

Subject card

Subject name and code	Western esoterism and cultural studies, PG_00156535						
Field of study	Cultural Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2023		Academic year of realisation of subject		2024/2025		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	2		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	4		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Institute of Culture Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		Michał Wróblewski				
	Teachers		Michał Wróblewski				
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		2.0		18.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to become acquainted with studies on Western esotericism and to attempt to conduct research on selected esoteric traditions.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[KULL3_U01] The graduate can search, analyze, evaluate and select information using various media and respecting intellectual property	The student is able to search for and select information regarding esotericism.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[KULL3_K03] The graduate correctly recognizes and resolves problems related to the profession of a cultural expert – a specialist in the field of criticism and popularization of culture, culture animation or culture of electronic media and editing websites	The student identifies issues related to research on esotericism.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[KULL3_U06] The graduate writes texts on culture and art in Polish and a selected foreign language based on various sources and current literature	The student prepares written papers on Western esotericism.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU3] text preparation/written work
	[KULL3_W04] The graduate has structured general knowledge of social, philosophical and historical issues constituting the basis for studies into culture and art	The student has an organized knowledge of Western esotericism and its methods of interpretation.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[KULL3_W05] The graduate has structured detailed knowledge of cultural anthropology, cultural history, popular culture, indigenous cultures, regionalism, museology, religion and a selected professional speciality	Student ma uporządkowaną wiedzę dotyczącą ezoteryzmu zachodniego i sposobów jego interpretacji.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
Subject contents	1. Three Approaches to Esotericism: Pro-Esoteric, Historical-Critical, Anti-Esoteric. Discussion of Basic Concepts such as Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic.2. Beginnings of the Historical-Critical Approach: The Eranos Group and the Warburg Institute. The Relationship of Western Esotericism Studies to Religious Studies and Cultural (Art) History.3. The Legacy of Gnosis and Ancient Gnosticism according to Gilles Quispel.4. Renaissance Hermeticism and Its Influence on European Esotericism according to Francis Yates.5. Esotericism in History as a "Form of Thought" The Concept of Antoine Faivre.6. The Issue of the Secularization of Esotericism in Modernity: The Phenomenon of Spiritualism (Parapsychology) and the Birth of Psychoanalysis and Avant-Garde Art.7. Esotericism as "Forbidden Knowledge" according to Wouter Hanegraaff.8. Condemned Occultism, or the Exorcisms of Demonologists (Catholic and Others).9. The Ineffectiveness of Magic, or Exposing the Initiated and Their Paranormal Abilities.10. The Political Views of Esotericists and Discussions on Twentieth-Century Totalitarianism.11. Esotericism in Counterculture References to the New Age.12. Esotericism in Popular and Mass Culture.13. Esoteric Traditions in Polish Culture.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	presentation	51.0%	25.0%
	essay	51.0%	75.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Krzysztof Grudnik, <i>Okultyzm i nowoczesność</i> , Kraków 2021, s. 25-175. Monika Rzeczycka, Izabela Trzcińska, <i>Przedmiot i metody badań nad ezoteryzmem w kontekście polskim</i> , [w:] <i>Polskie tradycje ezoteryczne 1890-1931</i> , tom I, Gdańsk 2019.	

	Supplementary literature	Theodor Adorno, <i>Tezy przeciwko okultyzmowi</i>, [w:] tenże, <i>Minima moralia: refleksje z poharatanego życia</i>, tłum. M. Łukasiewicz, Kraków 1999. Iwona Butmanowicz-Dębicka, <i>Wiedza pozaracjonalna w świetle wybranych teorii</i>, Kraków 2015. Roman Bugaj, <i>Hermetyzm</i>, Wrocław 1991. Bartłomiej Dobroczyński, <i>New Age</i>, Kraków 1997. Mircea Eliade, <i>Okultyzm, czary, mody kulturalne</i>, tłum. I. Kania, Kraków 1992. Antoine Faivre, <i>Introduction</i>, [w:] Tenże, <i>Western Esotericism. A Concise History</i>, New York, 2010. Wouter Hanegraaff, <i>Conclusion restorin memory</i> [w:] Tenże, <i>Esotericism and the Academy. Rejected knowledge in the Western Culture</i>, Cambridge 2012. Nicholas Goddrick-Clarke, <i>Okultystyczne źródła nazizmu</i>, tłum. J. Prokopiuk, Warszawa 2010. Massimo Introvigne, <i>Powrót magii</i>, tłum. A. Wałęcki, Kraków 2005. Hans Jonas, <i>Religia gnozy</i>, tłum. M. Klimowicz, Kraków 1994. Carl Gustav Jung, <i>Wprowadzenie do religijno-psychologicznej problematyki alchemii</i> [w:] <i>Psychologia a alchemia</i>, tłum. R. Reszke, Warszawa 2016. Wassily Kandinsky, <i>O duchowości w sztuce</i>, tłum. S. Fijałkowski, Łódź 1996. Gilles Quispel, <i>Gnoza</i>, tłum. B. Kita, Warszawa 1988. Wiktor Stoczkowski, <i>Ludzie, bogowie i przybysze z kosmosu</i>, tłum. R. Wiśniewski, Warszawa 2005. Frances Amelia Yates, <i>Sztuka pamięci. Mnemonika renesansowa</i>, tłum. W. Radwański, Warszawa 1977.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Esoteric themes in the works of William Blake or the history of tarot cards.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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