Professional Foreign Language Competence Acquisition Through Outcome Oriented Professional Language Study

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Abstract

The aim of the research is to introduce educators/scholars with the results of the study carried out at the Faculty of Information Technologies of the Latvia University of Agriculture on outcome oriented professional foreign language teaching/learning at the university.

The author’s purpose is to describe the foreign language learning and teaching process in both undergraduate and graduate studies at the Faculty of Information Technologies.

The problem and covered issues are the pedagogical building of instructor and student trust and communication whose specific intended purpose is to enhance the classroom study process as well as the development of self-study techniques. For instance, to make the study process more attractive through the use of e-studies and computer study programmes thus involving the students into an integrated student needs study process that is more creative and holistic and hopefully successful in developing their professional learning and competence than would be the more standard and alienated teacher-student teaching methodologies.

The acquired pedagogically integrated complex of language skills and the sound basis of professional language competence thus acquired provides students with the motivation for further study and language self-development and this makes their professional development much more likely and possible and of course in the process enriches their personal life.

The enhancement of the motivation to develope and achieve more, to do better is a very productive investment in ones professional skills. The higher developed learning and language skills of the student raise not only the productivity of their studies at the university but also increase the capacity of the future employee to be flexible and creative in the workplace.

Research was carried out to encourage students to acquire professional foreign language skills as learning outcomes matching them with their professional needs.

The Complex methodology was elaborated to provide an uninterrupted professional foreign language skills or language outcomes acquisition process parallel with the process of setting goals and the development of organisational, cognitive and other skills.

In the following article the author presents the qualitative and quantitative assessment of the achievements of 142 students (undergraduates and postgraduates) from the Faculty of Information Technologies of the Latvia University of Agriculture carried out during a time period of four years on the development of their foreign language skills acquired at the university facilitate employment and provide opportunities for successful professional performance.

The author focuses on professional foreign language competence development as one of the most important ways for the student to obtain a successful professional life.