University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Early Modern Times in Poland - seminars, PG_00168399		
Field of study	History		
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 Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study
Mode of study	part-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	2	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	3	ECTS credits	3.0
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 Marcin Swobodziński	
	Teachers	dr Marcin Swobodziński	

Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	20.0	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	2.0	53.0	75

Subject objectives	To provide students with a comprehensive knowledge of Polish history from the 16th to the 18th century. To prepare students to critically analyse historical sources, including an understanding of their socio-political context, and to develop research and interpretative competence.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[HISTL3_U01] Is able to use their knowledge: to formulate and, through the appropriate selection of information sources, critically analyse and synthesise them, to solve complex and unusual problems in the field of history	Students will be able to apply their knowledge, formulate and, through the appropriate selection of information sources, critically analyse and synthesise, solve complex and untypical problems concerning the history of Poland in the 16th - 18th centuries.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTL3_U02] Is able to correctly select and use appropriate methods and tools appropriate to the work of a historian (including advanced information and communication techniques)	Students will be able to select appropriate research methods, such as analysis of written sources (chronicles, official documents, correspondence), source criticism, comparative analysis, and apply them to research into Polish history of the 16th-18th centuries.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTL3_W05] Has an advanced knowledge of the achievements of historiography, distinguishes its main currents and is aware of the existence of different points of view in historical and related sciences, determined by different national and cultural backgrounds	The student has advanced knowledge of the achievements of historiography concerning Poland in the 16th - 18th centuries, distinguishes main historiographical currents and is aware of the existence of various points of view determined by different national and cultural backgrounds.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[HISTL3_W09] Has advanced knowledge to analyse and interpret historical sources and understands their usefulness in historical research	Students will have an advanced knowledge of how to analyse and interpret historical sources relating to Poland in the 16th - 18th centuries and understand their usefulness in historical research.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[HISTL3_K01] Critically evaluates his/her knowledge, demonstrates a willingness to continually expand his/her knowledge and to seek expert advice if he/she has difficulty solving a problem on his/ her own	Students critically evaluate their knowledge of Polish history from the 16th to the 18th century, demonstrate a willingness to constantly expand it and to consult experts when they have difficulties solving a problem on their own.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTL3_K03] Is ready to fulfil social obligations, co-organise activities for the benefit of the social environment in the field of education and promotion of the historical and cultural heritage of Poland, its region and Europe	The student is ready to fulfil social obligations, co-organise activities for the social environment in the field of education and promotion of the historical and cultural heritage of Poland of the 16th-18th centuries.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
[HISTL3_U04] Is able to participate in debate - present and evaluate different opinions and positions and discuss them using correctly the professional terminology of the historical sciences	Students will be able to take part in a debate on Polish history in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries, presenting and evaluating various opinions and positions on key events, figures and historical processes of the period and discussing them using proper historical terminology.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTL3_W02] Has advanced, chronologically and thematically ordered knowledge of the history of ancient and modern Polish lands	The student has an advanced, chronologically and thematically ordered knowledge of Polish history in the 16th-18th centuries.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion

Subject contents

1. Introduction to Early Modern Polish History
2. The Foundations of the Polish Political System
3. The Nobility, Magnates, and Clientelism
4. Parliamentarism in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth: Local Assemblies (Sejmiks)
5. Parliamentarism in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth: The Sejm
6. Parliamentarism in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth: The *Liberum Veto*
7. Wars and the Crisis of the First Half of the Seventeenth Century
8. The Crisis of Sovereignty during the Reign of Augustus II the Strong
9. The First Partition of Poland
10. The Four-Year Sejm

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Knowledge of history up to the 16th century at an academic level.

Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Tests	51.0%	5.0%
	Oral examination on one assigned reading	51.0%	5.0%
	Test	51.0%	70.0%
	Activity	51.0%	20.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	T. Jurek, E. Kizik, History of Poland until 1572, Warsaw 2013, pp. 499-703. U. Augustyniak, History of Poland 1572 1795, Warsaw 2008. M. Markiewicz, History of Poland 1492-1795, Kraków 2002. J. Topolski, Poland in modern times (1501-1795), [in:] Poland, history of the nation, state and culture, ed. by J. Topolski, vol. II, Poznań 1999.	
	Supplementary literature	M. Ptaszynski, Reformacja w Polsce a dziedzictwo Erazma z Rotterdamu, Warszawa 2018. H. Olszewski, Sejm Rzeczypospolitej epoki oligarchii 1652-1763 : prawo, praktyka, teoria, programy, Poznań 1966, 2002 Pod wspolnym niebem. Narody dawnej Rzeczypospolitej, pod red. M. Kopczynskiego i W. Tygielskiego, Warszawa 2010. A. Mączak, Kientela, nieformalne systemy władzy w Polsce i Europie XVI-XVIII w., Warszawa 2000. J. Choińska-Mika, Zwycięstwo liberum veto na sejmach za Jana Kazimierza, „Biblioteka Epoki Nowożytnej” 4, 2016, 1, s. 49-70	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Indicate the most important internal factors that led to the partition of the Republic of Poland. What is a mixta monarchy and how was it implemented in the system of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth?		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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