



**TRANSLATION STUDIES FACULTY**

**ACADEMIC BACHELOR'S STUDY PROGRAM**

**“LANGUAGES AND INTERCULTURAL  
COMMUNICATION”**

Ventspils 2012

The length of studies: 3 years (6 semesters)  
The scope of the program: 120 credits (180 ECTS)  
Type of studies: full-time  
Language of instruction: English

**English language proficiency proved by any of the following:**

1. TOEFL - min score 580 (paper based) or 92 (internet based)
2. IELTS - min test result 6.5
3. Local Language test performed at VeUC - min test result 60%

**Strategic Objectives and Main Tasks of the Study Program**

**Strategic objectives** of the program are to:

- prepare the intercultural communication specialists with foreign language skills for the work in EU institutions and other international organizations;
- ensure the academic studies in accordance with the economic, cultural and social needs;
- ensure academic studies that are firmly based on the specific theoretical foundations of the branch that conform to the academic standards and are practically applicable.

**Main tasks** of the program are to:

- ensure the students with the necessary theoretical knowledge, as well as practical skills so that they are able to provide services for EU and other international institutions (enterprises);
- foster the competitiveness of the graduates in the changing socio-economic conditions and in the international labour market;
- ensure the quality of the higher education standards of the studies according to European and other developed countries by improving the methodological, material and scientific foundations of the study process, and promoting the cooperation with other partner universities from foreign countries;
- develop the skills of scientific discourse and independent problem solution;
- change the content of the program and methods of teaching timely thus reflecting the changes in the labour market as well as forecasting the possible changes in future;
- prepare for further scientific research studies;
- establish close relationship between the study process and practical application of the theoretical knowledge.

**Specific objectives** of the program are to:

- research and cooperate with international enterprises, companies on the theoretical and practical basis;
- prepare a competitive and flexible in the labour market specialists based on the acquired knowledge, educational and methodological foundations;
- successfully continue further education.

**Target audience:**

Foreign students from the Baltic and CIS countries, Turkey, and other countries who are ready to study in English.

### Description of the study courses:

The theoretical knowledge necessary for intercultural communication and foreign language specialist:

- *Working languages (level of knowledge - application)* – in study courses: Contrasting Languages in Cultural Aspects; Foreign Language I; Foreign Language II; Psychology of Language; Language as a Means of Business Communications; Rhetoric and Language of Diplomacy.
  
- *Intercultural communication (level of knowledge- application)* – in study courses: Introduction into Studies and Speciality; Aspects of Intercultural Communication; Introduction into Theories of Public Relations; Culture Studies; Media Communication in Multicultural Environment.
  
- *Knowledge about general subjects (level of knowledge – comprehension)* in study courses: Interpersonal Psychology; Applied Philosophy; Culture, Cognition and Identity.
  
- *Modern research methodology (level of knowledge- application)* – in study courses: Research Methodology in Humanitarian Sciences; Principles of Analysis and Methodology of Foreign Policy; Methodology of Applied Research in Enterprises and Institutions.
  
- *Knowledge about economic, political, social and cultural processes (level of knowledge – comprehension)* – in study courses: Political History of Europe; Economic and Political Aspects of Entrepreneurship; International Law; International Entrepreneurship and International Organizations; Planning and Management of Finance; EU Politics, Economy, and Constitution; Human Resources in Multicultural Environment; Sustainability of Society and “Green” Thinking.
  
- *Knowledge about institution routine (level of knowledge – application)* – in study courses: Diplomacy Protocol; Business Correspondence; Decision Making; Project Management; e-Management; Office-work Organisation.

### Content of the study program

The program includes the following groups of courses:

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|---|---------|
| 1. <b>Compulsory courses</b> - section A (min. 50 credits = 75 ECTS):                   | 70 cr.: |
| • <i>Fundamental principles, structure, methodology (min. 25 cr.)</i>                   | 34 cr.  |
| • <i>Actual problems, history of development (min. 10 cr.)</i>                          | 14 cr.  |
| • <i>Characteristics of scientific field, issues of different aspects (min. 15 cr.)</i> | 22 cr.  |
| 2. <b>Compulsory optional courses</b> –section B (min. 20 credits = 30 ECTS)            | 24 cr.  |
| 3. <b>Free choice courses</b> – section C (min. 6 credits = 9 ECTS)                     | 6 cr.   |
| 4. <b>Practice</b> (min. 10 credits = 15 ECTS)  | 10 cr.  |
| 5. <b>Bachelor’s Paper</b> (min 10 credits = 15 ECTS)                                   | 10 cr.  |

**The compulsory courses** provide general knowledge about fundamental principles, the structure of the science and scientific research methodology, as well as give insight into actual

problems of the communication science and the history of its development, introduce the characteristics of the scientific field and point out the main issues of interdisciplinary aspects:

The title of the study course	Semester	Hours per week	Credits
<b>Compulsory courses - section A (min. 50 credits = 75 ECTS):</b>			
<b><i>Fundamental principles, structure, methodology (min. 25 cr.)</i></b>			
Introduction into Studies and Speciality	1	2	2
Contrasting Languages in Cultural Aspects	1	2	2
Research Methodology in Humanitarian Sciences	5	2	2
Aspects of Intercultural Communication	1/2	2/2	2/2
Principles of Analysis and Methodology of Foreign Policy	2	4	4
Methodology of Applied Research in Enterprises and Institutions	3/4	2/4	2/4
Foreign Language I	1/2/3	2/2/2	2/2/2
Foreign Language II	2/3/4	2/2/2	2/2/2
Culture, Cognition and Identity	5	2	2
<b><i>Actual problems, history of development (min. 10 cr.)</i></b>			
Diplomacy Protocol	6	4	4
Political History of Europe	1	2	2
Language as a Means of Business Communications	1/2	2/2	2/2
Media Communication in Multicultural Environment	6	4	4
<b><i>Characteristics of scientific field, issues of different aspects (min. 15 cr.)</i></b>			
Introduction into Theories of Public Relations	1	2	2
Applied Philosophy	2	2	2
Economic and Political Aspects of Entrepreneurship	3	4	4
International Law	3	2	2
International Entrepreneurship and International Organizations	4	2	2
Interpersonal Psychology	1	2	2
Business Correspondence	4	2	2
Rhetoric and Language of Diplomacy	2	4	4

**Compulsory optional courses** provide theoretical knowledge about different management issues that are followed up by practicalities teaching the management skills:

The title of the study course	Semester	Hours per week	Credits
<b>Compulsory optional courses –section B (min. 20 credits = 30 ECTS)</b>			
Decision Making	4	2	2
Project Management	4	4	4
Planning and Management of Finance	5	2	2
e-Management	2	2	2
Office-work Organisation	5	2	2
EU Politics, Economy, and Constitution	3	2	2
Culture Studies	3	4	4
Psychology of Language	1	2	2

Human Resources in Multicultural Environment	5	2	2
Sustainability of Society and “Green” Thinking	6	2	2

**Free choice courses** provide the possibility to widen the scope and view of the students in the fields of their particular interests.

**Practice** period involves testing and completion of theoretical knowledge, gives basis for further research and scientific studies in the future.

**Academic staff**

The academic staff implementing the program “Languages and Intercultural Communication” consists of professional lecturers, professors, and assistant professors, translators, interpreters, specialists of different fields of economics, psychology and philology, scientific experts, chairpersons of scientific councils and committees. Field experts will provide theoretical knowledge on the practical basis in the field studies in different international companies.