment scales, standard control tasks or other materials necessary for assessment knowledge, abilities, skills and (or) experience of activity, characterizing the stages of the formation of competencies in the process of mastering the educational program, methodological materials defining the procedures for assessing knowledge, skills, skills and (or) experience of activity, characterizing the stages of formation of competencies, have been developed in full and are available to students on the discipline page at TUIS RUDN University¹.

The program has been drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the ES of HE RUDN University.

Authors of the course: ass-professor of the General & Russian Linguistics Dept. M.A. Rybakov

Head of the General & Russian Linguistics Dept.



Vladimir N. Denisenko

¹On the discipline page in TUIS RUDN University, computer tests are presented for the entrance control of knowledge, midterm certification of academic performance, intermediate certification of students and assessment of their residual knowledge in the discipline.