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**Prof. Dr. Pınar ALTIOK GÜREL
Dr. Kenan BEŞALTI**

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TEACHING ENGLISH TO MEDICAL STUDENTS IN KAZAKHSTAN: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SYLLABUSES

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ABSTRACT

In the present-day world, English plays an important role in professional communication in all spheres, as most of the world's communications is done in English. Compliance with the requirements of the modern domestic and international labor market can be considered as one of the main criteria for the quality of training of future medical specialists in Kazakhstan. According to the latest published normative document, namely the Order of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated July 4, 2022 No. KR DSM-63 "On approval of state mandatory standards for levels of education in the field of healthcare" (as amended by the Order of the Acting Minister of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated 05/24/2023 No. 86), the content of the "Foreign Language" course can be independently determined by universities taking into consideration the contemporary labour market requirements in order to improve the quality of professional training. For this reason, in this study, we made an attempt to investigate the similarities and differences in "Foreign Language" course syllabus design at two leading universities in Almaty which train future healthcare professionals. The following sections of the syllabi were considered: (1) objectives, (2) expected outcomes, (3) used textbooks, (4) course topics. Results show that the main difference between the considered syllabuses is the presence of professionally-oriented topics in one of the syllabuses which is also reflected in the different choices of textbooks, expected outcomes, and learning objectives in the course content. This study summarizes best practices in designing of "Foreign Language" course syllabus and suggests recommendations for possible improvements.

Keywords: English language teaching (ELT), English for medical purposes, syllabus analysis.