University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Religions of pre-Christian Europe - Lecture, PG_00200655		
Field of study	Religious 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 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	1	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	2	ECTS credits	3.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Faculty of History -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr hab. Wojciech Gajewski, prof. UG	
	Teachers	dr hab. Wojciech Gajewski, prof. UG	

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 student understands the religious specificity of pre-Christian Europe, in particular Celtic, Germanic, Slavic and Baltic religiosity.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[RELL3_W08] Knows the risks arising from religious conflicts and understands the importance of actions aimed at reaching understanding and seeking solutions based on mutual respect and the rejection of all forms of discrimination.	K3_W08] He knows the dangers of religious conflicts, understands the importance of consensus-oriented action and the search for solutions based on mutual respect and the rejection of all forms of discrimination	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[RELL3_W04] Has structured knowledge of the history of different religions and understands the historical factors shaping their development.	K_W04: The student has extended knowledge of the religion of the Celts, Germans, Slavs and Balts, about religious behaviors and practices, i.e. the entire cult and the rites and rituals that constitute its content	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[RELL3_W03] Has structured detailed knowledge in the area of culture and religion studies.	K_W03: The student has advanced, structured knowledge of the history of various religions, understands the historical conditions of their development	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[RELL3_U02] Is able to identify various forms of past and contemporary cultural production and critically analyse and interpret them in order to determine their meanings, social impact and role in historical and cultural processes.	K_U02: Students will be able to recognise different types of cultural artefacts from the past and present and to critically analyse and interpret them in order to determine their meanings, social impact and place in the historical-cultural process.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[RELL3_K03] Is prepared to recognise and respect different perspectives shaped by diverse religious, national and cultural backgrounds.	K_K03: The student is ready to recognise and respect different points of view determined by different religious, national and cultural backgrounds.	[SK8] observation of student's independent or team work

Subject contents

Historical, geographical and ethnic conditions of the studied religion in Europe from the oldest beliefs of the Paleolithic period to Christianization. Believers and religious officials, religious institutions, customs and traditions. Main religious concepts: cosmogony, anthropology and eschatology of Indo-Europeans - Greeks, Etruscans, Romans, Celts, Germans, Slavs and Balts and other peoples (Etruscans, Basques and Finno-Ugrics).

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
attendance	75.0%	50.0%
written response	51.0%	50.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Banek K. Drabina J. Hoffmann H., Religie Wschodu i Zachodu, Warszawa 1992. Eliade M., Historia wierzeń i idei religijnych, Warszawa 1997
Supplementary literature	B. Gierek, Celtowie, Kraków 1998 A. Gieysztor, Mitologia Słowian, Warszawa 1982 A. Szyjewski, Religia Słowian, Kraków 2010 J. Suchocki, Mitologia bałtyjska, Warszawa 1991 S. Piekarczyk, Mitologia germańska, Warszawa 1979 M. Haavio, Mitologia fińska, Warszawa 1979
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	1. COMPARISONSa. Similarities and differences of Greek and Roman religiosity: using examplesb. Similarities and differences in Germanic and Slavic mythology: based on examplesc. Characteristics (including common features) of Indo-European religions: based on examples2. GERMANIC MYTHOLOGYa. Germanic anthropologyb. the main Germanic deitiesc. Ragnarök: characteristics of Germanic eschatology3. SLAVIC MYTHOLOGYa. Cosmogony of the Slavsb. Slavic deities of Pomerania - present and discussc. Slavic junaks - discuss on selected examples
Work placement	Not applicable

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