

STATEMENT

**Dear members of the Accreditation Commission,
Dear Ukrainian. academic colleagues,**

My name is Wolf Bloemers, Prof. emeritus of the University of Applied Sciences Magdeburg-Stendal, Germany, Honorary Professor of Oleksandr Dovzhenko Hlukhiv National Pedagogical University, Ukraine, and former European Coordinator of B.A. and M.A. courses of study. I greet you virtually from the screen in Germany and thank you for the opportunity to share with you some of my experiences regarding the English language skills of the students of the University of Hlukhiv.



For almost 9 years now (since 2013) I have been working with great pleasure as a professor at the Hlukhiv university with lectures, with seminars, with master courses, with consultations and papers, with different online conferences and with European projects, all this on a voluntary basis.

During all my academic activities there with topics on: “Social inclusion in Europe”, “Ethics and Social Justice”, “New approaches to diagnostics”, “Theories and support options for people with Down syndrome and with Autism”, “The Bologna Process” , “Culture of Communication” etc., I have always experienced *highly engaged English language students* who attended my teaching, and who always regularly contributed to questions and to discussions during the academic events with their very good English skills.

I would like to mention the following experiences in a particularly positive way:

1.) English language students from the philological faculty regularly supported international projects by interpreting and translating from Russian and Ukrainian into English for German students and German lecturers who took part in exchange programmes at the University in Görlitz in Germany and in Hlukhiv, Ukraine – and vice versa they interpreted and translated for Ukrainian students and Ukrainian lectures from English into Russian and Ukrainian; *the great linguistic knowledge and competence of the students* from Hlukhiv contributed in a very decisive way to the success of the exchange projects! Without their very good English language skills, there would have been major communication and understanding problems! A German colleague from the University of Görlitz made this explicit in a written letter of thanks.

2.) Apart from attending my lectures and seminars on the aforementioned different topics, English language students of Bachelor level have participated in several online seminars with me: on the topics of European policy, of European perspectives as well as on seminars on Geography I designed for them; *their language skills - vocabulary and grammar - were at a good to very good level*: it was a pleasure to share and discuss with them in English.

3.) Eleven English language students of the Hlukhiv University were my students on a face-to-face one-week master's module in autumn 2018, which was part of their Master program: "Theory and Practice of Inclusive Education"; I was very much impressed by their *really excellent written and spoken English language skills!* Their really great language skills testified to *excellent language preparation at the previous Bachelor level*. Without a certainly thorough and intensive, years of lexical, grammatical, morphological and syntactic linguistic preparation at bachelor level at their university in Hlukhiv, without these *excellently guided and trained qualifications by their great lecturer(s)*, this success of the Master students would not have been possible!

Conclusion: In all these 9 years of my work at the National Pedagogical University in Hlukhiv, I have noticed good, mostly very good and also excellent English skills of the philology students. These skills and knowledge formed the basis for a successful and always very enjoyable work with them. In my opinion, the reason for this lies - in addition to the motivation of the students - in *the qualifications and the high commitment of their lecturers, of the whole staff of the responsible chair*. In addition: Due to my very pleasant experiences with students of English so far - and also those of German - I am very willing to continue my online teaching (in English as well as in German) with students!

I am looking very much forward to it!

Prof.Dr.Dr.h.c. et Prof.h.c.mult. WOLF BLOEMERS, Germany
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