University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	20th- and 21st-Century Art II, PG_00189670						
Field of study	Management of Artistic Institutions						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		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 practical vocational preparation			
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery	at the university			
Year of study	1		Language of instruction	Polish			
Semester of study	2		ECTS credits	2.0			
Learning profile	practical		Assessment form	exam			
Conducting unit	Division of Research into the Performing Arts -> Institute of English and American Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Agnieszka Żukowska				
	Teachers						
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		18.0	50
Subject objectives	The objective of the course is to acquaint students with the key achievements in art from the second half of the 20th century and the 21st century, focusing particularly on the exchange of ideas and relationships among representatives of various art movements and styles, and their creative dialogue with global art throughout history. Students will gain systematic knowledge of contemporary art history. They will identify fundamental techniques for constructing meaning in 20th and 21st century art, and refine their skills in analyzing and interpreting works of art.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[ZIAL3_K06] They are prepared to engage in artistic and cultural life as recipients and managers, interacting with its diverse forms. They recognize the importance of the cultural heritage of the region, country, and Europe, and acknowledge their own responsibility in preserving them.	Is prepared to engage in artistic and cultural life as a recipient and manager, interacting with its diverse forms, especially those related to contemporary art. Recognizes the importance of the cultural heritage of the region, country, and Europe, especially in the field of contemporary art, and acknowledges his/her own responsibility in preserving them.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ZIAL3_W04] They possess an understanding of contemporary artistic life and basic knowledge of both Polish and international arts and cultural institutions, with a focus on practical applications in managerial and/or artistic activity.	Possesses an understanding of contemporary artistic life and basic knowledge of both Polish and international arts and cultural institutions, especially those holding collections of the art of the second half of the 20th century and of the 21st century, with a focus on practical applications in managerial activity.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ZIAL3_K01] They are prepared for a critical assessment of their knowledge and skills in the fields of art studies and the management of artistic institutions.	Is prepared for a critical assessment of his/her knowledge of the art of the second half of the 20th century and of the 21st century and of his/her ability to analyse and interpret art.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ZIAL3_W03] They possess advanced detailed knowledge of specific topics within arts studies, management and quality studies, literary studies, as well as auxiliary and related studies, with a focus on practical applications in managerial and/or artistic activity.	Possesses a detailed knowledge of specific topics concerning the art of the second half of the 20th century and of the 21st century, with a focus on practical applications in managerial activity.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ZIAL3_U02] They are able to select appropriate sources and conduct the selection, evaluation, critical analysis, and synthesis of information drawn from these sources in the fields of arts studies, management and quality studies, and literary studies.	Is able to select appropriate sources and conduct the selection, evaluation, critical analysis, and synthesis of information drawn from these sources in the field of the art of the second half of the 20th century and of the 21st century.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ZIAL3_W02] They have an advanced understanding of fundamental theories, methodologies, and terminology in fields of arts studies, management and quality studies, literary studies, as well as auxiliary and related studies.	Has an advanced understanding of fundamental theories, methodologies, and terminology concerning the art of the second half of the 20th century and of the 21st century.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ZIAL3_U03] They are capable of communicating effectively using specialized terminology in arts studies, management and quality studies, literary studies, as well as auxiliary and related studies.	Is able to communicate effectively using specialized terminology related to the art of the second half of the 20th century and of the 21st century.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ZIAL3_U04] They are capable of actively participating in debates regarding art, literature, and arts management, presenting, evaluating, and discussing various viewpoints.	Is able to actively participate in debates regarding the art of the second half of the 20th century and of the 21st century, presenting, evaluating, and discussing various viewpoints.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Subject contents

Main trends in the development of art and profiles of prominent artists active in the second half of the 20th century and the 21st century, including:

- Pablo Picasso
- Henry Moore
- Action painting, Colour field painting
- Existentialism in art
- Pop Art
- New Figuration
- Happening and Performance Art
- Conceptualism; Minimalism; Land Art
- Neo Pop; Hyperrealism
- Selected topics and profiles of Polish artists

<table>
<tr><td>Prerequisites and co-requisites</td><td colspan="3">Attendance at all classes is mandatory unless the student has obtained the Dean’s approval to follow an individual study plan.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Assessment methods and criteria</td><td colspan="3"><table>
<tr><th>Subject passing criteria</th><th>Passing threshold</th><th>Percentage of the final grade</th></tr>
<tr><td>presentation with discussion on a topic related to the curriculum</td><td>51.0%</td><td>20.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>written or oral exam</td><td>51.0%</td><td>80.0%</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Recommended reading</td><td>Basic literature</td><td colspan="2">• Walther F. (ed.), Art of the 20th Century (Taschen Art Series), Köln 2005
• Selected chapters of additional reading
• Selected interviews with contemporary artists available online.

The lecturer updates the reading list at the start of the semester.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Supplementary literature</td><td colspan="2">• Czartoryska U., Od pop-artu do sztuki konceptualnej, Warszawa 1973
• Dziamski G., Awangarda po awangardzie. Od neoawangardy do postmodernizmu, Poznań 1995
• Foster F., et al., Sztuka po 1900 roku, Warszawa 2023
• Rottenberg A., Sztuka w Polsce 1945-2005, Warszawa 2005
• Żukowska A., Pomiędzy nowożytnością a postnowoczesnością. Pokaz pirotechniczny Cai Guo-Qianga City of Flowers in the Sky w kontekście refleksji Jerzego Limona nad sztukami pięknymi, [in:] Czas Jerzego Limona. Księga pamiątkowa ku czci twórcy Gdańskiego Teatru Szekspirowskiego, ed. Agnieszka Żukowska, Jacek Kopciński, Gdańsk 2023, s. 171-198
• Żukowska A., Counting Atomies: Ben Rubin's Artistic Experiments in Shakespeare's Language, [w:] Shakespeare and Renaissance Drama: Old and New Medial Challenges of Visualization and Adaptation, red. R. Wymer, Brepols 2026

The lecturer updates the reading list at the start of the semester.</td></tr>
<tr><td>eResources addresses</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Work placement</td><td colspan="3">Not applicable</td></tr>
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