

Skills for Successful LSP Learning: Creativity, Enthusiasm, Flexibility, Resourcefulness

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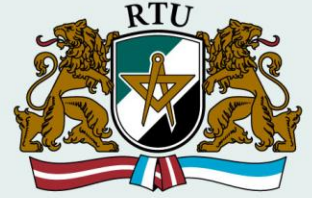
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Needs analysis



- growing tendency for interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinary of studies and research;
- change of the paradigms of industrial economy to the recognition of the needs of the contemporary knowledge intense economy and knowledge society.

CEFR



- CEFR – major reference point in language learning, teaching and assessment;
- does not fully account for the specifics of teaching and assessing LSP skills.

QUALSPELL project



- to review the existing test practices;
- to agree on the procedure for designing test specifications for language skills in order to unify foreign language examination requirements at tertiary level educational institutions in the participating countries.



- The Institute of Applied Linguistics of Riga Technical University has implemented final examination according to the guidelines laid out in the Handbook of LSP Examinations;
- Test specifications and learning outcomes have been formulated to account for the specifics of LSP learning at technical universities.

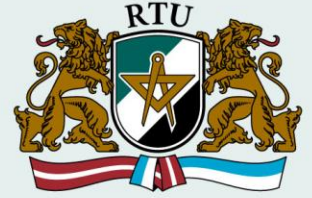
Vision



- Language as a supporting tool in performing professional functions – leadership, management, knowledge generation and transfer, cooperation, and coordination.

Learning Outcomes

LSP learning



- a shift from receptive skills to the productive skills;
 - the knowledge of domain terminology,
 - ability to read and comprehend professional literature, instructions and manuals.

Learning Outcomes

LSP learning



- content and knowledge management skills;
- terminological competence (in several fields);
- communicative skills.

Learning Outcomes

LSP learning



- to operate within new learning and working environments;
- to interact within multilingual teams;
- to generate and disseminate knowledge;
- to participate in the development of research projects.

Content management



- Information or content management skills to account for the growing volume of information a contemporary engineer has to deal with;
- text analysis skills within a professional discourse, taking into account intercultural constraints (conflict management);

Content management



- critically evaluate the content;
- extract relevant information;
- relate it against background knowledge and integrate the new information within one's world and professional knowledge;

Knowledge management



- pragmatic competence;
- thematic development in the field(s) of specialization;
- e-learning tools enabling to construct semantic webs and mental maps.

Linguistic competence



- **vocabulary range**
 - knowledge of various lexical classes
 - terms,
 - professionalisms,
 - different instances of general vocabulary use
- **vocabulary control**
 - the ability to balance the appropriateness of the vocabulary governed by the register conventions and the acceptability of the vocabulary chosen within the given communicative setting

Learning outcomes with regard to terminological competence



- should be aware of term formation patterns, both morphological and semantic, in order to be able to deal with new and/or non-equivalent meanings;
- know how to deal with the set of core terms of other scientific domains within interdisciplinary fields.

Learning outcomes with regard to terminological competence



- to be aware of the status of a lexical item – standardized term, professionalism, element of professional jargon – to be able to fit the requirements and conventions of the particular genre and register within the relevant context.
- should be informed about available terminological resources and know how to use them efficiently.

Communicative skills



- interactive and mediating skills;
- turn-taking and cooperating skills;
- leadership skills;
- ability to cooperate within the multilingual and multicultural environment:
 - coordinate processes,
 - resolve conflicts
 - maintain an adequate degree of socio-linguistic appropriateness.

Communicative skills



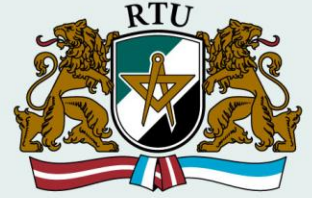
- Problem-oriented tasks and activities developing presentation skills to perform professional functions:
 - research,
 - projects,
 - negotiations,
 - fundraising,
- multimedia – most efficient tools in developing these skills.

Financial Engineering



- the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology
- the Faculty of Engineering Economics and Management

Curriculum



- mathematics,
- statistics,
- financial theory,
- IT solutions for financial management and analysis,
- insurance

Developing terminological competence – polysemy



- **warrant**

- law,
- politics,
- international trade

security

- stock exchange,
- occupational safety,
- banking,

return

- general vocabulary,
- taxation,
- financial performance

Developing terminological competence – national varieties



British English

profit and loss account

balance sheet

accounts receivable

accounts payable

social security

gearing

Americal English

income statement

statement of financial position

debtors

creditors

welfare

leverage

Conclusions



The changes on the contemporary labor market call for the greater flexibility on the part of the learners and the necessity to adapt to both the learning environment (classroom and e-learning environment) and the continuous upgrade of the working arrangements.

Conclusions

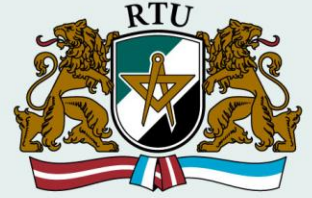


Poorly designed study courses would impose certain guidelines to fit a given framework, while intelligently developed curriculum would contribute to the advancement of learner's autonomy required to successfully and efficiently operate within academic and professional setting.

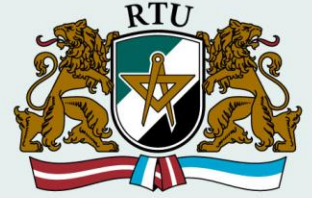
Conclusions



- outcomes are motivating and encouraging rather than prescriptive and regulatory;
- to choose own way of solving the task;
- to express independent opinion rather than to reiterate the already existing points of view;
- to perceive any result as a step forward rather than classifying or labeling them as the success or failure.



- C – Creativity
- E – Enthusiasm
- F – Flexibility
- R – Resourcefulness



Thank you for attention!

References



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