University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Prehistory of Art, PG_00200251						
Field of study	Archaeology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject	2027/2028			
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group	Obligatory subject group 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	3		ECTS credits	3.0			
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form	exam			
Conducting unit	Institute of Anthropology -> Faculty of History -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		prof. dr hab. Andrzej Kowalski				
	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	After completing the course, the student is able to: - recognize the most important monuments related to prehistoric art - use concepts from aesthetics and art theory to describe archaeological monuments, - interpret the meanings and meanings of artistic products in a cultural context.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[ARCHMU2_W03] Knows to an in-depth degree the terminology, theories, methodology and tools of description in the field of archaeology and related sciences	Uses terminology and categories of description from the field of archeology and related sciences in relation to prehistoric art.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[ARCHMU2_K01] Is ready to critically evaluate his/her knowledge and received content	He critically assesses his knowledge and knows the limitations of interpretation in relation to prehistoric art.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
[ARCHMU2_U01] Is able to use the knowledge he possesses, formulate and solve complex and unusual theoretical and practical problems through: - proper selection of sources and information derived from them, evaluation, critical analysis, synthesis and presentation of this information, - selection and application of appropriate methods and tools, including advanced information and communication techniques, - adaptation of existing methods and tools or development of new ones	Uses acquired archaeological knowledge and efficiently formulates and solves theoretical and practical problems regarding prehistoric art by: - skillful selection of archaeological sources documenting artistic values, critical evaluation, analysis and presentation of this information, - efficiently uses appropriate methods of selecting sources Uses acquired archaeological knowledge and efficiently formulates and solves theoretical and practical problems regarding prehistoric art by: - skillful selection of archaeological sources documenting artistic values, archaeological sources in terms of their interpretation in terms of art and aesthetics in prehistory.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[ARCHMU2_W06] In-depth knowledge and understanding of the major developmental trends in archaeology and in the humanities and social sciences relevant to archaeological research, as well as their influence on the development of contemporary research	Uses knowledge of the humanities to interpret aesthetic and artistic phenomena.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[ARCHMU2_W02] Has an in-depth knowledge of the connections between archaeology and other sciences, allowing to integrate the achievements of various disciplines in the study of a selected era	Explains the connections between archeology and art history, and is able to integrate the achievements of various disciplines in research on artistic culture in prehistory.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents

Review and analysis of selected examples of art in prehistory. The question of the status of art in pre-modern societies; Genealogy of aesthetic and artistic categories in the light of linguistic data, ancient texts correlated with archaeological evidence.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Basic knowledge of general archeology and philosophy and cultural theory.

Assessment methods and criteria

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

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Z. Florczak, Sztuka łamie milczenie, Kraków 1974 W. Tatarkiewicz, Dzieje sześciu pojęć, Warszawa 1988 J. Clottes, D.Lewis-Williams, Prehistoryczni szamani, Warszawa 2009
Supplementary literature	A. Rozwadowski, Obrazy z przeszłości. Hermeneutyka sztuki naskalnej, Poznań 2009 Estetyka w archeologii, red. B. Gediga,A.P. Kowalski, Gdańsk 2003 Estetyka w archeologii. Kopie i naśladownictwa, red. M. Kwapiński, Gdańsk 2006 Estetyka w archeologii. Antropomorfizacje w pradziejach i starożytności, red. E. Bugaj, A.P. Kowalski, Poznań
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	1. Characterize aesthetic and artistic values. 2. Art of primitive peoples in colonial discourse. 3. List the main stages of changes in prehistoric art in Europe.
Work placement	Not applicable

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