University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Multispecies Ethnographies, PG_00200962		
Field of study	Ethnology		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject	2026/2027
Education level	Master'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	4.0
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 Filip Rogalski	
	Teachers	dr Filip Rogalski	

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	22.0	48.0	100

Subject objectives

The purpose of the lecture is to familiarize students with anthropological approaches to human-environment relations, with particular emphasis on the current of multispecies ethnography.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[ETNOMU2_W04] Has in-depth knowledge of the relationship between ethnology and cultural anthropology and other humanities and social sciences	K_W04 Has in-depth knowledge of the relationship of ethnology and cultural anthropology with other humanities and social sciences, allowing the integration of perspectives relevant to several scientific disciplines, in particular, within the scope of human-nonhuman relationships	[SW3] text preparation/written work
[ETNOMU2_W01] Has in-depth knowledge of the specific subject matter and methodology of ethnology and cultural anthropology, which they are able to develop and creatively apply in professional activity	K_W01 Has in-depth knowledge of the subject and methodological specifics of ethnology and cultural anthropology of human-nonhuman relationships, which he is able to develop and creatively apply in professional activity	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ETNOMU2_U01] Is able to independently search, verify, evaluate, select information, applying modern techniques of acquiring and analysing data with the use of various sources, integrate knowledge, and formulate critical opinions on this basis	K_U01 Is able to independently search, verify, evaluate, select information, applying modern techniques for obtaining and analyzing data using various sources, integrate knowledge and formulate critical judgments on this basis	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ETNOMU2_K01] Critically evaluates acquired knowledge, personal and social competences; is prepared to critically evaluate information received	K_K01 Critically evaluates his/her knowledge, personal and social competences; is ready to critically evaluate received information	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[ETNOMU2_W02] Has a structured, in-depth knowledge, including terminology, theory and methodology in ethnology and cultural anthropology	K_W02 Has a structured, in-depth knowledge, including terminology, theory and methodology of ethnological and cultural anthropological approaches to human-nonhuman relationships	[SW3] text preparation/written work
[ETNOMU2_U06] Is able to carry out a critical analysis and interpretation of various types of cultural products, applying original approaches, taking into account new developments in the humanities in order to determine their meanings, social impact, place in the historical-cultural process	K_U06 Be able to carry out a critical analysis and interpretation of different types of cultural products, using original approaches, taking into account new developments in the humanities in order to determine their meanings, social impact, place in the historical-cultural process, within the scope of human-nonhuman relationships	[SU3] text preparation/written work

Subject contents

Relations between humans and the entities inhabiting their environment in socio-cultural anthropology.
Humans and non-humans in the cosmologies of selected indigenous peoples.
Critical theory of plant and animal domestication.
Theoretical roots of multispecies ethnography.
Analysis of selected examples of research in multispecies ethnography.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
presentation	51.0%	30.0%
active participation	51.0%	20.0%
written essay	51.0%	50.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Candea, Matei. 2010. I fell in love with Carlos the meerkat: Engagement and detachment in humananimal relations. *American Ethnologist* 37: 241-258. Descola, Philippe. 2013. *Beyond nature and culture*. Evans-Pritchard, Edward Evan. 1940. *The Nuer. A Description of the Modes of Livelihood and Political Institutions of a Nilotic People*. Fijn, Natasha. 2011. *Living with Herds: Human-Animal Coexistence in Mongolia*. Forde, Cyril Daryll. 1934. *Habitat, economy and society: a geographical introduction to ethnology*. Harris, Marvin. 1974. *Krowy, świnie, wojny i czarownice. Zagadki kultury* . Hartigan, John. 2017. *Care of the Species: Races of Corn and the Science of Plant Biodiversity*. Haraway, Donna. 2007. *When species meet*. Kirksey, S. Eben, Stefan Helmreich. 2010. The emergence of multispecies ethnography. Cultural Anthropology 25 (4): 545-576. Miller, Theresa. 2019. *Plant Kin: A Multispecies Ethnography in Indigenous Brazil*. University of Texas Press. Stépanoff, Charles. 2012. Human-animal joint commitment in a reindeer herding system. *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 2 (2): 287-312. Stépanoff, Charles. 2024. *Attachements. Enquête sur nos liens au-délà de lhumain.* Paris: Découverte. Tsing, Anna. 2012. Krnąbrne krawędzie. Tsing, Anna. 2024. *Grzyb u kresu świata*. Toruń: UMK. Van Dooren, Thom. 2014. *Flight Ways: Life and Loss at the Edge of Extinction*.

	Supplementary literature	Despret, Vinciane. 2016. *What Would Animals Say If We Asked the Right Questions?* Hathaway, Michael. 2022. What a mushroom lives for. Kirksey, S. Eben. 2015. *Emergent ecologies.* Marchina, Charlotte. 2019. *Nomads land. Éleveurs, animaux et paysage chez les peuples mongols*. Paris, Zones Sensibles. Lescureux, Nicolas. 2019. Beyond wild and domestic. Human complex relationships with dogs, wolves, and wolf-dog hybrids. In. *Hybrid communities: biosocial approaches to domestication and other trans-species relationships*. Charles Stépanoff & Jean-Denis Vigne (eds.). London & New York, Routledge. Pp. 65-79.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	History of the study of human-nonhuman relations in socio-cultural anthropology. Humans and nonhumans in indigenous cosmologies. Critique of colloquial concepts of domestication of nonhumans. Theoretical roots of multispecies ethnography. Analysis of selected examples of research in multispecies ethnography.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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