

Subject card

Subject name and code	Prison History - lecture, PG_00132781						
Field of study	Criminology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2025/2026		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		Optional subject group		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	2		ECTS credits		1.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Department of History of Law -> Faculty of Law and Administration -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Jacek Waldoch				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20
	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	20		0.0		5.0	25
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to analyze the evolution of the prison institution in Europe.						
Learning outcomes	Course outcome		Subject outcome		Method of verification		
	[KRYMMU2_WG06] Has an in-depth knowledge and is familiar with the terminology of psychology and sociology and related sciences in the disciplines related to the field of study		The student has in-depth knowledge of the development of penitentiary systems from ancient times to the present, with particular emphasis on their social, political and cultural conditions.		[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report		
	[KRYMMU2_KK01] Is aware of the level of his knowledge and skills, and understands the need for lifelong learning		Knows basic and specialized terminology in the field of sociology, psychology and security sciences, used in the analysis of the functions and changes of prison systems.		[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report [SK4] test/exam - oral or written		
Subject contents	The subject aims to familiarize students with the history of penal systems and penitentiary institutions in different historical periods and to show the evolution of the ideas of justice, punishment and resocialization. The classes include an analysis of philosophical, social and legal changes that influenced the way people deprived of their freedom were treated - from repressive archaic systems, through humanist reforms of the 18th and 19th centuries, to contemporary models of resocialization. The course covers, among others: the origins of punishment and prison systems in antiquity, the development of medieval and modern penitentiary practices, the history of penitentiaries in Poland and Europe, the influence of Enlightenment thought and reformers such as Beccaria, Bentham and Howard, the model of prisons in totalitarian systems (e.g. gulags, concentration camps), the transformation of the idea of punishment and resocialization in the 20th and 21st centuries, the role of psychology, sociology and pedagogy in the development of contemporary penitentiary systems, the analysis of selected cases of prison reforms in the context of human rights and the rule of law. The subject emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach to the subject, taking into account social, political, legal and ethical contexts. It allows students not only to gain historical knowledge, but also to better understand the current challenges and directions of development of contemporary penal and prison systems.						
Prerequisites and co-requisites							

Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	presentation	50.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	-	
	Supplementary literature	-	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	-		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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