University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Museums and Galleries in Cultural Communication, PG_00200568						
Field of study	German Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject	2028/2029			
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	3		Language of instruction	Polish			
Semester of study	5		ECTS credits	2.0			
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form	credit			
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Andrzej Woziński				
	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 aim of the course is to familiarise students with the development and evolution of collecting and museum collections in the German-speaking areas. The lectures discuss in historical order the most important types of collections, the genesis of their origin, the principles that guided the building of collections and the organisation of exhibitions as well as their functions, from medieval treasuries to the renaissance collections of the Witelsbachs in Munich, characteristic of the 2nd half of the 16th and 17th centuries. Kunstkammers combining art collections with natural history and so-called mirabilia (Rudolf II Habsburg's in Prague, Ferdinand II Habsburg's at Ambras Castle near Innsbruck), 17th- and 18th-century monarchical art collections in Munich, Dresden, Berlin 19th-century public museums of Berlin, Munich, Dresden, Frankfurt am Main to large contemporary museums and galleries. The evolution of German collections is shown against a broad pan-European and, from the mid-19th century onwards, North American background. The class emphasises the enormous role played by the German-speaking countries in the history of collecting and museology. The lecture concludes with a credit, for which the student is required to have knowledge of the material presented in the lectures and the readings.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[NIEML3_W09] Knows and understands the economic, legal, ethical, and other conditions affecting various types of professional activity in the areas of Polish-German relations and history, as well as the key dilemmas of contemporary civilisation related to the functioning of European societies.	Knows and understands the basic economic, legal, ethical and organisational conditions for the functioning of museums and galleries as cultural institutions, including in the context of German-Polish cooperation and cross-border cultural exchange.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[NIEML3_W05] Has an advanced knowledge of selected topics in literary studies related to the field of study	Advanced knowledge of selected topics in cultural sciences, art history and museum studies which are applicable to the analysis of the role of museums and galleries in intercultural communication, especially in the context of German-Polish relations.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[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	Is aware of the significance of the cultural heritage of Europe, with particular emphasis on the heritage of the Polish-German borderlands and of Central and Eastern Europe; is ready to undertake activities for its protection, popularisation and promotion in the museum and gallery space	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
[NIEML3_U03] Is able to recognise different types of cultural production and identify their significance, social impact, place in the historical-cultural process	Be able to recognise different types of cultural artefacts presented in museums and galleries, both in Poland and in German-speaking countries; be able to identify their significance for cultural communication, their social impact and their place in historical-cultural processes	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Subject contents

Introduction: collection - collector - collection function. Theoretical background to the development of collecting and museology in German-speaking areas.
Proto-museum phenomena: medieval treasures (Aachen, Trier, Cologne, Frankfurt am Main, Bern, Innsbruck)
Birth of modern collecting: Medici collections in Florence, papal collections in Rome, Mantua, Venice, Como, Fontainebleau as a context for the emergence of the Wittelsbach collection in Munich 1550 - 1620.
Habsburg collecting - the origins of collections in the 1st half of the 16th century and Habsburg collecting activities in Spain 1550 - 1660.
Habsburg Collections in Central Europe. Kunst und Wunderkammer in the 16th-17th centuries: the Ambras and Prague Rudolphine collections.
Kunst und Wunderkammern in the 16th-17th centuries: Dresden, Berlin, Gottorp, Copenhagen.
Eighteenth-century art collections of Bavaria (Munich), Saxony (Dresden), Prussia (Berlin-Potsdam), Kassel against the background of European collecting at the time (in Flanders, France, England, Italy and Russia).
The revaluation of European collecting during the French Revolution: the establishment of public museums and the rehabilitation of medieval art (collections of A. Schnüttgen in Cologne and E. F. A. Münzenberger in Frankfurt am Main.
National and public museums: the Museums of Ludwig I of Bavaria in Munich, the Berlin museums and the Picture Gallery in Dresden.
Kunsthistorisches- and Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna. National museums and city museums in Central Europe in the 19th century.
The Kunstgewerbemuseum and its role.
German museums and collections in the Nazi era.
Museums and their activities in a divided Germany.
Museums of modern and avant-garde art in Germany.

From the history of collecting and museology in Gdansk and Pomerania.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

no

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
test	51.0%	50.0%
project	51.0%	50.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	as indicated by the instructor
Supplementary literature	as indicated by the instructor
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed

Work placement

Not applicable

Document generated electronically. Does not require a seal or signature.