University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Social policy - lecture, PG_00197759						
Field of study	Administration						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		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	2		Language of instruction	Polish			
Semester of study	4		ECTS credits	3.0			
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form	exam			
Conducting unit	Department of Administrative Law -> Faculty of Law and Administration -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Marek Benio					
	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		43.0	75
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to familiarize students with the legal framework governing selected social policies including social security policy, social (welfare) care, healthcare policy, and family policy. The course will cover key concepts related to social policy, social (welfare) care, healthcare policy, health insurance, employment promotion, unemployment prevention, and labor market institutions. Students will also become acquainted with selected norms of family and guardianship law, both within current codifications and in extra-codified sources, as well as with relevant legal doctrine and case law. Moreover, the course aims to prepare students to apply the discussed legal regulations in practice and to develop appropriate social competencies.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[ADMINL3_W04] possesses advanced knowledge of, and understands, the legal and administrative determinants of selected areas of social and economic life, including the rights and obligations of individuals vis-à-vis other individuals and public authorities. Furthermore, he/she is familiar with the competences of administrative bodies within these areas.	They know and understand, at an advanced level, the legal and administrative conditions of selected domains of social and economic life, including the rights and obligations of individuals towards other individuals and towards public authorities, and they also know the competences of administrative bodies in these domains.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ADMINL3_U01] drawing upon his/her own knowledge as well as other sources of information — including the ability to use modern technologies and professional methods of acquiring and analysing information — is capable of identifying, analysing, and resolving problems, as well as interpreting phenomena relating to the organization and functioning of public administration, administrative activity, and selected areas of social and economic life.	Using their own knowledge and other sources of information, including being able to use modern technologies as well as professional methods of acquiring and analyzing information, they are able to identify, analyze, and resolve problems and interpret phenomena relating to the organization and functioning of administration, administrative activity, and selected domains of social and economic life.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ADMINL3_K02] is aware of the necessity to undertake actions aimed at protecting the public interest, the social interest, and the individual interests of a person, as well as of the need to balance these interests, with due respect for the law, in the event of conflicts between them. Moreover, he/she demonstrates an entrepreneurial approach and is prepared to initiate legal proceedings in which such interests are safeguarded.	They are aware of the need to take action to protect the public interest, the social interest, and the individual interests of the person, and to balance them, with respect for the law, should discrepancies arise between them, and they are also ready, in an entrepreneurial manner, to initiate legal proceedings in which these interests are protected.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ADMINL3_W01] possesses an advanced level of knowledge and understanding of the theories, methods, concepts, and terminology specific to legal sciences as well as the study of administration and politics.	They know and understand the theories, methods, concepts, and terminology specific to the legal sciences and to the science of administration and politics.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents	

Part I (Department of Administrative Law)

1.

Social Policy
1.1. Definition
1.2. Objectives of social policy
1.3. Instruments of social policy
1.4. Models of social policy
1.5. Social policy as a set of disciplines specific sectoral policies

2.

Social (Welfare) Care Policy
2.1. Social assistance as a method of implementing social security
2.2. Concept and authorities of social assistance
2.3. Principles and objectives of social assistance
2.4. Persons entitled to social assistance benefits
2.5. Forms of social assistance
2.6. Social assistance benefits
2.7. Procedure for granting social assistance benefits

3.

Health Policy
3.1. The concept of health policy
Issues in health policy
Scope of health policy
Models of health policy
New challenges for health policy
3.2. Health insurance as a tool of health policy
Universal health insurance
Principles of health insurance
Scope of benefits available under health insurance
Entities entitled to universal health insurance benefits
Private insurance
3.3. The healthcare system

Part II (Department of Labour Law)

1.

The Concept of Social Security
1.1. Features of social security
1.2. Methods of implementing social security

2.

Social Insurance System
2.1. Principles, types of insurance, scope of benefits
2.2. Nature and types of contributions
2.3. Pensions and disability benefits
2.4. Benefits related to illness and occupational accidents

3.

Parental Rights
a) Leaves types, duration, special protection of job security
b) Benefits

4.

Employment Promotion, Methods of Mitigating Unemployment, and Professional Activation
4.1. Labor market institutions supporting full employment and human resource development
4.2. Eligible persons
4.3. Benefits

Part III (Department of Civil Law)

1.

Fundamental Issues of Marriage Law
a) Conclusion and annulment of marriage
b) Rights and duties of spouses
c) Matrimonial property regimes a synthetic comparison
d) Divorce vs. legal separation

2.

Regulations on Parental Authority, Contact with the Child, Guardianship and Custodianship as Instruments for Protecting the Best Interests of the Child

3.

Maintenance (Alimony) Obligation

Prerequisites and co-requisites		
Assessment methods and criteria		

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
examination	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	During classes, students use normative acts regulating issues covered by the program content and selected case law. 1. J. Stelina (ed.) Prawo pracy 5 wydanie, CH Beck (current edition); 2. J. Jędrasik Jankowska, Pojęcia i konstrukcje prawne ubezpieczenia społecznego (current edition); 3. T. Smyczyński, M. Andrzejewski, Prawo rodzinne i opiekuńcze, Wydawnictwo C.H. Beck (current edition)
	Supplementary literature	1. I. Sierpowska, Pomoc społeczna. Komentarz, Wolters Kluwer (current edition); 2. M. Kasprzak, J. Nowicka, Pomoc społeczna, Komentarz do ustawy, Infor (current edition); 3. P. Rączka (ed.), Świadczenia rodzinne. Komentarz, Wolters Kluwer (current edition) - art. 1; 4. A. Kawecka, Odwołania od decyzji w sprawach dotyczących pomocy społecznej, Wolters Kluwer (current edition); 5. T. Sokołowski, Prawo rodzinne - zarys wykładu, Ars Boni et Aequi (current edition) 6. Z. Góral, Ustawa o promocji zatrudnienia i instytucjach rynku pracy. Komentarz, Wolters (current edition); 7. T. Smyczyński (ed.), Prawo rodzinne i opiekuńcze. System Prawa Prywatnego. Tom 12, Wydawnictwo C.H. Beck (current edition); 8. G.Jędrzejek, Zarząd majątkiem wspólnym małżonków, LexisNexis (current edition); 9. M.Jadczak-Żebrowska, Prawa i obowiązki małżonków, Wolters Kluwer (current edition); 10. M. Balwicka-Szczyrba, A. Sylwestrzak, M. Glicz, Supporting elderly persons in Polish Family and Succession Law, W: International Survey of Family Law : 2018 Edition / ed. by Margaret Brinig, Cambridge ; Antwerp ; Chicago : Intersentia, 2018, s. 425-440
	eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	I. Social Welfare Law & Family Benefits 1. What are the main types of family benefits in Poland, and what are their legal grounds in social welfare law? 2. How do social service centers (*centra usług społecznych*) contribute to the implementation of social policy objectives? II. Social Insurance & Parental Rights 1. Compare the eligibility criteria and duration of parental leave benefits under Polish social insurance law and EU directives. 2. What are the key differences between social insurance contributions for employees vs. self-employed individuals? III. Family & Child Protection Law 1. Explain the legal mechanisms protecting marriage stability in Polish family law (e.g., property regimes, divorce procedures). 2. How does the Polish legal system define and regulate foster care (*rodziny zastępcze*) as part of child protection policies? IV. Practical Applications 1. Analyze a case study where a social cooperative (*spółdzielnia socjalna*) addressed a local communitys needs. What legal and social policy tools supported its operation?
Work placement	Not applicable

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