University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Concrete forms and ideas of modernity – architecture, sculpture, and their reception, PG_00179375		
Field of study	History of Art		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2024	Academic year of realisation of subject	2025/2026
Education level	Bachelor's studies	Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group 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	2	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	4	ECTS credits	3.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of Modern Art -> Institute of Art History -> Faculty of History -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	mgr Katarzyna Gec-Leśniak	
	Teachers	mgr Katarzyna Gec-Leśniak	

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	45.0	77

Subject objectives

The aim of the course is to familiarise students with the history, theory and aesthetics of concrete architecture, with particular emphasis on modernism and brutalism in the European and Polish context. Students will learn about selected buildings and architectural ideas, and will attempt to analyse and reinterpret these phenomena in a contemporary context. Less obvious forms will also be presented, such as small architecture, outdoor sculpture and monuments made of concrete and reinforced concrete. Particular attention will be paid to the reception of these objects from admiration for modernism, through controversies surrounding brutalism, to processes of revitalisation, demolition and grassroots activities for the protection of post-war heritage.
The classes combine lectures, discussions, analysis exercises, work with source texts and field trips around Gdańsk and Gdynia, enabling direct contact with the objects discussed. During the classes, students develop their skills in formal analysis and interpretation and become more sensitive to changes in the evaluation of 20th-century architecture.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[HISTSZL3_U05] Is able to retrieve information (using bibliographies, archival aids, databases, various resources available on the Internet, etc.) and critically analyse, classify, categorise and synthesise it in order to solve a problem formulated by him/herself or others	K_U05 Is able to obtain information (using bibliographies, archival aids, databases, various resources available on the Internet, etc.) and critically analyse it, and present it in the form of a presentation or final project.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[HISTSZL3_W06] Knows to an advanced degree the research methods and tools of the art historian's workshop, in particular the methods of analysis and interpretation of art products of different epochs	K_W06 Has an advanced knowledge of research methods and tools used by art historians, in particular methods of analysis and interpretation of specific types of visual arts and architecture	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[HISTSZL3_W05] Has advanced knowledge of the relationship between art history and other humanities and social sciences: history, cultural studies, philosophy, psychology, economics, sociology, ethnology, anthropology, theology	K_W05 Has advanced knowledge of the connections between art history and other humanities and social sciences, is able to relate the analysed artistic phenomena to philosophical, economic, historical, etc. aspects (depending on the subject of the elective course).	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[HISTSZL3_K02] Is ready to take action to protect and promote the cultural heritage of the region, Poland and Europe	K _K02 Is prepared to take action to protect and promote cultural heritage in a given area, using the knowledge and skills acquired in class.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
[HISTSZL3_K04] Is willing to acknowledge and respect different points of view determined by different national and cultural backgrounds; show understanding of the world of values and attitudes of people in different periods and historical contexts	K_U04 Is able to use theoretical approaches and research paradigms appropriate for art sciences in the scope relevant to the subject matter of the faculty.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
[HISTSZL3_K06] Has a belief in the importance of behaving in a professional manner, reflecting on ethical issues and is willing to adhere to the principles of professional ethics	K _K06 Believes in the importance of behaving professionally and reflecting on ethical issues in aspects related to the subject matter of the course.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
[HISTSZL3_U11] Is able to plan and organise his/her work effectively, independently acquiring and consolidating knowledge in a structured and systematic manner	K_U11 Is able to effectively plan and organise their work independently, preparing their final assignment/presentation.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[HISTSZL3_U01] Can correctly select sources and correctly apply research methods appropriate to the research skills of an art historian in order to solve a problem formulated by himself or others	K_U01 Is able to correctly select sources and apply research methods in order to describe the analysed issue or present the problem that is the subject of the elective course.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[HISTSZL3_U04] Is able to use theoretical approaches and research paradigms appropriate to the art sciences and cultural knowledge of the era	K_U04 Is able to use theoretical approaches and research paradigms appropriate for art sciences in the scope relevant to the subject matter of the faculty.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Subject contents

The topics of the classes have been prepared on the basis of preparatory materials for a doctoral degree and are original. The title of the classes is Concrete forms and ideas of modernity architecture, sculpture and their reception. The class programme will be presented at the first meeting.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Presence	75.0%	0.0%
Final project	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	1. *Architektura betonowa*, red. Dariusz Kozłowski, Kraków 2001. 2. Le Corbusier, *W stronę architektury*, Fundacja Centrum Architektury, Warszawa 2012. 3. Charles Jencks, *Ruch nowoczesny w architekturze*, Wydawnictwa Artystyczne i Filmowe 1987. 4. Reyner Banham, *The New Brutalism*, Architectural Press 1966. 5. Wojciech Niebrzydowski, *Architektura brutalistyczna a idee Nowego Brutalizmu*, Oficyna Wydawnicza Politechniki Białostockiej, Białystok 2018. 6. Wioletta Raczkiewicz, *Beton materiał budowlany znany od wieków*, Rocznik Przegląd Budowlany r. 83, nr 10, 2012. 7. *Beton*, red. Jacek Purchla, Kwartalnik HERITO Dziedzictwo, kultura, współczesność, nr 53, Międzynarodowe Centrum Kultury, Kraków, 2024 8. *Rocznik Rzeźby Polskiej 1989 Pomnik*, red. Irena Grzesiuk-Olszewska, Centrum Rzeźby Polskiej 1989. W szczególności rozdział pt. *Ewolucja formy w polskiej rzeźbie pomnikowej lat 1945-1980*, s. 1446. 9. Aneta Borowik, *Smutek odchodzenia architektury. Historia wyburzenia dworca kolejowego w Katowicach* [w:] *Modernizm w Europie Modernizm w Gdyni. Architektura XX wieku zachowanie jej autentyzmu i integralności w Gdyni i w Europie*, red. Maria Jolanta Sołtysik, nr 7, Gdynia 2020. s. 171180. 10. Katarzyna Gec-Leśniak, *Trzecia droga Jugosławii w dążeniu do nowoczesności na przykładzie spomenika w miejscowości Podgarić*, Argumenta Historica. Czasopismo Naukowo - Dydaktyczne, nr 9, Uniwersytet Gdański 2022, s. 2941.
	Supplementary literature	Supplementary literature will be provided during the first class.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Brutalist architecture in Poland Public perception of concrete architecture The beginnings of concrete use in architecture	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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