

ABSTRACTS

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DIVERSIFICATION OF THE CONSTRUCTIVIST APPROACH TO TEACHING ENGLISH FOR PROFESSIONAL PURPOSES AT A NON-LINGUISTIC HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

The article discusses different variants of the constructivist approach to teaching English for professional purposes at a non-linguistic higher educational institution (diversification of the approach depending on the students' major and their stage of learning). Those variants are analyzed by way of describing the gradual development of the method of constructivist English language teaching for professional communication. Three principal variants of the developed method have been elaborated. The first two variants are: the one for teaching English to 2nd year students majoring in Economics and Business as distinct from the one for teaching that language to 2nd year students with some humanitarian major. The third variant is for teaching 1st year students as distinct from teaching 2nd year students.

Experiential and interactive learning, content-based instruction and limited out-of-class use of language-form-focused learning activities are considered as proper to all the three variants (except the latest modification of the second variant where language-form-focused learning activities are practically not used at all). Continuous simulations characterize the first variant and, to a more limited extent, the above-mentioned latest modification of the second variant. Blended learning with its organic combination of traditional in-class work and online learning is a distinctive feature of the second and third variants and, finally, the aspectization of the learning process in accordance with the components of the foreign language professional communicative competence to be acquired distinguishes only the third variant from the first two.

Key words: teaching English for professional purposes at a non-linguistic higher educational institution, constructivist approach, variants of the method of constructivist learning, blended learning, experiential learning, continuous simulation, aspectization.