

Subject card

Subject name and code	Statistics and historical demographics, PG_00168098						
Field of study	History						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2025/2026		
Education level	Master'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	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Division of the History of Gdańsk, Pomerania and the Baltic Region -> Institute of History -> Faculty of History -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Radosław Kubus				
	Teachers						
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		20.0	52
Subject objectives	Acquaint the students with the practical dimension of social quantitative research. To provide a basis for critical reflection on the usefulness of research tools and the data obtained from their application						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[HISTMU2_W02] Has in-depth knowledge of the methods and problems of research in selected fields of history, such as political history, social history, economic history, cultural history, regional history, family history, gender history, etc.	The student has an in-depth knowledge of the methods and problems of research in statistics and historical demography and knows how to apply these methods in historical analysis	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[HISTMU2_U02] Consciously selects research methods and tools appropriate to the chosen field of history to solve a variety of tasks and problems	Students will be acquaint with basic concepts and statistical methods used in historical research, such as data analysis, sampling, correlation, extrapolation and interpolation.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[HISTMU2_K02] Is prepared to recognise the importance of knowledge in solving cognitive and practical problems and to consult experts when having difficulty solving a problem independently	The student is acquaint with the main problems and challenges of statistical and demographic research in history, such as lack of complete data, changes in political boundaries, differences in census methodology in different historical periods. At the same time, he/she is able to solve methodological problems effectively thanks to his/her knowledge of the titles of leading journals, professional literature on the subject and familiarisation with the names and achievements of the most important researchers from the country and the world involved in quantitative research in history.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[HISTMU2_W05] Has in-depth knowledge to critique, analyse and interpret a variety of sources used in historical research	Students will be able to critically assess the quality and reliability of historical data and the sources from which they are derived, and skilfully estimate the statistical result obtained on the basis of these data	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[HISTMU2_U01] Has in-depth research skills in the historical sciences to formulate and innovatively solve complex and unusual problems	Students will be able to combine knowledge of statistics and demography with other areas of history, such as political history, social history, economic history, cultural history, regional history, family history, gender history, etc., in order to obtain a more complete picture of the historical problem under analysis	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents	Sources for statistical-historical research. Difficulties and benefits of using statistical sources in history. Statistical estimation; Sources of demographic statistics from the 16th to the early 19th century (state censuses, treasury sources, church censuses); Preferences in the choice of statistical methods. Development of statistical material; Measures of central tendency - classical and positional averages; Measures of dispersion and measures of asymmetry; Types of chronological series; Absolute and relative growth, indices of dynamics; Equation of chronological series, extraction of seasonal variations, extraction of trend; Analysis of interdependence of phenomena (structure index, intensity index); Methods of studying the state and natural movement of the population (population structure by sex, age and marital status, family reconstruction method); Population relations (population density, urbanisation process, natural population movement).		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Theoretical test	51.0%	40.0%
	Practical test	51.0%	40.0%
	Activity during classes	51.0%	10.0%
	Presentation	51.0%	10.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Introduction to Old Polish demography, IH PAN, Warsaw 1976; Basics of statistics. Textbook for humanists, Department of History "Mówią Wieki", Warsaw 2005; Demography of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth , DiG, Warsaw 2009.	
	Supplementary literature	Methodology of History, PWN, Warsaw 1984; Problems and Methods of Economic History, PWN, Warsaw 1983; Demographic changes in Gdańsk in the years 1601-1846 in the light of tables of natural movement, UG, Gdańsk 1995; Changes in demographic structures in Toruń in the 19th and early 20th centuries, Adam Marszałek, Toruń 2012; Family in XVIII-century Warsaw, IHF UW, Białystok 1991.	
	eResources addresses		

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Identify the dangers of using past state censuses in statistical research. Outline the difficulties arising from the use of statistical sources. Characterize the information contained in Old Polish baptism, marriage and funeral registers and suggest - formulate - research problems that can be undertaken on the basis of this type of source.
Work placement	Not applicable

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