MODERN APPROACHES IN TEACHING LATIN LANGUAGE

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Abstract. This article explores the theoretical and practical foundations of modern pedagogical technologies in teaching Latin, particularly focusing on project-based learning, communicative approaches, and the integration of information and communication technologies (ICT). Within the context of medical higher education, Latin language instruction is enhanced through professionally oriented projects, enabling students to deepen their subject knowledge, master medical terminology, develop independent thinking, and improve communicative competence.

Keywords: Latin language, project-based learning, communicative competence, medical terminology, modern methods, interactive approach.

Introduction:

As the foundation of classical scientific and medical terminology, Latin retains a vital role in modern medical education. Beyond rote memorization and translation, adapting modern educational technologies to Latin instruction fosters a creative and interactive learning environment. These methods aim to transform Latin from a traditionally passive subject into an engaging and professionally relevant tool for communication. The role of Latin in medical education extends far beyond rote memorization of terminology; when integrated with professional context and modern teaching strategies, it becomes a dynamic and practical linguistic tool. As the article demonstrates, contemporary educational methods—such as project-based learning, the communicative approach, and the use of information and communication technologies (ICT)—transform Latin instruction into a more interactive, creative, and professionally relevant experience.

Main Body: Latin remains central to understanding medical terminology. Innovative approaches in language teaching, such as project-based learning, offer dynamic learning experiences tailored to real-life professional contexts. For instance, students may engage in projects like creating a "Medical Terminology Encyclopedia," compiling a "Catalogue of Latin Drug Names," or producing a trilingual (Latin-Russian-Uzbek) anatomical dictionary. These activities promote critical thinking, research, collaboration, and presentation skills.

Another effective strategy is the **communicative approach**, which encourages students to use Latin in simulated professional situations. Despite its classification as a "dead language," Latin is actively used in prescriptions, clinical documentation, and diagnostic notes. Modeling such contexts allows students to internalize terminology and apply their knowledge practically, thus achieving deeper learning outcomes.

The **use of ICT tools** also plays a crucial role in enhancing Latin instruction. Platforms like Quizlet, Kahoot, and Word wall support visual and auditory learning, making the language more accessible and engaging. Interactive exercises, online quizzes, and simulations facilitate active student participation and allow for efficient assessment of their progress.

Results and Discussion: Based on the conducted analysis and practical implementation, the following outcomes were observed:

1. Project-based learning significantly increased students' motivation, autonomy, and interest in mastering medical terminology.

2. The communicative approach enabled learners to apply Latin terminology in realistic clinical scenarios, resulting in improved retention and practical usage.

3. Integration of ICT tools boosted students' engagement, with interactive platforms and visual materials making the lessons more dynamic and accessible.

4. Compared to traditional methods, modern approaches fostered students' abilities to express their ideas, analyze texts, and develop critical thinking skills.

Though Latin is often seen as a dry and complex subject, these contemporary methods transform its instruction into an active and practical process. Project-based methods shift the focus from teacher-centered to learner-centered education, helping students apply language skills in real-world medical contexts. Communicative techniques, though unconventional in Latin instruction, prove effective when used with medical texts and documentation. Furthermore, digital tools align with the preferences of today's tech-savvy learners, making the learning process more relevant and engaging.

Conclusion:

The role of Latin in medical education extends far beyond rote memorization of terminology; when integrated with professional context and modern teaching strategies, it becomes a dynamic and practical linguistic tool. As the article demonstrates, contemporary educational methods—such as project-based learning, the communicative approach, and the use of information and communication technologies (ICT)—transform Latin instruction into a more interactive, creative, and professionally relevant experience.

Project-based learning allows students to go beyond theoretical knowledge and develop practical competencies. Tasks such as creating a "Medical Terminology Encyclopedia," compiling a "Catalogue of Latin Drug Names," or developing a trilingual (Latin-Russian-Uzbek) anatomical dictionary encourage research, teamwork, and the ability to communicate in real-life professional scenarios. These projects not only deepen students' understanding of medical Latin but also enhance their independent learning and problem-solving skills.

The communicative approach, though unconventional in Latin instruction, proves highly effective in medical education. Simulating real clinical situations—such as writing prescriptions, analyzing clinical documentation, or composing diagnostic notes—helps students internalize terminology and apply it practically. This leads to better retention and fosters meaningful language use in professional contexts.

Moreover, ICT tools like Quizlet, Kahoot, and Word wall play a pivotal role in making Latin instruction more engaging and accessible. These platforms support diverse learning styles, enhance motivation, and allow for continuous assessment through interactive exercises and quizzes, aligning well with the preferences of today's tech-savvy students.

In summary, compared to traditional methods, modern approaches to teaching Latin foster student-centered learning, encourage active participation, and promote critical thinking and communication skills. By embedding Latin into real-world medical contexts, these techniques revitalize the language, transforming it from a perceived relic of the past into a vital and applicable skill in today's medical field.

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