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EDUCATION PROGRAMS OF PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH COURSE FOR MANAGEMENT STUDENTS IN UKRAINIAN ENVIRONMENT: COMPETENCE APPROACH

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Modern development of the foreign language component in any professional environment (including management branch) leads to the necessity of educational programs modernization and standardization [2, p. 9]. So we conduct our research taking account of these two aspects.

Our analysis demonstrates that in the result of the post-modern reforms, education programs of professional English language course (including management specialties) in Ukrainian institutions of high learning are rather homogeneous and consist of the typical parts, among which are the following: the purpose of the discipline; the discipline description; the results of education; evaluation criteria; evaluation tools; the discipline program; themes of practical classes; forms of current and final control; tools, equipment and software used in the academic discipline; recommended sources of information [6, p. 16].

The purpose of teaching a foreign language course in a non-linguistic high educational institution (management belongs to this division) is to develop the

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necessary competences in the fields of professional and situational communication in oral and written forms [5, p. 63]. So in this aspect, Ukrainian education inherits education systems of all the European countries which have already adopted the competence model in foreign language proficiency development.

Judging from the program, learning a foreign language in Management specialty ensures the development of three types of competences: the integral competence; the basic competences; and the special professional competences [3, p. 153].

In this part of our study we characterize all these competences from the point of their implementation in the future management sphere of professional activity. Our analysis starts from the integral competence (IC) of a Bachelor of Management specialty which lies in the ability to solve complex specialized and practical problems, characterized by complexity and uncertainty of conditions, in the field of management or in the learning process, involving the application of theories and methods of social and behavioral sciences. The integral competence is strengthened by the ability of a foreign language communication in oral and written form, making the process of management decision-taking more complicated and balanced.

The basic competencies (BC), described in the educational program of professional English course for managers are:

- ability to apply knowledge in practical situations;
- knowledge and understanding of the subject area and understanding of professional activity;
- ability to communicate in a foreign language;
- skills of using information and communication technologies;
- ability to learn and master modern knowledge;
- ability to conduct research at the appropriate level;
- appreciation and respect for diversity and multiculturalism;
- ability to work in an international context;
- ability to act on the basis of international ethic considerations (motives) [2; 3; 4].

Very important that all these competences are amplified by the knowledge of a foreign language.

The next item of our research is the special professional competence (SPC), outlined in the educational program as the ability to create and organize effective communications in the process of an enterprise management. We must stress that this competence is difficult to implement into the qualified professional activity without the ability of a foreign language situational communication in oral and written forms.

So as we have investigated, nowadays such important for every profession concepts of «knowledge», «abilities» and «skills» are expanded by additional categories [1, p. 92]. The notion of «competence» is such category, which

supplements the practical side of the professional skills implementation. Furthermore in this study we judge the terms «language proficiency» and «language competence» as evaluative ones denoting an individual's spontaneous, general foreign language communication ability that helps to fulfil the professional tasks and make the informed decisions [4, p. 45].

Our research shows that education programs of professional English course for management specialties give the detailed definitions of the competence levels in four common language proficiency skills – «listening», «speaking», «reading» and «writing», thus limited to professional areas such as [5]: 1) manager as a future career; 2) types of management; 3) management principles; 4) history of management; 5) planning, organizing and controlling an enterprise; 6) economic, social and environmental performance; 7) work behaviors; 8) strategic management; 9) global trends; etc.

From the point of view of the Ukrainian economy development all these foreign language competences form the basis of the efficient professional activity of a manager in a new knowledge-based century. Modern Ukrainian economy needs specialists with high level of foreign language proficiency.

This research extends our understanding of the fact that foreign language competence improvement can lead out Ukrainian management specialists to the qualitatively new level, bringing them more opportunities of acquiring and changing of knowledge, information and experience within the European and global world environment.

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