

APPROVED

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Profile of Academic Field of Study “Philology”

Academic Field Formula:

Dissertation Council in Philology and Linguistics at HSE University accepts for consideration dissertations in the following fields of study:

Russian Literature; The Literature of the Peoples of the Russian Federation (indicating the specific kind of literature); Foreign Literature (indicating the specific foreign country or peoples); Literary Theory; Textual Studies; Folklore Studies; Comparative Studies (Comparative Literature);

Russian Language; Languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation (with indication of a specific language or language family); Slavic Languages; Germanic Languages; Romance Languages; Classical Philology; Byzantine and Modern Greek Philology; Language Theory; Comparative Historical, Typological and Comparative Linguistics; Applied and Mathematical Linguistics; Languages of the peoples of Europe, Asia, Africa, and the natives of America and Australia (with indication of a specific language or language family); Theory and Methods of Teaching Foreign Languages; Theory and Methods of Teaching Russian as a Foreign Language.

Russian Literature

This field of study focuses on developing problems of the history of Russian literature from the 11th to the 20th (21st) centuries, the study of the work and features of works by Russian writers, poets, and playwrights, their artistic discoveries, how

they carry on national traditions and achievements of world literature; understanding the development of genres, styles, and movements of verbal creativity that goes hand in hand with literary writing (literary criticism, letters, diaries, notebooks, memoirs, etc.); the study of the dynamics of literary creativity; the study of the literary canon and the history of literary institutions, literary life, and sociology of Russian literature (personalities of a writer, reader, censor, critic etc.), the study of non-literary verbal creativity of Russian and Soviet writers and intellectuals (historiographical, historiosophical, political, philosophical, religious, etc.), the study of the history of Russian and Soviet theater; the interpretation of Russian verse and Russian prose history and theory, as well as the works of Russian authors written in foreign languages. All literary phenomena of primary and secondary importance that have been printed and exist in manuscripts or any other form, literary materials kept in archives in Russia and abroad, and scientific works dedicated to the history of Russian literature, are the study objects.

The Literature of the Peoples of the Russian Federation (indicating specific literature)

The field “The Literature of the peoples of the Russian Federation (with indication of specific literature)” studies the problems related to the historical development of bodies of literary works belonging to peoples of the Russian Federation, with the exception of Russian literature and Russian émigré art of the 20th century, and the most significant phenomena and patterns of this process. The basic study subject is the history and current state of the literature of a certain republic of the Russian Federation or republics that share a common language (language family) or cultural traditions, both from the standpoint of their integrity and internal dialectics and the collection of creative achievements of individual eminent authors.

The uniqueness of this field's object lies in its chronological extent (from ancient times to the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries) and in the abundance of "literary units" that constitute the concept of the "The Literature of the peoples of the Russian Federation". The interaction of the literary works produced by the peoples of the Russian Federation with Russian literature and artistic culture of the 18th to 21st centuries and problems of the literary canon form a designated section of the field of study.

Foreign Literature (indicating a specific foreign country or peoples)

The field "Foreign Literature" (indicating a specific foreign country or peoples) studies issues related to the most significant phenomena and patterns of the process of historical development of world literature (with the exception of Russian literature and literature of the peoples of Russia, as well as Russian émigré literature from the 20th to the 21st centuries). The basic research subject is the history and current state of literature and culture of a particular country (or countries that share a common language (language family) or cultural traditions), as a coherent whole and a collection of creative achievements of individual authors, as well as comparative history of national literatures, history of literary institutions of foreign countries, and the history of literary canon in foreign cultures. The uniqueness of the field's object lies in its chronological extent (from ancient times to the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries) and the extraordinary abundance of "literary units" that constitute the concept of "foreign literature".

Literary works of the following distinct historical, cultural, and geographical communities may be studied separately: e.g., literature of European antiquity and other regions of the ancient world; literature of the countries of Western Europe and North America, as well as that of South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand; Latin

American literature; literature of Eastern Europe; Oriental literature (different regions of Asia and Africa); and literature of the former Soviet countries.

Literary Theory and Textual Studies

Literary theory identifies links between, on the one hand, the Humanities and Social Sciences, and, on the other hand, Philology, and studies the interpretation of the basic concepts and practices of Philological science. Literary theory primarily studies literature as a science from Antiquity to the present day, and it goes along with philosophy and the history of culture as such, i.e. the system of common worldviews. Literary stylistics directly correlates with linguistic stylistics and with linguistics in general, in both its traditional and structural-semiotic forms. Of particular interest is the interpretation of the interaction of Literary Studies with Social Sciences as space for interdisciplinary researching pursuits.

Textual studies is the branch of Philology related to the history of texts and the principles of their publication. Texts can be literary and folklore, also scientific, if they are associated with the study of literature, folklore, and languages. The object of Textual Studies are manuscripts, lifetime and posthumous editions of literary works, diaries, notebooks, and letters; censorship materials; recordings (verbal and audiovisual) of oral folklore tradition. The history of text is the path to the history of literature and folklore. Practical textual studies (i.e. the scientific substantiation of a particular publication) is a special field.

Folklore Studies

Folklore Studies focus on all verbal, verbal-musical, musical-choreographic, ritual, ludic and drama types of traditional culture (folklore). This includes the theory,

genesis and history, typology, textual studies, poetics and intertextual links of folklore; its cataloguing and systematization; questions of its archiving and collection; the study of how folklore functions in the area of its use, its interactions with institutions and social norms; the methodology of folklore studies; the history of the collection and study of folklore; the study of forms of folklore transmission, interaction of folkloric and non-folkloric forms of culture, and secondary folklorization.

For folklore, the development of already established branches (such as studies of fairy tales, epos, paremiology, ethnolinguistics, ethnomusicology) and the creation of new branches (folklore in ethnocultural space, folklore and religious culture, modern urban folklore, the folklore of closed communities, folklore and media) are relevant. Philological folklore studies deal with the traditional cultures of social entities in their linguistic or syncretic expression.

Comparative Studies (Comparative Literary Studies)

The field “Comparative Studies” (Comparative Literary Studies) studies the history and contemporary state of literature and culture from a global perspective, i.e. above or at the intersection of linguistic and national borders. Examined within this field of study are the problems of genetic links and typological convergences and differences in literary forms and phenomena across various national traditions. The main objects of these studies are comparative poetics, the history of the development of literary genres, styles, forms, and trends in different regions and among different peoples; the issues of creative influence of one author on another.

Within the framework of Comparative studies, global tendencies in the development of literature (the problems of world literature), as well as the formation

and spread of the global literary canon (the so-called world classics), and the development of national literary canons in relation to it are examined.

The problems of comparative studies also include research on the history of translations of literary works in other languages, questions about their reception and functioning, as well as an analysis of the literary reputation of foreign-language authors; problems of interacting with literary texts with other literary and non-literary works, primarily those in other languages (intertextuality), and the relationship of literature with other arts (intermediality).

Russian Language

The field of study “Russian language” focuses on the development of challenges facing the theory of the contemporary Russian language as a natural stage in the historical development of the science of the Russian language, as well as the systematization of ideas about the language’s scientific grammar and its history. The specificity of this field of study lies in the fact that it is constructed as a natural extension of Theory of Language, namely as a demonstration of the possibilities of a general linguistic theory when applied to the Russian language. This allows, on the one hand, to fill general linguistic knowledge with empirical content and, on the other hand, to instill a view of the Russian language as the realization of universal and variable principles of organizing language structure. The chronological constraints of the concept of contemporary Russian language predetermine the implementation of the concept of contemporary Russian literary language, that is the first language used in Russia, the state language of the Russian Federation, one of the two state languages of Belarus, one of the official languages of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and several other countries, and one of the main languages of international communications. Russian literary language is a standard and codified form of the

current Russian language with its functional and communicative varieties. Typological features of the contemporary Russian literary language as a language of synthetic-analytical type are also characterized by trends towards analytism in the Russian language. Words and text serve as key concepts in the study of the structure and functioning of the modern Russian language. Dictionary and grammar are two ways of representing a language system. A language system is defined as the linguistic competency of a native speaker and as a linguistic model. Modern principles of language learning are integrality, anthropocentricity, textocentrism, communicativeness, functionality, and the reliance on the corpora of texts. Linguistics disciplines studying various levels of the system of the Russian language are: phonetics, lexicology, phraseology, theoretical lexicography, morphemics and morphonology, word formation, morphology, syntax, and stylistics.

In addition to Russian literary language, there is a number of territorial varieties of the Russian language, the study and preservation of which are the domain of dialectology.

Within the framework of this field of study, other existing forms of the Russian language can be studied, including non-standard ones and those that are not codified, namely various regional varieties, sociolects, heritage language and other varieties of the Russian language.

Languages of the Peoples of the Russian Federation (with an indication of a specific language or language family)

The field of study “Languages of the people of the Russian Federation (with indication of a specific language or language family)” is a complex field of study in which the linguistic problems of specific languages or language families of the Russian Federation are approached. The specified field of study focuses on the

development of methods and techniques of comparative historical, typological areal and experimental phonetics studies of the structure of specific languages or language families (Altai, Caucasian, Mongolian, Turkic, Finno-Ugric, etc.), including the creation of language corpora and corpus analysis of language data; their structural and semantic description at different levels, the study of the history and development and functioning of written and nonliterate languages; modern language situations in respective republics and regions of the Russian Federation, as well as problems of language policy and forecasting the further development of national languages in the context of specific types of bilingualism..

Slavic Languages

The field of study “Slavic Languages” examines the theoretical and functional aspects of languages belonging to the Slavic group of the Indo-European family, their origin, historical development, current state and specifics of their functioning, as well as their metalanguage interaction in history and modernity.

Germanic Languages

The field of study “Germanic languages” focuses on researching the theoretical and functional aspects of the languages belonging to this group, their development, current state and features of their functioning, and their common origin.

Research within the specified field is conducted via a historical approach and in line with modern scientific paradigms.

Romance Languages

The “Romance languages” field studies theoretical and functional aspects of the languages belonging to this group, their development, current state and features of their functioning, as well as their common origin.

Classical Philology Byzantine and Modern Greek Philology

The field “Classical Philology, Byzantine and Modern Greek Philology” is a comprehensive study of ancient literary and oral tradition and its subsequent development in the Byzantine tradition up to the language, literature, and culture of contemporary Greece. This field’s specificity lies in both its chronological extent (from 2 millennium B.C. up to the 21st century), as well as in its multidimensionality: the history of ancient Greek and Latin; their role in the development of modern linguistics and literary studies; problems of the diachronic development of Greek languages and languages of the adjacent areas (the Balkan linguistic area); textual studies of ancient literary texts; papyrus and epigraphic texts; genre forms of Greek and Roman literature; reception of ancient heritage in Western Europe and Russia; literary and cultural heritage of Byzantium; Greek language and literature of new and modern times; and the history and theory of classical, Byzantine, and modern Greek philology.

Language Theory

The field “Language Theory” includes the main divisions and methods of modern linguistics: from the introduction into the field of study to the study by level of the internal language structure. Also considered are modern ideas about the main components, units, and rules of natural language, as well as the methods for their

research. Studies of such areas as “Comparative Historical Linguistics”, “Typology”, “Socio-Linguistics”, “World Languages and Language Geographic Areas”, and “Historiography” are devoted to the ideologies and techniques of formalization. Conducted within the framework of the separate field “Experimental Psycho- and Neuro-linguistics” is the study of the mental and biological foundations of language based on the data of a controlled, reproducible experiment using mathematical-statistical methods for processing the results of the measurements made.

Comparative Historical, Typological and Comparative Linguistics

The field “Comparative Historical, Typological and Comparative Linguistics” focuses on the development of linguistic theory and methodology based on the study of genetically related languages and established relations between related languages and describing their evolution in time and space; the study of the structural and functional properties of languages, regardless of the nature of the genetic relations between them; research and description of the language through its systematic comparison with other languages in order to clarify its special aspects (systemic idiomatic nature); development of the theory and methodology of translation science, which deals with scientifically grounded comparison of genetically related and unrelated languages in order to study one of the complex types of human speech-language activity, that is translation from one language to another, which is examined and investigated as the actual process of the translator’s activity and the result of such activity - a written or oral translation, from the linguistic, psycholinguistic, functional-communicative, and cognitive standpoint, among others.

Applied and Mathematical Linguistics

The field “Applied and Mathematical Linguistics” studies the development of linguistic, mathematical, and formal models for solving theoretical and applied problems related to natural language. Within the framework of this field, research is carried out on the features of semiotic and mathematical modeling of natural language (and speech) in order to translate the information contained in the non-formalized form into a formalized artificial language based on such mathematical tools as set theory and algebraic relations, fuzzy set theory and linguistic variables, probability theory and mathematical statistics, and elements of information theory. A special area of “Computer and Corpus Linguistics” relates to the development of methods, algorithms, models and technology in the field of information retrieval and information extraction, automatic analysis, synthesis and understanding of natural language, as well as the creation and development of linguistic electronic resources (corpus, data banks, ontologies, dictionaries) and software packages that implement them.

Languages of the people of Europe, Asia, Africa, and the natives of America and Australia (indicating a specific language or language family)

The field “Languages of the people of Europe, Asia, Africa, and the natives of America and Australia (indicating a specific language or language family)” focuses on the study of a relevant set of problems connected with the origin, organization, and functioning of specific languages or language families of the peoples of Europe, Asia, America, and the natives of American and Australia that are not part of other academic fields of study.

Theory and Teaching Methods

(Theory and Methods of Teaching Foreign Languages and Cultures)

The field “Theory and Teaching Methods (theory and methods of teaching foreign languages and cultures)” focuses on the development of the theoretical and methodological foundations of the theory, methodology, and technology of subject teaching (training, development) in the educational fields of Russian as a foreign language and Foreign Languages, at all levels of the general and professional educational systems within the context of foreign and domestic educational practices. A special aspect is the study and implementation of new information technologies for teaching languages, including the creation of electronic learner’s corpora and the study of the data included therein.