

*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:

Contrastive Linguistics

45.06.01 Linguistics and Literature Studies

PhD Profiles:

Specification:

**Comparative and Historical, Typological and Contrastive Linguistics
(in English)**

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.

The course focuses on the comparison of languages on phonetic and grammatical level and morphological classification of languages. Based mainly on the works by W. Humboldt, E. Sapir, J. Greenberg, W. Croft, M. Haspelmath, R. Lado, G. Melnikov it uncovers the mechanisms and strategies behind the morphological classification and determinant analysis of languages.

The course is designed to teach highly skilled specialists in theoretical and applied linguistics, capable of taking into account scientific and research expertise and apply their knowledge and skills in their future professional activities. The objective of the course is to produce original scientific research contributing to the generation, expansion and development of the scientific knowledge as well as the formation and development of the students' competences.

Course Aims:

determine methodological background and concepts of the contrastive linguistics and typology;

study of phonetic, morphological and syntax differences of languages;

analyze language diversity from the point of view of the main concepts of systemic typology;

identify the main linguistic strategies of contrastive analysis of languages.

2. The rank of the discipline in the educational complex programme structure: Contrastive 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

No	Competence code and label	Precedent disciplines	Following disciplines (groups of disciplines)
	PC-2	Methodology of Scientific Research	Scientific Research
	PC-4	Scientific 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-2 the ability to apply new research methods in self-research activity in the fields of philology, linguistics, and contiguous domains of the humanities considering the rules of copyright;

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-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: morphological classification of languages; basic concepts of general phonology, morphology and syntax; grammatical and lexical universals;

Be able: determine linguistic similarities and differences for a particular pair of languages by their structural description;

to compare the morphological structure of the word and sentence on the basis of common principles and terms;

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

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	Contrastive studies. Subject, principles, methods	Methods of contrastive studies. Criteria for comparing phonological, morphological, syntactic and lexical systems of languages. Comparisons of formal means and comparison of semantics of languages. Contrastive analysis of text structures.
2	Morphological classification of languages and contrastive grammar	Contrastive studies of different language types. History and modern principles of typological classification.
3	Contrastive Syntax	Matching criteria. Syntax universals. Word order contrasts. Types of sentences sets. Structural differences. Communicative structure of utterance.
4	Contrastive Semantics	Semantic universals. Derivational differences. Compound words. Inner form. Semantic comparison methods. Semantic fields.

5.2 Discipline sections and formes of studies:

No	Title of a section	Lectures.	Seminars	Self-studies	Total (periods).
1	Contrastive studies. Subject, principles, methods	4	4	28	36
2	Morphological classification of languages and contrastive grammar	2	2	20	24
3	Contrastive Syntax	2	2	20	24
4	Contrastive Semantics	2	2	20	24
		10	10	88	108

NO LABORATORY TASKS

Seminars

No	Sector	Themes of seminars	Labour intensity (periods)
1.	Contrastive studies. Subject, principles, methods	Methods of contrastive studies. Criteria for comparing phonological, morphological, syntactic and lexical systems of languages. Comparisons of formal means and comparison of semantics of languages. Contrastive analysis of text structures.	4
2.	Morphological classification of languages and contrastive grammar	Contrastive studies of different language types. History and modern principles of typological classification.	2
3.	Contrastive Syntax	Matching criteria. Syntax universals. Word order contrasts. Types of sentences sets. Structural differences. Communicative structure of utterance.	2
	Contrastive Semantics	Semantic universals. Derivational differences. Compound words. Inner form. Semantic comparison methods. Semantic fields.	2

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 access 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)

Springer/Kluwer: <http://www.springerlink.com>. Books and journals of Springer/Kluwer publishing House in: Behavioral Science, Biomedical and Life Sciences, Humanities, Social Sciences and Law, Medicine.

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

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

INION RAN collection: <http://elibrary.ru>

Universities of Russia informational online system ‘ROSSIYA’: <http://www.cir.ru/index.jsp>.

Online library of research works in philology and linguistics: www.philology.ru

Educational and methodical provisions

Comrie B. Language Universals and Linguistic Typology. Oxford: Blackwell, 1981.

Typology and Universals / Croft William. - 2 nd ed. ; Книга на английском языке. - Cambridge : Cambridge University Press, 2009. - 341 p.

Song J.J. (ed.) The Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Typology. – Oxford, 2011.

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.



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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.