University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	History of German Philosophy, PG_00200515		
Field of study	German Studies		
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 scientific research in the field of study
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	1	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	1	ECTS credits	2.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	exam
Conducting unit	Division of German Literature and Culture -> Institute of German Philology -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Dariusz Pakalski	
	Teachers	dr Dariusz Pakalski	

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

To learn an overview of the history of German philosophy in the context of the general history of philosophy as an introduction to one's own inquiries in this subject area. The basic premise of the lecture thus becomes the student's introduction to a specific area of knowledge. The aim of the course is both to provide in-depth knowledge and the development of general cultural competence, to broaden one's horizons, to assimilate philosophical concepts and to achieve a basic ability to orient oneself in philosophical concepts and texts, as well as the ability to respond to theses put forward by philosophers.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[NIEML3_K04] Is ready to take on professional challenges; thinks and acts in an entrepreneurial manner; exhibits perseverance in carrying out individual and team professional activities	Demonstrates entrepreneurship and perseverance in the implementation of individual and team professional activities.	[SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
[NIEML3_W02] Has an advanced knowledge of the history of the countries of the German language area and of the territories historically associated with them	Has advanced knowledge of the history of the countries of the German language area and the areas historically associated with them and understands its relevance and implications in the present day.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[NIEML3_K06] Is willing to adhere to the principles of professional ethics and require this of others	Adheres to the principles of professional ethics and is prepared to demand this of others.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
[NIEML3_U09] Independently plans and implements actions leading to a continuous improvement of knowledge and skills, understands the need for continuous training and professional development	Has the ability and understands the need for self-education and continuous professional development.	[SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
[NIEML3_K03] Is aware of the importance of the cultural heritage of Europe, especially of Central and Eastern Europe and the historical and cultural landscape of the German-Polish border region; is willing to act to protect and promote this heritage	Has knowledge of the importance of Europe's cultural heritage and is willing to take action to protect and promote this heritage and understands its relevance.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
[NIEML3_U05] Has the ability to argue substantively using the views of other authors and to formulate conclusions	Has the ability to think critically and to apply the views learnt in argumentation and the formulation of conclusions.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[NIEML3_W07] Is aware of the coexistence in the human sciences of different points of view determined by different theoretical views, different national or cultural backgrounds	Has knowledge of the coexistence in the humanities of different points of view determined by different theoretical views and different national or cultural backgrounds and takes this into account in the formulation of views and statements.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[NIEML3_U02] Is able to select sources correctly and apply research methods appropriate to the research skills of a historian and/or literary scholar	Has the ability to find competent sources and interpret them.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents

Before discussing German philosophical thought, there will be a brief (2h lecture) introduction to the foundations of Western philosophy (ancient philosophy): Presocratics (Thales of Miletus, Pythagoras, Heraclitus) and Eleates (Permenides, Zeno, Empedocles, Democritus); Sophists (Protagoras), Classics (Socrates, Plato, Aristotle). Relevant content: learning about selected assumptions of modern rationalist philosophers: Descartes and G.W. Leibniz, A.G. Baumgarten, German idealism; I. Kant, J.G. Fichte, G.W.F. Hegel; F.W.J Schelling; the aesthetics and anthropology of F. Schiller, the metaphysics of A. Schopenhauer; German philosophy of life: F. NIetzsche, W. Dilthey,; psychoanalysis: S. Freud; C.G. Jung, German existentialism: K. Jaspers, M. Haidegger. Their relevance to the cultural heritage of Europe.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

no requirements.

Assessment methods and criteria

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

Recommended reading

Basic literature	A. Anzenbacher: Introduction to philosophy, Krakow 1992. P. Kunzmann, F-P. Burkard, F. Wiedmann: Atlas of philosophy, Warsaw 1999. I. Kant: Answer to the question, what is the Enlightenment, in Collected Works, T. 1, Warsaw 1994, T. 2, Warsaw 1995. F. Nietzsche, Tako rzecze Zaratustra, Warsaw 2006. S. Freud, Introduction to psychoanalysis, Warsaw 1984. K. Jaspers, Ciphers of transcendence, Toruń 1995.
Supplementary literature	Copleston F., History of Philosophy, vol. VI, From Wolf to Kant, Warsaw 1996. Historisches Woerterbuch der Philosophie, Hrsg. J. Ritter, Basel 1971. E. von Aster, History of philosophy, Warsaw 1969.
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	discussion of the philosophical views of individual philosophers and general philosophical orientations.
Work placement	Not applicable

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