

**APPROVED**  
**at the meeting of the Academic**  
**Council of NJSC Al-Farabi Kazakh**  
**National University**  
**Protocol №14 dated 16.06.2026**

**Entrance Examination Program**  
**for applicants to the Doctoral Program**  
**in the Group of Educational Programs**  
**D059 – “Foreign Philology”**

**I. General provisions**

1. The program was drawn up in accordance with the Order of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated October 31, 2018 No. 600 “On Approval of the Model Rules for Admission to Education in Educational Organizations Implementing Educational Programs of Higher and Postgraduate Education” (hereinafter referred to as the Model Rules).

2. The entrance examination for doctoral studies consists of an interview, an essay, and an exam on the profile of a group of educational programs.

<b>№</b>	<b>Block</b>	<b>Points</b>
1	Interview	30
2	Essay	20
3	Exam according to the profile of the group of the educational program	50
Total admission score		100/75

3. The entrance exam lasts 3 hours and 10 minutes, during which applicants write an essay and respond to an online exam form. An interview is held at the university prior to the entrance exam.

**II. Procedure for the entrance examination**

1. 1. Applicants to the doctoral program D059 – "Foreign Philology" write a problem-based/thematic essay. The essay must be at least 250 words long.

The essay's purpose is to assess the applicant's analytical and creative abilities, as expressed in the ability to construct their own arguments based on theoretical knowledge, social experience, and personal experience.

Essay types:

- a motivational essay outlining the motivations for the research;
- a scientific and analytical essay justifying the relevance and methodology of the planned study;
- a problem-based/thematic essay reflecting various aspects of scientific knowledge in the subject area.

2. The electronic exam card consists of three questions.

## **Topics for preparing for the exam in the educational program group profile:**

### **Discipline «Modern Methodology of Foreign Philological Studies»**

1. *Foreign Philology – Philology – Linguistics*. Structure of linguistics: aims, objectives, object of study, and methods. Macrolinguistics and microlinguistics as major branches of modern linguistics. Languages of the world. Genealogical, typological, and areal classifications of languages. Genealogical classification of languages: Indo-European and Altaic languages. Modern linguistics: ontology and methodology. Changes in ontological perspectives and methodology throughout the history of linguistics. Comparative linguistics. Philosophical and methodological foundations of linguistics. Cognitive linguistics as a contemporary linguistic paradigm. Concept, conceptual sphere, conceptual analysis, and linguistic worldview. Categorization as a cognitive mechanism. Psycholinguistics and neurolinguistics as interdisciplinary fields of modern linguistic research. S. Krashen's theory of language acquisition. N. Chomsky's theory of Universal Grammar. Contemporary interdisciplinary research in linguistics.

2. *Language as a special type of semiotic system*. Descriptivism. American linguistics. Text and discourse. Classical texts and display texts. Glossematics (Danish or Copenhagen structuralism). Functions of language. Language contact. Outcomes of language contact: interference, linguistic areas, bilingualism, diglossia, pidgin languages, and creole languages. Language variation. British and American varieties of English. English as a global language. Lingua franca. B. Kachru's theory of concentric circles. The concept of World Englishes.

3. *Linguistic paradigms*. Systemic-structural, anthropocentric, communicative-pragmatic, and discourse-cognitive paradigms. The Prague Linguistic Circle. Functional linguistics: methodology and methods. Lexicography. Types of dictionaries. Lexicology and lexicography. Semantics, semasiology, and onomasiology. The sentence. Types of sentences across languages. Scientific paradigm and methodology. Explanatoriness, expansionism, functionalism, text-centeredness, and semantic-centeredness. Conceptual analysis as a method of modern linguistics. The Conceptual Metaphor Theory of G. Lakoff and M. Johnson. Frame and frame analysis. Categorization, metaphor, and metonymy as cognitive mechanisms of meaning construction. Methods of linguistic research: distributive, transformational, typological, contrastive, and quantitative methods, as well as immediate constituent analysis.

4. *Language as soft power*. Linguistics in Kazakhstan (from A. Baitursynov to the National Corpus of the Kazakh Language). Semantics. Semasiology. Subject matter, objectives, and methods. Semantics and pragmatics. Linguistic hermeneutics. Theories of language origin as reflections of the progressive development of linguistics. Corpus linguistics as a branch of applied linguistics. National language corpora. The British National Corpus (BNC). Applied computer programs in linguistics. Quantitative methods in language research. Digital technologies and artificial intelligence in modern linguistics. Language policy and language planning. State, official, local, native, and dominant languages. Language ideology. Language situation and its parameters. State language and national identity. Language policies of Kazakhstan, the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

### **Discipline «Sociolinguistic aspects in language Learning»**

1. *Sociolinguistics as a science and as an academic discipline*. Methods of Sociolinguistics: Informants and Respondents. Sociolinguistic methods: types of material collection. Sociolinguistic methods: observation and participant observation. Sociolinguistic methods: oral interview, questionnaire. Macrosociolinguistics and microsociolinguistics as the main areas of sociolinguistic research. Theoretical and applied sociolinguistics. General scientific and specialized methods of sociolinguistics. The associative experiment as a method for studying linguistic identity.

2. *Directions of sociolinguistic research: theoretical and applied sociolinguistics*. Macrosociolinguistics and Microsociolinguistics. Ethnic and linguistic identity. Language planning: planning the language corpus, language status, and language education. Language status.

Language conflict. Code-switching and language shift. Bilingualism and multilingualism. Language ideology and linguistic identity in modern society.

3. *Language policy and its types.* Balance of Language Policy in Kazakhstan. State language, official language, local language. State language, official language, local language, native language, second language, and dominant language. State language and state identity. Language policy of Kazakhstan. Language policy of the USA, Canada, and Great Britain. Monolingualism and bilingualism policies. Indigenization as an instrument of language policy in the USSR.

4. *Language situation in the world countries.* Language situation in the Republic of Kazakhstan. Language planning in the USA and Canada. Parameters of the language situation. The language policy of monolingualism and bilingualism. Contemporary sociolinguistic research in Kazakhstan. Language planning as a means of regulating the language situation. State, official, and world languages. The World Languages Club. The language situation in the context of globalization.

### **Discipline «Language impact and intercultural communication»**

1. *The concept of culture. The characteristics and elements of culture.* The characteristics and elements of culture. Proverbs, sayings, fiction, Beliefs, Attitudes, and Values. Cultural markers. National worldview. Ethnolinguistics and linguacultural studies. History of the emergence and development of intercultural communication theory. Intercultural communication in the USA, Europe, Russia, and Kazakhstan. Current trends in the development of intercultural communication.

2. *Culture Analysis.* Single dimension and Multidimensional models. High Context Culture vs Low Context Culture. E. Hall's theory. Polychronic and monochronic cultures. The structure of intercultural communication. Determinants of intercultural communication. Attitudes toward nature, time, space, and freedom. Acculturation and its main forms. Culture shock and coping mechanisms. Intercultural competence. Hofstede's theory of cultural dimensions. The problem of understanding in intercultural communication. Intercultural conflicts. Prejudices and stereotypes in intercultural communication. National stereotypes and their role in intercultural interaction.

3. *Types of intercultural communication.* Verbal, nonverbal and paraverbal communication. Features of non-verbal behavior in different cultures. Styles of verbal communication. Different registers of communication. Pragmatics and Pragma-linguistics. The subject and object of pragmalinguistics. Basic units of conceptual apparatus in pragmalinguistics. Communicative and pragmatic approaches. Language and communication. Language impact. Culture of speech and communicative behavior.

4. *Theory of speech acts.* The concepts of J. Austin and J. Searle. Components of the speech act, the factors of addresser and addressee. Locution, illocution, perlocution. Locutionary act, illocutionary act, perlocutionary act. Communicative influence and pragmatic strategies. Verbal means of influence in intercultural communication. The role of speech acts in intercultural interaction.

### **Discipline «Modern theory and trends in English speaking literature»**

1. *Humanism as the basis of the European Renaissance.* Its main stages. Chronological boundaries. The role of individual European countries in the culture of the Renaissance. The main themes, stable images, genre originality of the Renaissance literature. The world of Shakespeare's characters and their correlation with the era. The problem of time and hero, power and submission, freedom and lack of freedom of choice in the works of Shakespeare. The main stages of William Shakespeare's career. English Renaissance literature. The Oxford Humanist Circle. The European heroic epic as the foundation of literary tradition.

2. *Foreign literature of the 17th - 18th centuries.* Baroque and Classicism: ideology and poetics. Rococo in literature. The problem of "educational realism". Western European sentimentalism as a style and as an "ideology". Baroque and classic theaters in their typological

essence and national variations. English educational novel, "travel" and literary prose as the most important stages in the formation of the genre of the novel and the accompanying genre of essays in the literature of Western Europe. Daniel Defoe. Jonathan Swift and Gulliver's Travels. The Chivalric Romance: Origins, Development, and Poetics. Utopia and Dystopia in European Literature of the 17th and 18th Centuries.

3. *Foreign literature of the XIX century*. Problems of periodization of the literary process in Western Europe. Distinctive features of 19th century literature in the context of world historical and cultural development. The literary content of the 19th century in its dynamics. Struggle between "literary" and "truth of life". Walter Scott as the founder of the historical novel. Jane Austen and the emergence of the realistic tradition. The phenomenon of classical literature and the classical writer in English literature.

4. *Romanticism as the beginning of the era of non-normative poetics*. National identity of American romanticism, its ideological and aesthetic features, artistic innovation of J. F. Cooper. Cooper's Contribution to the American Novel. A cycle of novels about "Leather Stocking" by E.A. Poe. The artistic originality of Poe's prose. American Romanticism and its Main Representatives. The Formation of National Identity in American Literature.

5. *Realism*. C. Dickens. Periodization of creativity. Genres. The problem of the aesthetic ideal. Dickens and Victorianism. Expanded metaphors and symbols in the writer's artistic world. Typology of characters. Tradition and Innovation W. Thackeray. General characteristics of the creative path. "The Book of Snobs". Thackeray's Vanity Fair. The author's position and methods of expression. Naturalism in American literature. Theodore Dreiser and his place in American literature. The social novel in American literature.

6. *The Phenomenon of "Female novel" in England*. The novels of E. and S. Bronte. Imagination problem. Recreation of stable plot models. Novels by E. Gaskell and D. Eliot. Updating the problematic and expanding the thematic range of the women's novel. The concept of the tragic in Hardy's novels. English Symbolism and its Predecessors. Women's Literature as a Phenomenon of English Culture. Gender Aspects of the 19th-Century Literary Process.

7. *Symbolism*. Wilde's Symbolism: Theory and Practice. Wilde and Ruskin. Fairy tales, drama, O. Wilde's novel. Preconditions for European neo-romanticism. National modifications of neo-romanticism. Specificity of the neo-romantic ideal. Neo-romanticism in England. Hero typology. Works by Stevenson, Kipling Konrad. Features of the "literature of action". Arthur Conan Doyle as a master of the detective genre.

8. *The tradition of the Victorian romance*. Creativity D. Galsworthy. "The Forsyte Saga". The social novels of H.G. Wells. Utopia and dystopia in his novels. Science fiction as a literary phenomenon. The dramaturgy of B. Shaw. Intellectual drama of the 20th century. The work of Agatha Christie and the development of the detective genre.

9. *Literary situation in the USA*. Creativity M. Twain. The novel "The Adventure of Huckleberry Finn". The importance of Twain's work for 20th-century American literature. Naturalistic and neo-romantic tendencies in the works of George London. The novel "Martin Eden." The problem of the artist and society. American poetry of the 19th and 20th centuries: W. Whitman, R. Frost, C. Sandburg, L. Hughes. American drama: Lillian Hellman, Arthur Miller.

10. *Foreign literature of the twentieth century*. Modernism as an artistic system. J. Joyce and his work. "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man," "Ulysses," "Finnegans Wake." Mythologism and the stream of consciousness. R. Aldington. W. Faulkner. E. Hemingway. The iceberg theory and the problem of the lost generation. Features of the poetics of modernism. Realism, modernism, and postmodernism in 20th-century literature.

11. *Synthesis of poetics of myth and intellectual novel of the XX century*. Features of contemporary realism and its interaction with other literary and artistic movements. The realist novel in contemporary literature. Issues of postmodernism. The specificity of the postmodern novel. Comparative literature as a field of literary studies. The scholarly legacy of A.N. Veselovsky, V.M. Zhirmunsky, and M.M. Bakhtin. Reception aesthetics and the Constance School (H.R. Jauss and W. Iser). Narratology as a contemporary method of literary text analysis.

Poststructuralism in literary studies. The concepts of R. Barthes and J. Derrida. Contemporary English literature: I. Murdoch, J. le Carré, I. McEwan, J. Barnes, J. Harris, and J.K. Rowling. African American literature. Native American literature. Contemporary trends in the development of English-language literature.

### III. List of references

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