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**REQUIREMENTS TO PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE OF A FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER AT HIGHER TECHNICAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

Abstraction. The article deals with the specific requirements to the professional competence and personal characteristics of a teacher of the foreign language for special purposes at higher technical educational institutions. There is a serious necessity of the thorough analysis of qualitative characteristics of the staff of higher educational institutions. At technical universities the requirements to the professional skills of a foreign language teacher have some peculiarities stipulated by difficulties of teaching such a discipline as Foreign Language for Professional Purposes. Without profound knowledge of an engineering specialty of students the teacher is considered not to have enough qualification for teaching the professionally-oriented foreign language. The article analyses personal

characteristics of the teacher and focuses on the necessity of constant improving of his professional competence.

Key words: professional skills, personal characteristics, the communicative competence, the methodical competence.

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## **ВИМОГИ ДО ПРОФЕСІЙНОЇ МАЙСТЕРНОСТІ ВИКЛАДАЧА ІНОЗЕМНОЇ МОВИ ВИЩОГО ТЕХНІЧНОГО НАВЧАЛЬНОГО ЗАКЛАДУ**

Анотація. У статті розглядаються вимоги до професійної майстерності та особистісних характеристик викладача іноземної мови професійного спрямування у вищих технічних навчальних закладах. Особлива увага приділяється забезпеченню шляхів подолання складнощів, пов'язаних із ознайомленням та засвоєнням базових знань із технічних спеціальностей з

метою підвищення якості та ефективності практичних занять із дисципліни «Іноземна мова професійного спрямування». Стаття фокусується на необхідності постійного підвищення викладачами своєї професійної компетентності.

**Ключові слова:** професійна майстерність, особистісні якості, комунікативна компетентність, методична компетентність.

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## **ТРЕБОВАНИЯ К ПРОФЕССИОНАЛЬНОМУ МАСТЕРСТВУ ПРЕПОДАВАТЕЛЯ ИНОСТРАННОГО ЯЗЫКА ВЫСШЕГО ТЕХНИЧЕСКОГО УЧЕБНОГО ЗАВЕДЕНИЯ**

Аннотация. В данной статье рассматриваются особенности требований к профессиональному мастерству и личностным характеристикам преподавателя иностранного языка профессиональной направленности в

высших технических учебных заведениях. Большое внимание уделяется обеспечению путей преодоления трудностей, связанных со знакомством и усвоением базовых знаний технических специальностей, с целью повышения качества и эффективности практических занятий по дисциплине «Иностранный язык профессиональной направленности». Статья фокусируется на необходимости постоянного совершенствования преподавателем своей профессиональной компетентности.

Ключевые слова: профессиональное мастерство, личные качества, коммуникативная компетентность, методическая компетентность.

The intensive development of society and its such spheres as science and education, demands a thorough analysis of qualitative characteristics of the teaching staff of higher educational institutions. The understanding of the need of updating staffing of higher education leads to the search of new forms and ways of improving professional skills of the teacher in general, and the teacher of a foreign language in particular. Higher technical educational institutions have special requirements to professional skills of the teacher which is caused by the need of teaching such a discipline as "Foreign Language for Professional Purposes".

The level of professional competence of teachers is one of the main terms of ensuring the competitiveness of a higher educational institution. But unfortunately, the professional competence of the teacher is not determined in its content and structure and the accurate system of criteria of determination of its formation is not developed [1].

The purpose of the article is the consideration of all characteristics of a professional skill of an educational specialist and the determination of required features of the teacher of Foreign Language for Professional Purposes in a higher technical educational institution.

The foreign language at higher technical educational institutions is learned as an obligatory subject and its teaching begins from the first year of study. The

problem of accounting specialization in the course of training becomes extremely urgent, causing the need to connect the learning of a foreign language with the future profession of students. Considering the factor that the processes of the European integration influence such an important sphere of life of the society as education more and more heavily, and understanding the important role which the knowledge of a foreign language plays in training highly qualified specialists, NTUU "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute" introduces the principle of professional orientation of foreign language training as the main methodical principle.

The teacher has been and remains the central figure in the process of training foreign languages. The attention to his personal and professional characteristics has considerably increased during the reformation of the higher school in Ukraine because high-quality fulfilment of pedagogical and educational functions by the teacher depends on his professional competence. Effective implementation of the system of professional knowledge and abilities confirms the professional skill of the teacher. The teacher must have certain personal qualities and first of all should not be indifferent to the results of the professional activity. The personality of the teacher, his system of values are important factors for gaining professional and general cultural competence by students [4].

The great influence on the students' attitude to the subject which is studied is exerted by their relationship with the teacher of this subject whose main task is to involve the students into the educational process. Overall performance is defined by teacher's ability to create the friendly atmosphere which is considered favorable for the educational process and contributes to easy communication. Considering personal qualities of the teacher, it is also necessary to remember about the benevolent attitude of the teacher to students which is expressed in attentive listening to their answers and their opinion on the given problem. This need of a student for benevolent communication with a teacher has to be satisfied, otherwise there is a decrease in motivation of students to training. The process of training is certainly more efficient when students want to learn from the teacher.

The teacher has to have organizational abilities. Only a well-organised person can effectively and consistently carry out the work planned by the curriculum and direct the activity of students. The teacher of a higher educational institution has to present logically large volumes of information, to formulate the thought accurately in order for the students to acquire new material better.

It is necessary to remark that such a characteristic of the teacher as creativity which is expressed in the process of preparation for classes plays an important role in increasing the students' motivation. Creative competence of the teacher makes his activity unique and productive.

Artistry and emotional coloring of teaching a foreign language will contribute to higher efficiency of learning new material while monotony will cause the reduction of students' interest in the subject [2].

As to the professional competence of the teacher, practical foreign language skills envisage such requirements as:

- competence in the correct pronunciation and intonation;
- thorough knowledge of vocabulary;
- thorough knowledge of grammar [4].

Concerning the teaching of such a subject as Foreign Language for Professional Purposes in the higher technical educational institution, an additional requirement is imposed on the teacher. It is the knowledge of the fundamentals of a future speciality of students. As a rule, teachers who start working at the foreign language departments of higher technical educational institutions do not know technical terminology and are not familiar with technical specialities of their students. This is the biggest difficulty which young teachers face in their work. Therefore the main task of the foreign language department is to help these teachers to cope with the task.

The faculty of linguistics of Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute provides teaching such a subject as Foreign Language for Professional Purposes at 25 faculties and institutes of the university which train students in 39 specialities and 168 specialisations. For the purpose of ensuring high-quality process of

teaching Foreign Language for Professional Purposes the faculty has developed the strategy for professional development of young teachers. The experienced specialists conduct seminars where young teachers receive step-by-step instructions how to prepare for classes, how to overcome the difficulties connected with peculiarities of technical translation, how to teach students to write abstracts and summaries to scientific articles. [4].

Foreign language teachers have to cooperate closely with the lecturers of the technical departments, attend regularly scientific conferences and practical seminars in order to know all the features of the future professional activity of their students. This knowledge will give them the opportunity to work fruitfully with professionally-oriented technical texts, to discuss them, to carry on role plays, to hold mini-conferences with the presentations of students' papers on the topics of year and degree projects. As we live in the age of scientific and technical progress and every day brings new discoveries and achievements, foreign language teachers of higher technical educational institutions have to work constantly to keep up with the latest innovations in science and technology.

The last but not the least important professional characteristic of the teacher is his methodical competence. Great attention is paid to this aspect in methodical literature. The teacher has to know the particulars of methods and techniques of teaching Foreign Language for Professional Purposes in order to plan expediently the chain of practical classes with the students, considering the stage of study, the content of material, the level of foreign language knowledge of the students of the group, their interests. Without methodical competence, without knowledge of psychological characteristics of students, without taking into account their individual features it is impossible to achieve positive results.

Despite a large number of efficient techniques and means of teaching, nowadays, as well as always, the main factor ensuring a high quality of training in general is the teacher. The necessity to keep up to date and to use the latest information technologies is one of the requirements to professional skills of the

teacher. The effectiveness of the usage of innovative technologies depends on the teaching staff of the higher educational institution. These latest technologies stipulate the versatility of professional activity of the teacher.

**Conclusions.** In modern literature professional competence means the ability to solve successfully the tasks of professional activity according to the adopted standards. The components of professional competence are the profound knowledge of the subject, the organizational skills, the methodical competence, the communicative competence and other professionally important personal qualities which provide the teacher with the ability to perform successfully the work. A special component of professional skills of the teacher of Foreign Language for Professional Purposes is the knowledge of the fundamentals of the student's future speciality.

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