University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Secrets of the sworn translator's profession: bridging theory and practice, PG_00179400		
Field of study	German Studies, Polish Studies, Romance and Iberian Studies, Applied Linguistics, Logopedics, Scandinavian Studies		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025	Academic year of realisation of subject	2025/2026
Education level	Master's studies	Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	1	Language of instruction	Polish Polish
Semester of study	2	ECTS credits	2.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of Russian Language and Translation Studies -> Institute of Russian and Eastern Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Wanda Stec	
	Teachers	dr Wanda Stec	

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30

E-learning hours included: 0.0

Learning activity and number of study hours

Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan	Participation in consultation hours	Self-study	SUM
Number of study hours	30	2.0	18.0	50

Subject objectives

To familiarise students/students with the theoretical and practical aspects of working in the profession of a regulated sworn interpreter in Poland. To make students aware of the necessity to continuously improve their linguistic and translation skills, as well as to develop soft and social competences indispensable in interpreting. To develop the ability to search, select and analyse information needed for interpreting. To raise awareness of the importance of ethics and the role of responsibility in the profession of a sworn interpreter.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	The student: 1. Has knowledge of the legal status, obtaining professional qualifications, requirements for candidates for translators in terms of education, knowledge and skills, as well as the organisational specificity and practical aspects of the work of sworn translators in Poland. 2. He/she is familiar with the basic ethical principles applicable to sworn translators in Poland and is aware of the legal and professional liability of translators for non-compliance with their duties and breaches of professional rules. 3. He/she is able to acquire knowledge on the issues covered in the lecture on his/her own, being aware of the fact that acquiring knowledge and gaining translation experience is conditioned by the specific nature of the profession of a sworn translator, who by virtue of the law is obliged to constantly improve his/her professional qualifications. 4. He/she is aware of the fact that a sworn translator who, by virtue of the law, produces certified translations of documents and certified interpreting is obliged to observe standards of professional ethics and to carry out the tasks entrusted to him with particular care and impartiality in accordance with the rules laid down by law. 5. He/she is ready to meet the challenges facing the sworn translator as a person of public trust; recognises and correctly identifies problems related to the provision of certified translation in Poland and seeks the best solutions in this respect.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written [SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion

Subject contents

Sworn translators in Poland: historical background, number of translators, legal regulations of the profession. Certified translation and interpreting: specifics of the work, place, requirements, rules, rates. Practical side of the translation activity and organisation of sworn translators' work: organisational aspects, subordination and control, clients and recipients of translation services, opportunities and threats in professional development, employment prospects (work vs. cooperation). Resources and equipment: stamp and repertory of a sworn translator, translator's library, materials and databases, hardware and software. Skills and aptitudes necessary for the profession of a sworn translator: factual and linguistic preparation, gaining translation experience, ability to search and select information, importance and use of soft skills. Ethics and responsibility in the profession of a sworn translator as a person of public trust: is it worth it (a job or a vocation?), a translator as an expert witness, security issues, advantages and disadvantages, and the extent of responsibility incurred. The lecture is conducted with the use of a multimedia presentation, supplemented by numerous interesting facts from the practice of the profession of a sworn translator. The presenter presents the topic based on her knowledge and almost 30 years of experience as a sworn translator.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Lecture selection. Knowledge of the Polish language at a level that allows you to understand the subject of the lecture.

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
active class participation (attendance at lectures and participation in discussions)	70.0%	30.0%
written credit assignment (closed question test)	51.0%	70.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature

1. Kubacki A.D., *Certified translation. Status, education, workshop and responsibility of the sworn translator*, Warsaw 2012.
2. Koźbiał D., *Legal status of the profession of sworn translator*, Warsaw 2024.
3. Łomzik M., *Soft skills of a sworn translator*, "Tertium Linguistic Journal", vol. 3 (2), 2018.
4. Nartowska K., *The Law on the Profession of Sworn Translator and Court Translation in Poland*, "Translation Yearbook. Studies on the theory, practice and didactics of translation", no. 13, 2018.

	Supplementary literature	1. Witkowska K., *Interpreter in criminal proceedings*, "Prosecution and Law", no. 1, 2014. 2. Kubacki A.D., *Critical error in certified translation*, "Lingua Legis", no. 22, 2014. 3. Ostaszewski P., Włodarczyk-Madejska J., *Certified translation in the practice of justice*, Warsaw 2016.
	eResources addresses	Basic https://tepis.org.pl/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Kodeks_zawodowy_t%C5%82umacza_przysi%C4%99g%C5%82ego_2 - "Professional Code for Sworn Translators" https://www.gov.pl/web/sprawiedliwosc/akty-prawne - Act of 25 November 2004 on the profession of sworn translator (Journal of Laws of 2004, No. 273, item 2702), with implementing regulations Supplementary https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/PL/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32010L0064 - Directive 2010/64/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20.10.2010 on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	I would like to ask you to prepare for a substantive discussion on the specifics of the translation activity of sworn translators of a language (here: *one of the selected foreign languages*) in Poland.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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