

## **LITHUANIAN AS A NEW LANGUAGE**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

#### **Introduction**

This course aims to provide a competent reading knowledge of Lithuanian and basic communicative skills in the language. Students who complete the course successfully will be able to assure both potential employers and academic supervisors that they possess the necessary foundation-level Lithuanian language skills to work with original Lithuanian texts and to enable them to undertake study and/or research in Lithuania. The course provides an intensive introduction to Lithuanian grammar, a knowledge of basic vocabulary, practice in the skills of oral communication in Lithuanian in straightforward situations, translation and information retrieval skills, using Lithuanian texts on Lithuanian and international cultural, political and social themes.

The course is designed for beginners, i.e. for students who do not already speak or understand Lithuanian. It requires intensive study and applicants must provide evidence of language learning ability. Progress is carefully monitored, in particular in the early stages of the course.

## Key Reference Works

Course materials produced by the teacher will be provided.

Students are required to buy the following coursebook, which will be used for the communicative and grammar components of the course:

- Stumbrienė, V. and Kaškelevičienė, A. (2001) *Nė dienos be lietuvių kalbos*, Vilnius, ‘‘Gimtasis žodis‘‘.

Material from the following will also be used in the class:

- Paulauskienė, A. and Valeika, R. (1994) *Modern Lithuanian. A textbook for foreign students*, Vilnius, ‘‘Žodynas‘‘.
- Ramonienė, M., Vilkienė, L. (1998) *Po truputį*. CD.
- Ramonienė, M., Vilkienė, L. (1998) *Po truputį*. Student’s book. Vilnius, Baltos lankos.

In addition, the students will find the following useful for independent study:

- Ambrazas, V. (2006) *Lithuanian grammar. Lietuvių kalbos gramatika*. Vilnius, Baltos lankos.
- Ambrazas, V., et al. (1996) *Dabartinės lietuvių kalbos gramatika*. Vilnius, Mokslo ir enciklopedijų leidykla.
- Tekorienė, D. (1990) *Lithuanian: Basic Grammar and Conversation*. Kaunas, ‘‘Spindulys’’.
- Vilkienė, L., Stumbrienė, V., Roebuck, W. (2002) *365 Lithuanian Verbs*. Vilnius, Homo Liber.

For self-help with the spoken language:

- Kruopienė, I. (2004) *Ištark*. CD. Vilnius, Gimtasis žodis.
- Kruopienė, I. (2004) *Ištark*. Vilnius, Gimtasis žodis.
- Pakerys, A. and Pupkis, A. (2004) *Lietuvių kalbos bendrinė tartis*. Vilnius, Gimtasis žodis. (A textbook and a CD set).
- Ramonienė, M. and Ian Press, (1996) *Colloquial Lithuanian: The Complete Course for the Beginners*. London: Routledge.

A list of relevant websites and online reference materials will be provided at the start of the course.

Students will require a dictionary at an early stage in the course. The following are recommended:

- Babickienė, Z., Bareikytė, A. (1998) *Lithuanian Pictorial Dictionary*.
- Laučka, A. et al (1992) *Anglų-lietuvių kalbų žodynas (English-Lithuanian Dictionary)*, A-Q, apie 60,000 žodžių (about 60,000 words), Vilnius, Mokslo.
- Laučka, A. et al (1992) *Anglų-lietuvių kalbų žodynas (English-Lithuanian Dictionary)*, R-Z, apie 60,000 žodžių (about 60,000 words), Vilnius, Mokslo.
- Norkaitienė, M., Šepetytė, R., Šimėnaitė, Z. (2000) *Mokomasis lietuvių kalbos žodynas*. Vilnius, Baltos Lankos.
- Piesarskas, B. (1996) *Kišėninis lietuvių-anglų kalbų žodynas (Pocket Lithuanian-English Dictionary)*, (about 10,000 words), Vilnius, Sirokas.
- Piesarskas, B. and Svecevičius, B. (2006) *Lietuvių-anglų kalbų žodynas (Lithuanian-English dictionary)*, Vilnius, ‘‘Žodynas‘‘ (~ 50,000 words).
- Zabulienė, L. (1996), *Trumpas anglų-lietuvių ir lietuvių-anglų kalbų žodynas (Short English-Lithuanian and Lithuanian-English Dictionary)*, (about 20,000 words), Vilnius, Mūsų Knyga.
- Zdanytė, J. (1995) *Anglų-lietuvių kalbų žodynėlis*, (about 3,000 words), Kaunas, Naujasis Lankas.

**NB:** Students will be informed at the start of the course which textbooks they should purchase.

### **Course Details**

Title	LITHUANIAN AS A NEW LANGUAGE
Course Code	SEES GE82
Course Value	40 credits
Duration	Taught in the Autumn and Spring Terms
Availability	Open to students of most SSEES taught postgraduate programmes, including MA and MRes
Prerequisites	Open to students who have no knowledge of Lithuanian
Course Leader	Mrs Jurgita Azhar

### **Aims**

The course aims to enable students to:

- develop competence in and use of Lithuanian to a pre-intermediate level
- develop basic communicative skills of aural comprehension and oral production
- develop the comprehension skills of reading, retrieving key information and translating from Lithuanian, through the use of a range of stylistically diverse materials, drawn in the main from contemporary sources
- acquire the basic writing skills necessary to facilitate language learning and support a period of study and/or research in Lithuania
- develop a knowledge of grammar and syntax, lexis and register, as well as language awareness and language learning skills
- study a wide range of authentic language materials and acquire a deeper knowledge and understanding of Lithuanian life and culture through the materials studied.

### **Outcomes**

On successful completion of the course students will have acquired:

- a grasp of the basic grammatical structures and vocabulary of Lithuanian
- comprehension of written Lithuanian at a pre-intermediate level
- the ability to communicate in Lithuanian in straightforward everyday and study-related situations
- the ability to retrieve information and translate accurately
- time management skills and the ability to work to deadlines.

## **Teaching**

Classes meet for four hours each week over twenty teaching weeks (80 hours of contact time). Additionally, students will be expected to spend, over the whole teaching year, an average of four hours' independent study per contact hour.

In class, students will be presented with the grammar and vocabulary of Lithuanian *ab initio*. Communicative, reading and vocabulary building skills will be extended through a range of exercises, work with authentic texts and training in the effective use of a dictionary.

## **Assessment**

### **Coursework**

The regular, punctual and satisfactory completion of weekly assignments is a prerequisite for completion of the course, but does not contribute to the final assessment. Students' progress is monitored by means of regular tests, exercises and home assignments.

Students are also required to compile a portfolio of materials, in Lithuanian, relating to their individual area of interest. This is monitored by the teacher and its satisfactory completion is a prerequisite for entry to the examination.

### **Examination**

The course is examined by means of an oral test (25% of the overall mark) and a three-hour written paper, normally held in May.

The written examination consists of **two** sections and is worth 75% of the total mark:

#### **Section One:**

- Task A (30% of the overall mark): a text in Lithuanian of 450-500 words for summary in English in 150-200 words
- Task B (20% of the overall mark): a section (120-150 words) of the Task A text for translation into English.

#### **Section Two:**

- a comprehension and information retrieval task consisting of a passage in Lithuanian of approximately 400 words, followed by questions in English, to be answered in English (25% of the overall mark).

The use of dictionaries is permitted in the written examination.