

Mária Spišiaková

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Mária Spišiaková is an Assistant Professor of English for Business Communication at the Faculty of Economics, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. Her areas of interest include new trends and methods in education, developing soft skills and Academic Writing. She has been involved in informal education courses and methodology that she has been introducing into her teaching practice and research interests.

Qualification and Education

- 2008 – PhD, Matej Bel University, Faculty of Education, Banská Bystrica; Research area: Pedagogy, Dissertation: Innovation Methods in Teaching of Foreign Languages
- 1986 – rigorous exam in English language, Comenius University, Faculty of Arts, Bratislava, Slovak Republic
- 1982 – Masters in Translation (English and Arabic), Comenius University, Faculty of Arts, Bratislava, Slovak Republic
- 2007 – Methodology course for teachers of English-medium programs, Mount Royal College, Canada
- 2000 – Methodology course for English teachers at universities, Oxford House College, London, Great Britain

Employment | Service

- 1987 – present: Assistant Professor in English for Business Communication, Matej Bel University, Faculty of Economics, Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic
- 1983 – 1987: Translator – Interpreter from English, Heavy Engineering Works, Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic

Research Interests

- New methods in ELT
- Academic Writing
- Methodology of teaching English-medium courses
- Methods of developing Soft Skills

Recent Publications

- COLE, D. – SPIŠIAKOVÁ, M. 2017. Writing to be read. In *Philologica: Lingua Academica*, 56(5): 43-52. Bratislava : Univerzita Komenského. ISBN 978-80-223-4362-6
- COLE, D. – SPIŠIAKOVÁ, M. 2015. Writing is what counts, not counting what is written. In *Forlang 2017*, 6(1): 1-8. Košice : Technická univerzita. ISBN 978-80-553-2843-0
- SPIŠIAKOVÁ, M. – COLE, D. 2015. *English for Slovak adult learners: a short pre-intermediate English course*. Banská Bystrica : Vydavateľstvo Univerzity Mateja Bela – Belianum. ISBN 978-80-557-0902-4
- SPIŠIAKOVÁ, M. – CHORVÁT, J. 2014. Foreign languages and tourism. In *Folia Turistica 4*: 481-487. Banská Bystrica : Univerzita Mateja Bela – Belianum. ISBN 978-80-557-0697-9
- ZELENKOVÁ, A. – SPIŠIAKOVÁ, M. 2013. The impact of internationalisation of higher education on teachers' professional competences and skills. In *European Scientific Journal*. Azores : University of the Azores, 2013(1): 443-451. ISSN 1857-7881
- ZELENKOVÁ, A. – SPIŠIAKOVÁ, M. – KUBIŠOVÁ, Ľ. 2013. Podpora výučby študijných programov v cudzích jazykoch na UMB v Banskej Bystrici (Supporting foreign-language medium study programmes at MBU in Banská Bystrica). In *Forlang 2013 : Cudzie jazyky v akademickom prostredí*: 338-345. Košice : Technická univerzita. ISBN 978-80-553-1471-6.
- SPIŠIAKOVÁ, M. 2011. *English for academic staff: Writing skills*. Banská Bystrica : Univerzita Mateja Bela. ISBN 978-80-557-0176-9
- ZELENKOVÁ, A. – SPIŠIAKOVÁ, M. 2009. The Development of ESP: A Case of the Faculty of Economics. In *Acta Linguistica No 7 : Languages for Specific Purposes and Intercultural Communication*: 315-320. Banská Bystrica : Univerzita Mateja Bela. ISBN 978-80-8083-791-4
- BLAŠKOVÁ, S. et al. 2004. UNlcert – *Systém jazykovej výučby a certifikácie pre študentov nefilologických odborov* (UNlcert – European unifying system of university language programmes). Bratislava : EKONÓM. ISBN 80-225-1858-1

Research Funding (Selected Projects)

- ERASMUS +
2014 – 2016: Academic Writing Online. Partners: University of Applied Sciences Burgenland, Austria, Institute for Language and Preparatory Studies, Charles University Prague, Czech Republic, Esterházy Károly College Eger, Hungary, University of Maribor, Slovenia, College of Business and Administration in Zapresic, Croatia, WWEDU World Wide Education GmbH Wels, Austria
- OECD
2011 – 2012: AHELO – Assessment of Higher Education Learning Outcomes. Preparation of international testing of learning outcomes of Slovak university students

- ERASMUS

2009 – 2011: COBEREN – COntsumer BEhaviour Erasmus Network. Research and comparison of consumer behaviour in 31 partner countries

- Tatra banka Foundation

2006: International language certificate UNicert® at Faculty of Economics, Matej Bel University – preparation for accreditation

- SOCRATES

2001 – 2003: LELA – Learning Eastern European Languages / Langues de PECO. Creation of an international database of courses in the languages of Central and Eastern Europe