

Transilvania University of Braşov, Romania

Study Program: Language Studies for Intercultural Communication (In English)

Syllabus for ERASMUS + students

Faculty of Letters

Study period: 2 years (master)

1st Year

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Quantitative Research Methods	-	English	7	2	-	-	1

Course description (Syllabus): The course presents quantitative research methods (such as surveys, content analyses, experiments), the way in which research instruments are designed, the research stages (data collection, analysis, interpretation and presentation, as well as the main ethical issues that should be considered when conducting research.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Qualitative Research Methods	-	English	7	2	-	-	1

Course description (Syllabus): This course is meant to be a more in-depth examination of the qualitative research methods used in the study of language which the students became familiar with as undergraduates. It is offered to post-graduate students enrolled in the Linguistic Studies for Intercultural Communication MA programme. Starting from general topics related to how research is envisaged in social sciences, the course then deals with such matters as the interpretive approaches, as well as their topics and methods. Next, the course has a more practical aspect since it focuses on such issues as observation, experimental, diary and case studies. The practical side of the course requires students to initiate, conduct and report on mini-research projects on which they work either individually or in pairs/groups.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
New Trends in Sociolinguistic Analysis	-	English	6	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course is aimed at providing in-depth perspective on sociolinguistic issues present in the work of many of the specialists in the field. Starting from general topics related to the latest research and writing in sociolinguistics, the course then deals with such matters as English as a lingua franca (ELF) and Global Englishes. The concluding matters in the course focus on the role of politics in the decisions related to language use and study and the much discussed nowadays relationship among politics, culture and language.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Translation and communication	-	English	6	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Translation as intercultural communication; The translator as intercultural mediator; Translation and expressiveness; Translation and translating of various text types from literature, philosophy, media, advertising; Research methods in translation studies.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
The Construction of Meaning in Talk-in-Interaction	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): A pragmatic approach to the creation of meaning (Speech Acts, Cooperation, Implicature/Inference and Relevance). Casual Conversation and main approaches to the study of talk-in-interaction. Communication and Identity. Contextual influences on the creation of meaning. In-group and intergroup communication. Intercultural and gendered communication. Gender and language. Participants and conversational strategies.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Intercultural Written Communication in Professional Settings	-	English	7	2	-	-	1

Course description (Syllabus): Writing-as-competence and writing-as-performance. Writing as a culturally-determined activity. The essence of literacy. Purposes for writing, functions of writing, and attitudes to writing. The authors and their texts: the writer's stance and communicative responsibility. The Architecture of written texts: macrostructures and microstructures. Argument writing and the language of evaluation. Academic discourse from a Contrastive Rhetoric perspective.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Cultural Features of Verbal and Non-verbal Communication	-	English	7	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course aims at making students familiar with the theories related to nonverbal communication. The students will be able to analyse the nonverbal behaviour of other persons and to increase their competence in nonverbal communications both in interpersonal relations and within various organizations. The course will stimulate the students' capacity to develop new strategies of communication in intercultural contexts and to examine and reflect on previous stereotypes. At the same time, they will be encouraged to identify cultural values and symbols. Main issues: Professional communication; Hofstede's "Cultural Dimensions"; Intercultural encounters; Introduction to nonverbal communication; Kinesics; Haptics; Chronemics; Proxemics; Silence; Paralanguage; Male – female miscommunication; Cultures and linguistic diversity.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Ethics and Academic Integrity: Advanced Research Concepts and Practices	-	English	4	1	-	-	1

Course description (Syllabus): This course is an introduction to project management and its specific terminology, focusing on aspects such as definitions, constraints, types of projects / programs, both at the European and at a national level. At the seminar, students are asked to write a research (mini)project dealing with a topic related to their field of study, and including the aim of the project, needs analysis, a plan of activities reflected by the Gantt Diagram, the risk analysis and the budget of the project.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Fundamentals of Linguistics	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course builds on the relevant expertise acquired at undergraduate level and expands the scope of investigation by approaching broader topics usually discussed from within a macrolinguistic and interdisciplinary research paradigm. The main topics include a diachronic survey of the different perceptions of language; The Origin and evolution of language: Theories on Language evolution; The Culture–Language–Thought

Complex; Linguistic determinism and Cultural determinism; Language contact and contact languages: pidgins and creoles.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Modern Interpretation Techniques	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The interpreter: training, skills, competences, personal qualities; Information processing: mnemotechnic aspects; Linguistic, cognitive and psychological aspects of interpreting; Consecutive interpretation; Simultaneous interpretation; Sight translation; Bilateral interpretation; Research methods in interpreting.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Gender Studies	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Femininity as a discourse – gender as social relationships. Beyond alienation: an integralist approach on the woman and language (Deborah Cameron). Psychoanalysis and French feminisms. Intertextuality, parody and the discourses of history (Linda Hutcheon). Towards a feminist poetics – Elaine Showalter.

2nd Year

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Translation as Art	-	English	7	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The artistic component in translation; Translation difficulties: the phonological and the morphological levels; Translation difficulties: the lexical level; Translation difficulties: the syntactic level; Translation difficulties: the social level; Sociolinguistics and translation.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Aspects of Bilingual Lexicography	-	English	7	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Approached from a metalexigraphic perspective, the main topics covered in this course are as follows: Dictionary architecture. Taxonomies. Dictionary as Process: stages in dictionary compilation. Computerization in Lexicography. The microstructure of dictionaries with a particular focus on definitions. Two Approaches to Dictionary Assessment: between the Lexicographer's Benchmark and the User's Standpoint.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Oral Intercultural Communication in Professional Settings	-	English	5	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This is a hands-on course aimed mainly at developing the students' abilities to effectively promote the results of their own research work, especially (but not exclusively) in the context of international scientific conferences. The course is premised on the idea that oral presentation skills are, alongside writing for academic purposes, an indispensable and powerful instrument in the researcher's toolkit. It therefore integrates data relating to the conceptual structuring of the information to be disseminated, the selection and/or design of presentation formats, and the delivery of the relevant information in keeping with a number of variables (e.g., audience profile, aims of the presentation, type of research, etc.), while also providing students with practice opportunities intended to further their enculturation into the international communication practices in the academia today.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Scientific Research Projects	-	English	15	-	-	-	8

Course description (Syllabus): This is a course whose aim is to initiate the development of a corpus of both audio and/or video recordings and their transcripts. This corpus will be made available to anyone (e.g. students writing their BA projects or MA dissertations, teachers writing articles/books, etc.) interested mainly in qualitative research. The main stages of the project are: (1) Planning, which involves deciding on: ways of 'collecting spoken data', sources, types of data (areas of social interaction); level of detail in transcription; use of computer programmes to help with transcription; (2) Collection and transcription of spoken data; Revision, proofreading and placing the first version of the corpus in a data base available to interested users.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course Package 1 : Intercultural Aspects of Humour	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The optional course proposes an intercultural perspective on humour as it is displayed in the media. After discussing several definitions of humour, the main humorous genres, the typology and functions of humour, we aim at analyzing the linguistic means of creating and understanding culturally dependent humour. The analysed examples are taken from a large corpus of humour collected from printed, audio-visual, and online media. The analytical approach is highly practical, based on conversational and discourse analysis. The evaluation of the course is based on the same approach – making use of the theoretical background in order to analyze culturally dependent humour as it occurs in the media.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course Package 1: Translation and Interpretation in Professional Contexts	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The relation translation-interpretation; Stages: from message receiving to delivery; Interpreting types; Note-taking strategies; Computer-assisted translation tools; Machine translation; Specialized corpora as support in translation and interpretation in professional contexts; Terminology management; Translation review methods.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course Package 2: Corpus-Based Translation Studies	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Introduction into corpus linguistics; Corpus-based translation studies – a new study area; Classification of translational and non-translational corpora; Electronic investigation means for translational corpora; Corpus-based research and its potential in translation studies.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course Package 2: Anthropological Linguistics	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Language, thought, and culture; Language as a cultural landmark; the ethnography of communication; Nature vs. nurture in understanding culture; Language variation: a synchronic and diachronic approach.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course Package 3: Public Relations from an Intercultural Perspective	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Public relations. Definitions. Typology. Types of organisations. Examples of communicative behaviour from the point of view of cultural differences. How to get to know a different culture? The individual and the group – intercultural issues. Cultural rules in establishing professional relations. Intercultural negotiation. Intercultural dynamics in a multinational company. The plan for a public relations campaign - general presentation; projecting an image, the message. Public information. Crisis management. The relationship with the employees.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course Package 3: Theory and Practice of Film Subtitling	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Features of audio-visual translation: an Introduction; Subtitling, between norms and constraints; Subtitling as process – stages and tools; Technical and linguistic issues in subtitling; culturally-related issues – the transfer of humour and cultural information; Dubbing vs. Subtitling; Evaluation of audio-visual translation; Fan subbing.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course Package 4: Group Dynamics	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course is designed to help students understand the behavior of individuals in a group setting. The course covers group development, group processes, group identity, cohesion, intra and inter-group communication and conflict, power and influence inside the group. Students will learn how to identify the stages of group formation and development and how language used within the group relates to the various group processes. The course will explore diverse theories from the past to the present by exploring how significant group dynamics components have evolved. Students will gain an understanding of how group dynamics can influence individual behavior and decision-making processes. Overall, this course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive view of the group and group dynamics in light of diverse past and present theories.

Course title	Code	language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
				course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course Package 4: An introduction to Psycholinguistics	-	English	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course is designed to help students understand the intricate relationship between language and the human mind. Drawing from the fields of psychology, linguistics, and cognitive science, the course aims to provide students with a deep understanding of how language is processed, acquired, and represented in the human cognitive system.

By the end of the course, students will have gained a comprehensive understanding of the psychological processes underlying language production, comprehension, and acquisition. They will develop a solid foundation in the theories and methods used in psychological linguistics, equipping them with the skills to conduct their research in this fascinating field.