

# Olexandra Kostenko

English Language Support Program  
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Emory University  
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## EDUCATION

### **Doctor of Philosophy, Applied Linguistics and ESL (ABD)**

Georgia State University

Thesis title “*An Analysis of L1, L2, and Generation 1.5 Students’ Writing Development in English Composition 1101*”

### **Master of Arts, Teaching English as a Second Language, May 2013**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Thesis Title: “*Adaptation of the English Placement Test Specification to the Ukrainian Argumentative Writing Test within the Contrastive Rhetoric Approach*”

### **Master of Arts, English Language and Literature, June 2007 (with honors)**

O.Honchar Dnipropetrovsk National University

Thesis Title: “*Concept ‘water’ in English literary texts of the 19-th and 20-th centuries*”

### **Bachelor of Arts, English Language and Literature, June 2006 (with honors)**

O.Honchar Dnipropetrovsk National University

Thesis Title: “*Polysemy of terms of ecology in cognitive aspect (on the material of the English language).*”

## HIGHLIGHTED TOPICS

### **English for Academic Purposes – Oral Communication and Academic Writing**

- 15 years’ experience teaching in a variety of academic settings in the U.S. and abroad, in such programs as English as a Second/Foreign Language, Intensive English, and Applied Linguistics, working with graduate, undergraduate, and pre-matriculated students.
- Experience applying for and winning academic scholarships and grants.
- Experience providing workshops on writing skills for applications to graduate programs, scholarships, and grants.
- Experience providing workshops on the use of educational technologies to in-service ESL and EFL teachers from abroad.

### **English for Specific Purposes – Oral Communication and Professional Writing**

- Developed curriculum and taught English for Specific Purposes (ESP) courses to Ukrainian government officials and civil servants, focusing on U.S. culture, presentation skills, business communication, grant writing, and more.

**Slavic Languages (Russian and Ukrainian)**

- Developed task-based Ukrainian language curriculum for Special Operations Forces personnel.
- Taught Russian language to military and college students.

**UNIVERSITY  
TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE**

**English Language Specialist**, English Language Support Program, Laney Graduate School, Emory University – August 2024 – present time

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Department of Applied Linguistics and ESL, Georgia State University – January 2020 – July 2024; August 2013 – October 2014

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, School of Linguistics, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, August 2011 – May 2013

**English Language Lecturer**, Department of International Economics, O. Honchar Dnipropetrovsk National University, September 2009 – June 2011

**English Language Lecturer**, Department of Ukrainian and Foreign Philology and Art, O. Honchar Dnipropetrovsk National University, September 2007 – October 2008

**COURSES  
TAUGHT**

**Georgia State University**

**AL courses**

AL2290 Intro Special Topics	(in-person)	Summer 2014
AL2101 Exploring Language	(in-person)	Fall 2021

**ESL courses**

ENGL1101	(in-person)	Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2020, Fall 2022, Spring 2023
ENGL1101	(online)	Spring 2021

ENGL 1102	(in-person & online)	Spring 2020
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IEP 0740 Oral Communication for Academic Purposes, level IV	(in-person)	Spring 2023
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IEP Structure and Composition, levels I & IV	(in-person)	Summer 2023, Fall 2023
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### **Foreign Language Courses**

Russian 1001 (Elementary)	(in-person)	Fall 2014
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### **Chi-Chack, LLC**

Russian Language (Advanced-low)	(online)	October-December, 2022
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### **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

ESL114 Academic Writing	(in-person)	Fall 2011, Spring 2011, Fall 2012
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ESL 501 Academic Writing	(in-person)	Spring 2013
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### **O. Honchar Dnipropetrovsk National University, Department of Ukrainian and Foreign Philology and Art**

English as First Foreign Language, Formation of Language Skills on the Material of Literary Texts, Theory and Practice of Translation	(in-person)	August 2007 – October 2008
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### **O. Honchar Dnipropetrovsk National University, Department of International Economics**

English as a Foreign Language, Theory and Practice of Translation,	(in person)	September 2009 – June 2011
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Practical Course of Translation of Scientific Literature by Professional Orientation (for the students majoring in Management), Foreign Language for Professional Communication (for the students majoring in Management and International Relations).

**CO.ED private English School, Ukraine**

Intensive Grammar for middle & high school students (in-person and online) February 2019 – September 2019

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Ukrainian Language Lead**, Transparent Language (remote, part-time) February 2021 – July 2022

Duties:

- Under the guidance of the Curriculum Development Manager, provided support for overall planning of Ukrainian language curriculum and assessment development
- Supported the work of a team of the Ukrainian language curriculum content creators and reviewers
- Edited target language deliverables according to iterative process specified by the Curriculum Development Manager
- Served as in-house expert on target language grammar and culture
- Provided the final lead review of the pre-Quality Control version of target language content produced by team
- Worked with Curriculum Development Manager to proactively address issues with contractors or content creation process
- Planned for 140 sequential lessons in the curriculum, determined vocabulary, grammar, spiraled vocabulary, spiraled grammar, cultural information, etc. for context- and task-specific lessons
- Adapted authentic content to be used in lessons
- Conducted interviews and helped with onboarding/mentoring/trainings of language specialists in the Ukrainian language team
- Served as a to-go-to-person on all past present and future lessons' content to assist with language use questions

**Website translator and moderator (Russian, Ukrainian – English)**, Flagma.ua, Dnipro, Ukraine, (remote, full-time) August 2017 – October 2018

- Translation of website content and meta tags from Russian into English using SEO principles
- Moderation of the newly-posted English ads, jobs and resumes: editing the content to make sure it complies with the website posting requirements, editing vocabulary and/or grammar, placing a post in a more appropriate category and/or subcategory if necessary
- Sending out notifications with correction requests to the users if needed
- Editing users' and company's profiles
- Moderation of English LSI keywords that correspond to ads, jobs and resumes
- Testing website updates
- Search, analysis and interpretation of English media sources on issues of website optimization, such as SEO techniques, website traffic increase, user motivation, user experience improvement through enhancements of website features, adaptive website design, etc.

**Logistics specialist**, NGO Save the Children, Dnipro, Ukraine, (full-time) November 2014 - December 2015

- Procurement of humanitarian aid for internally displaced people in Ukraine
- Management of warehouse, assets, and fleet
- Establishing and maintaining contacts with service providers/suppliers
- Training and assisting new logistics staff
- Coordinating with the programs staff and planning purchases accordingly
- Drafting and editing contracts with service providers/suppliers.

**Russian/Ukrainian – English interpreter, translator, EFL Teacher** Dnipropetrovsk Technical and Engineering Center “Contact”, full-time, March 2008 – September 2010

- Written translations of technical manuals, dealership contracts and business correspondence
- Oral interpretation of business negotiations, product presentations, commissioning of the metalworking equipment at the customer’s premises
- Teaching EFL, Business English, and Technical English to the company’s sales managers.

## **GRANTS & AWARDS**

Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Doctoral Scholars Program (DSP) Dissertation Year Award (2024-2025).

Grant from the U.S. Department of State for the implementation of the project “Georgia State University’s Professional and English Language

Training for Ukrainian Government Professionals and Civil Servants” (2023-2024).

D.Cook & C. Robbins Scholarship (Fall, 2023).

Fulbright Graduate Student Academic Exchange Program Award (2011-2013).

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Manuscript Reviewer for Journal of Language and Education ([Journal of Language and Education \(hse.ru\)](http://www.hse.ru)) and Language Assessment Quarterly ([Language Assessment Quarterly | Taylor & Francis Online \(tandfonline.com\)](http://www.tandfonline.com))

Community Outreach Volunteer for the Community-Based English Program among the Ukrainian immigrants and refugees  
Workshop Facilitator in the Intensive English Program for visiting Fulbright teachers, teachers from Iraq and Uzbekistan, and international students.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

The Consortium on Graduate Communication, Member  
TESOL International Association, Member  
Language Testing Research Colloquium, Member

## **SKILLS**

Statistical Analysis: SPSS

Audio Analysis: Audacity

Discourse and Thematic Analysis: NVivo

Corpus Linguistics Tools: AntLab Software (AntConc, Antgram)

Presentation: PowerPoint, Prezi

Language Skills: Russian (native), Ukrainian (native), English (near-native), German (basic).

## **CERTIFICATES**

Graduate Teacher Certificate issued by the Centre for Teaching Excellence at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2012).

Teacher Scholar Certificate issued by the Centre for Teaching Excellence at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2013).

Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language issued by the Department of Linguistics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2013).

Certificate in Mastering Online Teaching by Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at Georgia State University (2020).

Certificate of Completion of 2021 Georgia STARTALK Teacher Program (awarded on December 30, 2021).

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS**

### **In Ukraine:**

Kostenko, O. (2007). Humanistic approach to linguistics students' preparation. Materials of International Scientific Conference *Humanitarization of Higher Education*.

- Kostenko, O. (2008). Cross-cultural communication in TEFL. Abstract of papers. *FLT Innovative Technologies in Cross-Cultural Aspect*.
- Kostenko, O. (2009). Teaching vocabulary and culture through concepts (on the material of the concept “water”). Materials for the regional scientific conference *Tendencies and Perspectives of FLT in Innovative Society*.
- Kostenko, O. (2009). Aspects of translation of the concept “office”. Materials of the 2-nd international scientific-practical conference *European integration and perspectives of economic potential development of Ukraine*.
- Kostenko, O. (2010). Cognitive-communicative approach to TEFL for specific purposes. Materials of the scientific conference *Finances of Ukraine* (Linguistics section).
- Kostenko, O. (2010). Cognitive aspect in ELT. Materials of the annual scientific conference *Methodology of teaching foreign languages to non-linguistics students*.

### **In the U.S.:**

- Kostenko, O. (2013). *Adaptation of the EPT specification to a Ukrainian argumentative writing test within the contrastive rhetoric approach*. Retrieved from IDEALS, Dissertations and Theses at UIUC, <https://www.ideals.illinois.edu/handle/2142/44168>
- Kostenko, O. (2013). Adaptation of Assessment of Argumentative Writing Tests from American to Ukrainian Standards. Poster presentation at MwALT. Michigan State University.
- Batchelor, J., Tan S., Feng, Y., & **Kostenko, O.** (2021). Exploring the effect of attractiveness and accent on language attitudes. Conference paper presentation at AAAL 2021 Virtual Conference.
- Kostenko, O.**, Karimi, M., & Cushing, S. (2021). External rating scale analysis for ESL writing placement test. Conference paper presentation at MwALT. (virtual format).
- Kostenko, O.** & Batchelor, J. (2023). Rhetorical moves in Facebook sponsorship appeals by Ukrainians displaced by the Russo-Ukrainian war. Conference paper presentation at the 9<sup>th</sup> Intercultural Rhetoric and Discourse Conference. Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.
- Kostenko, O. (2023). Writing skills development in L1, L2, and Generation 1.5 students over the course of one semester in FYC classes. Roundtable conference presentation at Symposium on Second Language Writing. Arizona State University.
- Kostenko, O. (2024). Teachers' and students' views on multilingual writing development in FYC courses. Roundtable conference presentation at Symposium on Second Language Writing. University of Arizona.
- Kostenko, O. (Forthcoming). Crossing Linguistic Frontiers: Task-Based Russian and Ukrainian Language Teaching in Military and Government Contexts. In N. Yiğitoğlu Aptoula & M. Reichelt (Eds.), *Narratives of Non-English L2 Language Teachers*. Routledge.