University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contemporary Anthropology, PG_00200791						
Field of study	Ethnology						
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 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	Division of Polish Ethnology and Anthropology of History -> Institute of Anthropology -> Faculty of History -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Agnieszka Bednarek-Bohdziewicz				
	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	1. Introduction to the issues of research on modern societies. Familiarization with selected areas of anthropological reflection on contemporary culture. 2. Developing the ethnologist's research tools and skills (analysis and interpretation of texts, critical thinking, presentation of knowledge, discussion)						

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	The student is acquainted with the latest anthropological theories and problems of research on modern societies; the student understands the difference of the terms: anthropology of modern times and contemporary anthropology.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] 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	The student skillfully interprets the products amd acts of modern culture, understands their place and transformations in the historical-cultural process.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ETNOL3_U06] Is able to identify and analyse different types of culture: material, symbolic, and social	The student is able to recognize and analyze different types of contemporary culture: material, symbolic and social.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] 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	The student is able to substantively justify theses and formulate conclusions based on the acquired knowledge in the field of anthropology of modern times.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ETNOL3_W05] Knows and understands the links between ethnology and cultural anthropology and other humanities and social sciences: cultural studies, philosophy, history, archaeology, sociology	The student knows and understands the connections between cultural anthropology, cultural studies, sociology and philosophy.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ETNOL3_K07] Is aware of the importance of the cultural heritage of the region, country, and Europe, and their own responsibility for its preservation	The student understands the relationship of contemporary culture to the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Poland and Europe and his own responsibility for its preservation.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
[ETNOL3_W03] Has well-ordered detailed knowledge in selected areas of ethnological knowledge of Polish, European, and non-European culture	The student has a structured detailed knowledge in selected areas of anthropology of modern times.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ETNOL3_K02] Is open to new ideas and ready to reformulate their position	The student is able to develop his knowledge of contemporary culture research and verify his views.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work

Subject contents

1. Anthropology of modern times vs. contemporary anthropology - characteristics of concepts and methods
2. Globalization and migration
3. Anthropology of death
4. Anthropology of everyday life (Anthropology at home)
5. Post-secular turn
6. Post-digital culture
7. Anthropocene
8. Animal Studies
9. Posthumanism
10. Transhumanism

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Preparing a final paper	51.0%	60.0%
Active participation in classes (attendance, preparing for classes, participating in discussions and group work)	51.0%	40.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	• *Antropologia śmierci. Myśl francuska*, wybór i przekład S. Cichowicz, J.M. Godzimirski, Warszawa 1993 (wybrane fragmenty). • Arjun Appadurai, *Nowoczesność bez granic. Kulturowe wymiary globalizacji*, Kraków 2005 (wybrane fragmenty). • Philip Aries, *Człowiek i śmierć*, Warszawa 1989 (wybrane fragmenty). • Monika Bakke, *Studia nad zwierzętami: od aktywizmu do akademii i z powrotem?*, Teksty Drugie 2011, nr 3, s. 193-204. • Wojciech Burszta, Krzysztof Piątkowski, *O czym opowiada antropologiczna opowieść*, Warszawa 1994 (wybrane fragmenty). • Magdalena Dąbrowska, *Etnografia i animal studies*, Zeszyty Etnologii Wrocławskiej 2017, nr 1(26), s. 183-201. • Barbara Fatyga, *Charakterystyka pojęć: antropologia współczesna i antropologia współczesności*, w: tejże, *Dzicy z naszej ulicy. Antropologia kultury młodzieżowej*, Warszawa 2005, s. 17-53. • Grażyna Gajewska, *Posthumanistyka*, w: tejże, *Arcy-nie ludzkie. Przez science fiction do antropologii cyborgów*, Poznań 2010, s. 44-60. • Michał Klichowski, *Narodziny cyborgizacji. Nowa eugenika, transhumanizm i zmierzch edukacji*, Poznań 2014, s. 105-147: 1. Idee transhumanizmu, 2. Subsystemy transhumanizmu, 3. Krytyka transhumanizmu. • Magdalena Lubańska, *Ani kapłani, ani błaźni. Odsłony zwrotu postsekularnego w antropologii*, Slavia Meridionalis 2020, nr 20, article 2241, s. 1-30. • Katarzyna Majbroda, *W stronę etnografii tansrelacyjnej. Antropologia wobec antropocenu, kryzysu klimatycznego i relacyjnie urządzonej rzeczywistości*, "Etnografia Polska" 2021, t. LXV, z. 1-2, s. 5-26. • Łukasz Mirocha, *Kulturowe znaczenie błędu komputacyjnego (glitch) w mediach wizualnych postcyfrowa perspektywa software studies* (fragment) • Roch Sulima, *Antropologia codzienności*, Kraków 2000 (wybrane fragmenty). • Piotr Zawojski, *Posthumanizm, czyli humanizm naszych czasów*, "Kultura i Historia" 2017, nr 32, s. 68-76. • *Lo i stało się. Zaduma nad światem w sieci*, reż. Werner Herzog (2016). • Muzeum Emigracji w Gdyni
	Supplementary literature	• Ch. Barker, *Studia kulturowe. Teoria i praktyka*, Kraków 2005. • M. de Certeau, *Wynaleźć codzienność. Sztuki działania*, Kraków 2008. • W. Kuligowski, *Defamiliaryzatorzy. Źródła i zróżnicowanie antropologii współczesności*, Poznań 2016. • G. Mathews, *Supermarket kultury. Kultura globalna a tożsamość jednostki,* Warszawa 2005.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed		
Work placement	Not applicable	

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