

THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION  
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**ENTRANCE EXAMINATION CONTENT  
FOR THE MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM  
IN LINGUISTICS, CODE 45.04.02**

Moscow 2018

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## **1. General Information**

### **The Aim of the Entrance Examination**

The aim of the entrance examination is to test English language proficiency and communicative competence necessary to enroll in a Master's Degree Program in Linguistics, code 45.04.02. Successful candidates should meet the requirements for C1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and demonstrate advanced communication skills.

### **Entrance Examination Format and Timing.**

#### **Assessment Criteria**

For Russian citizens and for citizens of other countries, the entrance examination for the master's degree program in Linguistics, code 45.04.02, is conducted in oral form.

The oral examination in English includes a talk on a given general topic and a comprehensive answer to a question on intercultural communication.

An interview with one candidate takes 30 minutes.

The results are assessed according to a 100-point scale. The final result is the sum total of points gained for two examination questions.

Candidates can earn up to 50 points for their talk on a general topic and up to 50 points for their answer to the question on intercultural communication.

Candidates can bring the following items to an examination: a pen, a pencil, an eraser.

## 2. Examination Content

The oral examination in English in the major field of study includes two tasks:

1. A talk on a given general topic
2. Comprehensive answer to a question on intercultural communication.

General topics belong to the following thematic fields:

Thematic field 1. Culture and Society

Example: Science is a threat to humanity.

Thematic field 2. Education

Example: Degrees in the creative arts are luxuries society can no longer afford.

Thematic field 3. The Mass Media

Example: Newspapers are a thing of the past.

Thematic field 4. Politics and Public Administration

Example: Government leaders should be transparent about their health.

Examiners assess the candidate's ability to prove or refute a given statement with the help of a wide range of appropriate vocabulary and grammatical forms.

Questions on intercultural communication cover the following issues:

Issue 1. Culture shock, reasons and consequences.

Issue 2. Cultural values and promotional strategies.

Issue 3. Intercultural interaction between students.

Issue 4. The influence of national culture on academic culture.

Issue 5. Cultural identity and challenges of globalization

Issue 6. Overcoming problems in intercultural communication.

Issue 7. Cultural peculiarities in conflict management.

Examiners assess the candidate's basic awareness of intercultural communication issues and ability to express his or her point of view with the help of a wide range of appropriate vocabulary and grammatical forms.

### 3. Recommended Reading

1. Hofstede, G., Hofstede, G.J., Minkov, M. (2010). Cultures and Organizations: Software of the Mind. - 3rd Edition. McGraw-Hill USA.
2. <http://idebate.org/debatabase>
3. Journal of Intercultural Communication. URL: <http://www.immi.se/intercultural/>
4. Wolfson, J. (2013). The Great Debate: A Handbook for Policy Debate and Public Forum Debate. Naperville: LightningBolt Press.
5. DeVito, Joseph A. (2015). Human Communication. The Basic Course. – 13<sup>th</sup> Edition. Pearson Education Limited.
6. Kern, Richard. (2015). Language, Literacy and Technology.- Cambridge University Press.