

Period

May 2020

Aim

to find out the opinion of the students of the study programme of Business English on the quality of distance learning in translation studies

Method

Gemma Navickienė, a lecturer at the Language Centre, Chairperson of the Committee of the Field of Translation Studies, conducted a questionnaire survey to enable the students of the study programme of Business English to anonymously and voluntarily express their opinion on the quality of translation studies organised remotely.

Results

32 students participated in the survey.

The respondents rated the advantages and disadvantages of studying translation via contact and distance learning.

Contact studies were rated 4.5/5 by full-time (hereinafter FT) students and 4.9/5 by part-time (hereinafter PT) students. *Advantages*: more communicative activities, in-depth analysis of translation options, analysis of errors, easier to consolidate the material, more discussion, excellent technical possibilities (FT); clear and involving teaching, engaging lectures, lively communication, immediate clarification, and discussion (PT). *Disadvantages* include the necessity to travel to classes; it is difficult to concentrate (FT), high pace (FT and PT).

Distance learning scored 3.7/5 (FT) and 3.9/5 (PT). *The advantages* are that there is no need to leave home, more freedom and time to complete assignments (FT and PT). However, FT students missed face-to-face communication and motivation. *Other disadvantages* include passive group activities, some difficulty concentrating at home, more self-study, loss of knowledge and opportunities, frequent technical problems. PT students lacked face-to-face communication and professional support. They also reported higher time consumption than in a face-to-face discussion.

In response to students' comments, translation studies in the autumn semester of 2020 (before the lockdown) were organised live with both FT and PT students. The use of a board has been introduced for distance learning, with more discussion. However, this increased time consumption and reduced students' speaking time.