

Subject card

Subject name and code	Practical paleoecology - Laboratory Exercises, PG_00168066						
Field of study	Archaeology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject			2027/2028	
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group			Obligatory subject group in the field of study Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study	
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery			at the university	
Year of study	3		Language of instruction			Polish	
Semester of study	6		ECTS credits			1.0	
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form			credit	
Conducting unit	Institute of Archaeology -> Faculty of History -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Joanna Święta-Musznicka				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	0.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	15
	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	15		2.0		10.0	27
Subject objectives	To provide knowledge on research methods for reconstructing changes in the natural environment in the past, including bio-indicative methods used in the context of settlement studies. To provide knowledge on climate and vegetation changes in the Quaternary period (characterisation of the natural environment at the end of the last glaciation and in the Holocene and the role of settlement). To provide knowledge about the history of human use of plants in the past. To develop knowledge of the conditions for effective cooperation with natural scientists at archaeological sites.						
Learning outcomes	Course outcome		Subject outcome			Method of verification	
	[ARCHL3_W06] Knows and understands at an advanced level the most important theories, research methods and tools of the archaeology workshop		Is aware of the research methods and tools of the workshop of the palaeoecologist and archaeobotanist and their use in archaeological site work. Has knowledge of climate and its changes and knows the history of human use of plants.			[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW3] text preparation/written work	
	[ARCHL3_U07] Is able to cooperate with other people as part of team work (also of an interdisciplinary nature) both at the stage of fieldwork and development of results		Is able to undertake teamwork in collaboration with palaeoecologists and archaeobotanists.			[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU3] text preparation/written work [SU8] observation of student's independent or team work	
	[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 ready to acknowledge the knowledge of palaeoecologists and archaeobotanists and to consult experts when planning research and solving questions about botanical materials.			[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK5] implementation of a problem task	

Subject contents	Practical use of bioindication (plant, animal organisms) in describing natural and highly transformed communities.Methods of collecting material for palaeoecological and archaeobotanical studies.Principles of storage, preservation and laboratory treatment of samples for palaeoecological and archaeobotanical studies.Identification of basic types of pollen grains, cereal remains, weeds and selected animal remains.Principles of sediment description and determination (Troels-Smith method).Planning cooperation between archaeologist and palaeoecologists and archaeobotanists.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Credit for courses: Elements of Earth Sciences in Archaeology, Paleoecology with elements of archaeobotany.Knowledge of natural sciences at high school level, knowledge of Quaternary stratigraphy, knowledge of the most important methods of absolute dating.		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	project	51.0%	25.0%
	report	51.0%	25.0%
	report	51.0%	25.0%
	report	51.0%	25.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Berglund B.E. 1986. Handbook of Holocene Palaeoecology and Palaeohydrology. Wiley & Sons, Chichester-New York Dybova-Jachowicz S., Sadowska A. 2003. Palinologia. Instytut Botaniki im. W. Szafera PAN, Kraków. Lityńska-Zajac M., Wasylikowa K. 2005. Przewodnik do badań archeobotanicznych. Vademecum Geobotanicum. Sorus, Poznań. Tobolski K. 2000. Przewodnik do oznaczania torfów i osadów jeziornych. PWN, Warszawa Makohonienko M., Makowiecki D., Kurnatowska Z. 2007. Studia interdyscyplinarne nad środowiskiem i kulturą człowieka. Środowisko-CzłowiekCywilizacja 1. Ser. Stowarzyszenia Archeologii Środowiskowej, Wyd. Bogucki, Poznań	
	Supplementary literature	Alverson K.D., Bradley R.S., Pedersen T.F. 2003. Paleoclimate, Global Change and the Future. Springer, Berlin-Heidelberg-New York. Birks H.J.B., Birks H.H. 1980. Quaternary Palaeoecology. E. Arnold, London. Jacomet S., Kreuz A. 1999. Archäobotanik. Aufgaben, Methoden und Ergebnisse vegetations- und agrargeschichtlicher Forschung, Eugen Ulmer, Stuttgart. Lindner L. 1992. Czwartorzęd. Osady, metody badań, stratygrafia. Wyd. PAE, Warszawa. Lityńska-Zajac M. 2005. Zbiorowiska chwastów polnych w pradziejach i we wczesnym średniowieczu. Instytut Archeologii i Etnologii PAN, Kraków. Mackay A., Battarbee R., Birks J., Oldfield F. 2003. Global change in the Holocene. Arnold, New York.	
	eResources addresses		

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Paleocological sediment descriptions and interdisciplinary research planning. Types of material fossilization. Morphological structure of selected plant and animal remains. Use of ecological indicators and bioindicator values of organisms in environmental reconstructions.
Work placement	Not applicable

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