

Course syllabus abstract

« Fundamentals of the English Language (Основы теории английского языка)»

Field of study: 45.04.02 Linguistics

Major: « Fundamentals of the English Language (Основы теории английского языка)»

1. Goals and objectives of the course

Aims: Its main aim is to provide students with the essential knowledge concerning the English language in general, its grammatical structure, vocabulary, styles and history of development.

Objectives: By the end of the course students will:

- 1) enrich their vocabulary and know the origin of this or that word;
- 2) learn different styles of English language, stylistic devices and expressive means;
- 3) learn what historical changes the English language has undergone and understand why the English of today is so different from the one of past centuries;
- 4) study grammatical paradigms and systems of the English language.

2. Course competencies

General professional competences and indicators testing their formation

The category (group) of professional competences	The code and name of the professional competences	The code and name of the indicator testing the formation of professional competences
Language studies	GPC-1 A student is able to apply a system of theoretical and empirical knowledge about the functioning of the system of the foreign language being studied and the trends of its development, to take into account the values and ideas inherent in the culture of the countries of the foreign language being studied	IPC-1 _{GPC-1} A student knows the theory of the foreign language being studied and the trends of its development. IPC-2 _{GPC-1} He/she is able to apply a system of theoretical and empirical knowledge about the functioning of the system of the foreign language being studied and the trends of its development in practice. IPC-3 _{GPC-1} He/she knows information about the system of values and ideas inherent in the culture of the countries of the foreign language being studied, and takes it into account in practical activities.

3. Course syllabus

Lectures

No	Module themes	Theme description
1	Language and its grammar The definition of the language. Language as a system; its functions, elements and structure.	The definition of the language. Language as a system; its functions, elements and structure.
2	Grammatical categories	The general notion of category. Grammatical form and grammatical meaning, categorial grammatical form and meaning, grammatical category. Grammatical category as the system of expressing generalized grammatical meaning by means of paradigmatic

No	Module themes	Theme description
		correlation of grammatical forms.
3	Noun and the category of gender	Noun as a word denoting “thingness”; its formal characteristics and syntactic functions. “Cannon ball” problem. Grammatically relevant subclasses of the noun: common and proper, countable and uncountable, inanimate and animate (human and non-human), concrete and abstract nouns. The grammatical peculiarities of different groups of nouns.
4	The category of case	The problem of the category of case. Various approaches to the category of case in the English language study: the theories of positional and prepositional cases; the theory of possessive postpositional particle case (of “no case”); the theory of limited case.
5	The category of article determination	Article as a grammatical determiner of the noun. The system of articles in English: the definite article, the indefinite article and the zero article.
6	Verb (general information)	Verb as a word denoting process, its formal and functional properties. The complexity of grammatical verbal system due to its central role in the expression of the predicative functions of the sentence.

Practical studies

No	Module themes	Theme description
1	Language and its grammar The definition of the language. Language as a system; its functions, elements and structure.	The definition of the language. Language as a system; its functions, elements and structure. Lingual elements as bilateral signs. Segmental and supra-segmental lingual units. The levels of segmental units, their structural and functional features. The hierarchical relations between the segmental units of different levels. The word and the sentence as the main level-forming units. The three subsystems of the language: phonological, lexical and grammatical systems. The systemic character of grammar. Morphology and syntax - the two main sections of grammar. Grammar as a branch of linguistics. The plane of content and the plane of expression. Syntagmatic and paradigmatic relations in grammar. Diachronic and synchronic relations in grammar.
2	Grammatical categories	The general notion of category. Grammatical form and grammatical meaning, categorial grammatical form and meaning, grammatical category. Grammatical category as the system of expressing generalized grammatical meaning by means of paradigmatic correlation of grammatical forms. Oppositional basis of the grammatical category. Oppositional analysis of the grammatical forms. The types of oppositions: binary and supra-binary oppositions, privative, equipotent and gradual oppositions. Privative binary opposition as the most important type of categorial opposition in grammar; its structure. The strong (marked) and the weak (unmarked) members of the opposition. Grammatical category in communication: the problem of oppositional reduction (neutralization and transposition) of grammatical forms in the process of their functioning. Synthetical and analytical grammatical forms. The types of synthetical grammatical forms: inner- inflectional, outer- inflectional, suppletive. Their place in the grammatical system of the English language. The types of analytical grammatical forms: strong and weak. The types of categories: immanent and reflective, closed and

No	Module themes	Theme description
		transgressive, constant feature and variable feature categories. Morphological and syntactical categories.
3	Noun and the category of gender	<p>Noun as a word denoting “thingness”; its formal characteristics and syntactic functions. “Cannon ball” problem.</p> <p>Grammatically relevant subclasses of the noun: common and proper, countable and uncountable, inanimate and animate (human and non-human), concrete and abstract nouns. The grammatical peculiarities of different groups of nouns.</p> <p>The problem of gender in English. The category of gender in Old English and in Modern English. Biological sex and gender; gender as a meaningful category in modern English. Lexical and grammatical gender distinctions. Personal pronouns as the gender classifiers of nouns.</p> <p>Gender oppositions and gender classes of nouns: personal and impersonal (neuter) gender, feminine, masculine and common gender. Oppositional reduction of the category (personification).</p>
4	The category of case	<p>The problem of the category of case. Various approaches to the category of case in the English language study: the theories of positional and prepositional cases; the theory of possessive postpositional particle case (of “no case”); the theory of limited case. Disintegration of the inflexional case in the course of historical development of English and establishing of particle case forms. Formal and functional properties of common and genitive cases of the noun.</p>
5	The category of article determination	<p>Article as a grammatical determiner of the noun. The system of articles in English: the definite article, the indefinite article and the zero article.</p> <p>The semantic presentation of the articles: the definite article - identification, the indefinite article - classifying generalization, the zero article - abstract generalization. Articles with different groups of nouns. Correlation of the articles with other determiners.</p>
6	Verb (general information)	<p>Verb as a word denoting process, its formal and functional properties. The complexity of grammatical verbal system due to its central role in the expression of the predicative functions of the sentence.</p> <p>Grammatically relevant subclasses of the verb. Notional verbs and their subgroups: actional and statal, limitive and unlimitive. Semi-notional and functional verbs and their subgroups: auxiliary verbs, link- verbs (pure and specifying), modal verbs, verbid introducers (of modal identity of the action, of subject-action relations, of phasal semantics). The combinability subgroups of the verbs: transitive and intransitive verbs, complementive (predicative, adverbial, objective) and supplementive (personal and impersonal) verbs. The problem of subclass migration (transition) of the verbs.</p>