

*The Federal state autonomous educational institution of higher  
education "Peoples' Friendship University of Russia"*

*Faculty of Philology*

Recommended by ISSC

## **PROGRAM OF DISCIPLINE**

**Name of the discipline**

Theory of Linguistics

**Recommended for the direction of training / specialty**

45.06.01 Linguistics and Literature Studies

**Programs:**

10.02.20 Comparative-and-Historical, Typological and Contrastive Linguistics:  
Typology and Language Classification

10.02.19 Theory of Language/Theory of Language and Discourse Analysis

**Qualification of a graduate:** Researcher. Teacher-researcher

**Moscow  
2021**

### 1. Aims and goals of the discipline:

The main purpose of the course is to introduce post-graduate students to the theory of linguistics. The discipline *Theory of linguistics* involves integrative approach to the studies of language as an observed phenomenon and an object of the linguistic science. The discipline includes studies based on systemic principle.

#### Course Aims:

- determine methodological background and collections of concepts as well as the origins of the main linguistic schools and theories – from Classical Antiquity till nowadays;
- proceeding from the main lingua-philosophical and linguistic concepts reveal the formation of linguistics as an integral and independent branch of science;
- reveal the dynamics and continuity while describing the leading trends and complexes of methods to research languages in different conceptions;
- study main forms of language essence proceeding from a correlation of its universal (general), typological (specific) and special (unique) features’
- reveal outer and inner factors of language development; outline the main trend of the theory of language formation in connection with the evolution of knowledge about the world, the mankind and human language;
- present the contribution of each conception having been reviewed to the theory of language and the elaboration of linguistic methods.

### 2. Course in Academic Programme Structure

The course is one of the optional disciplines of Block 1 from the academic curriculum. The course finalizes the cycle of theoretical philological and linguistic studies. Students should master the methodology of linguistics as an integral knowledge of language; be able to analyze ontological and epistemic issues of linguistics; be well aware of the leading conceptions of the theory of language; have skills to analyze language as a system. The course is taught within the specification Comparative-and-Historical, Contrastive and Typological Linguistics: Typology and Language Classification. The course provides theoretical grounds to further training in courses about the linguistic science. Table 1 shows the previous and subsequent disciplines aimed at forming the competences of the discipline in accordance with the competency matrix of the Program.

**Table 1**

**Previous and subsequent disciplines aimed at forming competences**

No	Competence code and label	Precedent disciplines	Following disciplines (groups of disciplines)
<b>Professional Competences</b>			
1	PC-3	Comparative-and-Historical, Contrastive and Typological Linguistics	Scientific research
2	PC-4 resources as well	Comparative-and-Historical, Contrastive and Typological 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);

**By the end of the course students will acquire or increase the following skills:**

**know:** modern scientific paradigms in the domain of linguistics and the dynamics of its development: as well as systems of methodological criteria and methods of linguistic research.

**be able to:** demonstrating advanced knowledge in the one chosen linguistic domain.

**master:** ability to self-increase, critical analysis and application of theoretical and practical knowledge in linguistics.

#### 4. The scope of discipline and types of educational work

Total work intensity of discipline is 3 credits

Type of educational work	Hours	Year of study					
		1 term	2 term	3 term	4 term	5 term	6 term
<b>Auditorium classes (totally)</b>	<b>20</b>						
Including:							-
Seminars (S)	10			10			
Lectures	10			10			
<b>Individual work (totally)</b>	<b>68</b>			68			
<b>Control</b>	<b>20</b>			20			-
Total work intensity (hours)	<b>108</b>			108			
Credits	<b>3</b>			3			

#### 5. Course content

##### 5.1 Content of the discipline:

As to the content, the course is based on the representation of linguistic methodology in the aspect of theory of linguistics and theory of language (general linguistics) considering retrospective and prospective as to the notion of time.

№	Name of the discipline sector	Content of the sector
1)	Language as an object of Linguistics. Language ontology.	Language as the main object interacts with thought (mind), reality and is a distinctive feature of a man. Language as a phenomenon of observation and study. Language as a social assignment of a compulsory type in the theory of F. de Saussure. Forms of language existence. Language, speech, communication. Social forms of language: language, dialect, idiolect.
2)	Language as a form. Language, thought and reality.	Language as a form: language as a mediator between a man and reality. Language and thought. Language as a reflexive process in philosophical and cognitive aspects. The notions of inner and outer forms.
3)	System and structure of language.	Systems, classes and multiplicities in relation to language. General principles and approaches. System and structure of language. Language units: abstract and concrete

		language units. Inner structure of language. Language units and speech units.
4)	Language structure: relations between language units.	Language structure: relations between language units. Syntagmatics, paradigmatics, hierarchy, distribution. Segmentation and substitution. Syntagmatics and paradigmatics of different language levels (units). Phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics.
5)	Main functions of language.	System of functions. Main functions of language (retrospective review). Functions of language as a sign system. Language functions and the communicative act. Theories of R.O. Jakobson and K. Bühler. Signals and symbols.
6)	Language as a symbolic system. Language signs: types, characteristics and attributes.	From the semantic triangular to the bilateral language sign. Unilateral and bilateral signs. Sign, meaning, valeur. Icons, indexes and symbols.
7)	Classification and taxonomy. Types of language classifications.	Genetic, typologic and areal language classification. Principles and criteria. From the genetic classification to the contentive typology. Multidimensional classifications by E. Sapir

## 5.2. Sections of the discipline and kinds of training

№	Name of the discipline sector	Lectures	Seminars	Practical work (see: seminars)	SSS	Work hours TOTAL
1.	Language as an object of Linguistics. Language ontology.	2	2	-	10	14
2.	Language as a form. Language, thought and reality.	2	2	-	10	14
3.	System and structure of language.	2	-	-	10	12
4.	Hierarchical system of abstract language units. Language units.	-	2	-	10	12
5.	Main functions of language.	-	2	-	10	12
6.	Language as a symbolic system. Language signs: types, characteristics and attributes.	-	2	-	20	22
7.	Classification and taxonomy. Types of language classifications.	-	2	-	20	22
	Total	6	12	-	90	108

## 6. Laboratory work – absent

## 7. Seminars

№	№ of discipline sector	Seminar Topics	Work hours
1.	1	Language as the main object interacts with thought (mind), reality	2

		and is a distinctive feature of a man. Language as a phenomenon of observation and study. Language as a social assignment of a compulsory type in the theory of F. de Saussure. Forms of language existence. Language, speech, communication. Social forms of language: language, dialect, idiolect.	
2.	2	Language as a form: language as a mediator between a man and reality. Language and thought. Language as a reflexive process in philosophical and cognitive aspects. The notions of inner and outer forms.	2
3.	4	Language units: abstract and concrete language units. Inner structure of language. Language units and speech units.	2
4.	4	Language structure: relations between language units. Syntagmatics, paradigmatics, hierarchy, distribution. Segmentation and substitution. Syntagmatics and paradigmatics of different language levels (units). Phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics.	2
5.	5	System of functions. Main functions of language (retrospective review). Functions of language as a sign system. Language functions and the communicative act. Theories of R.O. Jakobson and K. Bühler. Signals and symbols.	2
6.	6	Theme 8 From the semantic triangular to the bilateral language sign. Dual asymmetry of a language sign. Unilateral and bilateral signs. Sign, meaning, valeur. Icons, indexes and symbols.	2
7.	7	Theme 9 Genetic, typologic and areal language classification. Principles and criteria. From the genetic classification to the contentive typology. Multidimensional classifications by E. Sapir and system typology by G.P. Melnikov.	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 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.

#### **a) databases, search engines and reference data:**

- 1) RUDN library online site: <http://lib.rudn.ru/>
- 2) Online library 'Russian State Library': <http://www.rsl.ru/>
- 3) EBSCO <http://search.ebscohost.com>, Academic Search Premier database containing information both on natural sciences and humanities
- 4) 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)
- 5) 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.
- 6) Tailor & Francis <http://www.informaworld.com> – HSS collection of 1000 titles of

publications and 40 journals

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

## **10. Educational and methodical provisions**

### **a) Basic literature**

1. An Introduction to Language and Linguistics / Fasold Ralph W., Connor-Linton Jeff. - Книга на английском языке. - Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. - 540 p. - ISBN 978-0-521-61235-7: 2933.70. - 3 copies
2. Krasina Elena A. Theory and history of linguistics / Education and Methodical Complex / E.A. Krasina. - Книга на английском языке; Электронный текстовый файл. М.: PFUR, 2013. - 112 p. - ISBN 978-5-209-05066-7 : 270.76.  
[http://lib.rudn.ru/MegaPro/UserEntry?Action=Rudn\\_FindDoc&id=404435&idb=0](http://lib.rudn.ru/MegaPro/UserEntry?Action=Rudn_FindDoc&id=404435&idb=0)
3. Leech Geoffrey. The Pragmatics of Politeness [Текст] / G. Leech. Oxford: Oxford university press, 2014. - 343 p. - (Oxford Studies in Sociolinguistics). ISBN 978-0-19-534135-5: 4367.00. – 50 copies
4. Kecskes Istvan. Intercultural Pragmatics [Текст] / I. Kecskes. - Книга на английском языке. - Oxford: Oxford university press, 2014. - 277 p. - ISBN 978-0-19-989265-5: 7934.00. 50 - copies
5. Griffiths Patrick. An Introduction to English Semantics and Pragmatics / P. Griffiths. - Книга на английском языке. - Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2009. 93 p.: il. - (Edinburgh textbooks on the English language). - ISBN 978-0-7486-1632-9: 836.00. 3 copies
6. Phenomenology in English and in Russian [Текст]: Учебное пособие / С. Е. Боброва; РУДН; Отв. ред. Л.Н.Талалова. - М.: Изд-во РУДН, 2004. - 79 с.: ил. - 55.00. – 5 copies
7. Chandler Daniel. Semiotics the basics / D. Chandler. 2 nd ed.; Книга на английском языке. - London; New York: Routledge, 2010. - 307 p.: il. - ISBN 978-0-415-36375-4: 546.70. 3 copies

### **b) Additional literature:**

1. RUDN Journal of Language Studies, Semiotics and Semantics  
<http://journals.rudn.ru/semiotics-semantics>
2. Russian Journal of Linguistics  
<http://journals.rudn.ru/linguistics>

## **11. Methodical instructions for PhD students to master the Programme**

The course consists of lectures and discussion-based seminars. PhD 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. PhD students will be required to write a 5-10 pages course paper. Course papers must contain original research and the PhD student's own position. An atmosphere of respect, openness and patience is expected in the classroom. The above types of academic activities are aimed at training PhD students' skills to solve professionally significant challenges. The final assignment covers all course modules/units/content/topics/issues and thus helps consolidate students' learning activities.

PhD students are required to do the tasks/assignments at home and come to class ready to participate. 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 PhD 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.

Plagiarism and copy right violation are not permitted. It is necessary to provide all references for all quotations used in the course paper and presentation. This also includes all internet sources which should be cited.

**12. Fund of assessment tools for intermediate certification of students in the discipline (module).**

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 different stages of their formation, a description of the assessment scales , typical control tasks or other materials necessary for assessing knowledge, skills, skills and (or) experience of activity, characterizing the stages of the formation of competencies in the process of mastering the educational program, methodological materials that determine the procedures for assessing knowledge, skills, skills and (or) experience of activity, characterizing the stages of the formation of competencies, are developed in full and are available for students on the discipline page in the TUIS RUDN.

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

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