University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Introduction to Ethnology – classes, PG_00200579		
Field of study	Ethnology		
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	3.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of Polish Ethnology and Anthropology of History -> Institute of Anthropology -> Faculty of History -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Kamil Pietrowiak	
	Teachers	dr Kamil Pietrowiak	

Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	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	To familiarize students with the basic concepts and methods of cultural interpretation specific to ethnology and cultural anthropology. To develop the ability to critically analyze scientific texts and compare them with examples. To familiarize students with the areas of interest and issues addressed in ethnology and cultural anthropology.

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[ETNOL3_W08] Has an advanced knowledge about methods of analysis and interpretation of various cultural products appropriate for different schools in ethnology and cultural anthropology	They are familiar with basic methods of analysing and interpreting cultural products used in ethnology.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW5] implementation of a problem task
	[ETNOL3_W02] Has an advanced and detailed knowledge about terminology, theories, and methodology of culture and religion studies (in the area of ethnology and cultural anthropology)	They are familiar with and understand key concepts, theories, and methodological approaches used in ethnology and cultural anthropology.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[ETNOL3_K05] Is aware of the dilemmas associated with practicing the profession	They are aware of the dilemmas related to the role of a cultural researcher and the responsibilities it involves.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
	[ETNOL3_W07] Knows and understand research methods and tools of the ethnologist's workshop	They are able to identify basic research tools and techniques used in ethnographic work.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[ETNOL3_K01] Knows the extent of their knowledge and skills, organises their work effectively, and critically evaluates the extent to which it has progressed	They are aware of the scope of their knowledge, able to organise their work, and assess the level of its advancement.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[ETNOL3_U05] Is able to use the main theoretical approaches, research paradigms, and concepts in ethnology and cultural anthropology	They are able to use basic concepts and theoretical approaches relevant to ethnology and cultural anthropology.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[ETNOL3_K02] Is open to new ideas and ready to reformulate their position	They are open to different ways of interpreting culture and willing to revise their own assumptions.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[ETNOL3_U07] Is able to interpret cultural products by means of typical methods of interpretation, taking into account their place in the historical-cultural process	They are able to analyse selected examples of cultural products using appropriate interpretive methods.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[ETNOL3_K06] Is convinced of the importance of behaving in a professional manner, reflecting on ethical issues, and observing professional ethics	They understand the importance of ethical reflection and a professional approach in the interpretation of cultural phenomena.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Subject contents	1. Ethnology, ethnography, cultural anthropology basic concepts 2. The specificity of anthropological thinking 3. The concept of culture, culture and nature 4. Strangeness, otherness, familiarity 5. The specificity of ethnographic methods 6. The process of interpretation and understanding 7. Perspectivism 8. Data and theoretical categories. 9. Selected areas of interest in ethnology/cultural anthropology 10. The body, identity, and social relations as subjects of ethnological research. 11. Examples of classical and contemporary ethnographic research. 12. Ethical challenges in ethnographic research.
Prerequisites and co-requisites	

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Group work	51.0%	20.0%
Presentation of a selected topic	51.0%	30.0%
Reading assigned texts and participating in discussions	51.0%	50.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	E. Nowicka, Świat człowieka świat kultury. Systematyczny wykład problemów antropologii kulturowej, Warszawa 2000. Wojciech J. Burszta, Antropologia kultury. Tematy, teorie, interpretacje, Poznań 1998 Fredrik Barth, Andre Gingrich, Robert Parkin, Sydel Silverman, Antropologia. Jedna dyscyplina, cztery tradycje: brytyjska, niemiecka, francuska i amerykańska, Kraków 2007 Thomas Hylland Ericksen, Małe miejsca, wielkie sprawy. Wprowadzenie do antropologii społecznej i kulturowej, Warszawa 2009. Adam Kuper, Kultura. Model antropologiczny, Kraków 2005 Herzfeld M., Antropologia. Praktykowanie teorii w kulturze i społeczeństwie, Wydawnictwo UJ, Kraków 2004.

	Supplementary literature	Kirsten Hastrup, *Droga do antropologii. Między doświadczeniem a teorią,* Kraków 2008. Clifford Geertz, Interpretacja kultur. Wybrane eseje, Kraków 2005. Barbara Olszewska-Dyoniziak, *Człowiek kultura osobowość*. Wstęp do klasycznej antropologii kultury, Wrocław 2003 T. Buliński, M. Kairski (red.), Teren w antropologii. Praktyka badawcza we współczesnej antropologii kulturowej, Poznań 2011.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Anthropology and common sense differences between scientific and colloquial understanding of culture. The process of constructing otherness and mechanisms of exclusion in various social contexts. Embodied knowledge the role of the body in social practices and identity formation. The researcher-research subject relationship: asymmetries, dialogue, cooperation. Narratives and stories as tools for organizing experience. From description to interpretation how to move from field data to anthropological analysis. Perspectivism and the question of objectivity in anthropological research. Ethics and the anthropologist's responsibility towards the researched community and the wider public.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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