University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Ancient History, PG_00168048		
Field of study	Archaeology		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025	Academic year of realisation of subject	2026/2027
Education level	Bachelor's studies	Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study
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	exam
Conducting unit	Institute of Archaeology -> Faculty of History -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Dawid Borowka	
	Teachers	dr Dawid Borowka	

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	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	20.0	52

Subject objectives

The course aims to familiarise students with the major periods of ancient Greek and Roman history and changes in their political, social, economic and religious organisation. Students develop the ability to explain the causes and consequences of historical events, compare political systems and institutions, and critically analyse written, archaeological and iconographic sources.

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[ARCHL3_W01] Knows and understands to an advanced level selected facts, objects and phenomena, as well as the methods and theories concerning them that explain the complex relationships between them, constituting basic general knowledge in the humanities	Has an advanced understanding of the main periods of ancient Greek and Roman history, the relationships between political, social, economic and religious changes, and the methods used to investigate them through source evidence.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ARCHL3_K01] Is ready to critically evaluate his/her knowledge and received content	Is prepared to critically evaluate their own knowledge and interpretations of ancient Greek and Roman history, taking into account the quality of sources, the limits of interpretation and possible alternative explanations.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ARCHL3_K02] Is ready to recognize the importance of knowledge in solving cognitive and practical problems and to consult experts in case of difficulties in solving the problem on his own in aspect of office analyses and field work	Is prepared to recognise the importance of historical and archaeological knowledge in addressing questions concerning antiquity and to seek expert advice when encountering difficulties in independently interpreting sources.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ARCHL3_U08] Can independently plan and implement his/her own lifelong learning	Can independently plan and carry out their own learning in ancient Greek and Roman history, identify their learning needs and select relevant literature and other sources of information to continue developing their knowledge beyond the course.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ARCHL3_U04] Can take part in a debate – present and evaluate various opinions and positions and discuss them using correctly professional terminology in the field of archeology	Can take part in discussions of ancient Greek and Roman history, present and evaluate different interpretations, and justify their own position using source evidence and appropriate terminology.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents	The lectures examine ancient Greek and Roman history, combining the analysis of political events with the study of constitutional, social, economic and religious changes. Individual topics are discussed through written, archaeological and iconographic sources. Scheduled lectures: 1. Introduction to Ancient History. 2. From the End of the Bronze Age to Archaic Greece.Changes in the Aegean world, the emergence of the polis, Greek colonisation and the development of Mediterranean connections. 3. Sparta and Athens: Political Systems and Societies. 4. The Greco-Persian Wars and the Rise of Athens. Causes and consequences of the conflicts, the Delian League and the development of the Athenian empire. 5. The Peloponnesian War and Changes in the Greek World in the Fourth Century BC. 6. Macedonia under Philip II and Alexander the Great. 7. The Hellenistic World. The Diadochi and the emergence of kingdoms. 8.The Origins of Rome and the Development of the Republic. Literary traditions and archaeological evidence. 9. Roman Expansion in Italy and the Mediterranean. 10. The Crisis and End of the Roman Republic. 11. Augustus and the Establishment of the Principate. 12. The Roman Empire: Army, Provinces and Local Government. 13. Society, Economy and Religion in the Greco-Roman World. 14. The Empire in the Third and Early Fourth Centuries. Expansion of Christianity. 15. Late Antiquity and the Transformation of the Roman World.
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Basic knowledge of ancient history at secondary-school level and familiarity with basic archaeological terminology. Ability to use academic literature and work with primary sources in translation.
Assessment methods and criteria	

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Oral examination	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	1. Wipszycka, E. (red.) 2001. *Vademecum historyka starożytnej Grecji i Rzymu*. Źródłoznawstwo starożytności klasycznej. T. 1–2. Wyd. 2 zmienione. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN. 2. Hall, J. M. 2011. *Historia Grecji archaicznej ok. 1200–479 p.n.e*. Kraków: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego. 3. Ziółkowski, A. 2004. *Historia Rzymu*. Poznań: Poznańskie Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Nauk. Required reading consists of selected passages specified by the lecturer and corresponding to the topics covered in the lectures.
	Supplementary literature	1. Bravo, B., Węcowski, M., Wipszycka, E., Wolicki, A. 2009. *Historia starożytnych Greków*. T. 2: Okres klasyczny. Warszawa: Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego. 2.Świderkówna, A. 2009. *Hellenika. Wizerunek epoki od Aleksandra do Augusta*. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN. 3.Brown, P. 1991. *Świat późnego antyku. Od Marka Aureliusza do Mahometa.* Warszawa: Czytelnik.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	The oral examination consists of answering a problem-based question and interpreting a written source in translation, archaeological evidence, a map or an illustration. Assessment considers factual accuracy, knowledge of chronology and terminology, coherence of argument, and the ability to analyse sources critically and recognise the limitations of interpretation. 1. Compare the political systems and social organisation of Athens and Sparta. Consider the conditions of citizenship, participation in government and the limitations of the available sources. 2. How did Roman expansion contribute to political, social and economic changes in the Republic? Support your answer with selected examples. 3. Interpret the source text, inscription, coin, map or illustration provided. Establish its historical context and explain what conclusions can be drawn from it and what limitations affect its interpretation.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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