University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	MSc Seminar I (Seminar), PG_00201208		
Field of study	Physical geography and geoinformation		
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 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	Department of Geomorphology and Quaternary Geology -> Faculty of Oceanography and Geography -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Janusz Filipiak	
	Teachers		

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.0	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	10.0	35.0	75

Subject objectives

The primary aim of the Msc Seminar course is for students to acquire in-depth knowledge, skills and social competences in the field related to their Msc Thesis, and to understand advanced methods used in physical geography and geoinformation, enabling them subsequently to independently prepare and write their Msc Thesis and present its results with the substantive support of a supervisor, who monitors progress in the preparation of the thesis on an ongoing basis. The topic of the Msc Thesis, selected from a list of proposals during the first semester of study as part of the Discussion classes course, relates to one of the thematic areas covered by the programme:
- Quaternary geomorphology and geology,
- hydrology, limnology and water protection,
- meteorology and climatology,
- geoinformation and
- interdisciplinary topics combining selected aspects of the above.

The specific aim of the Msc Seminar I course is to carry out the early stages of preparing the Msc Thesis, starting with a review of the current state of knowledge and defining the thesiss research questions (research objective, research hypotheses), through to designing the research methodology and commencing the initial stage of analysing the research material.

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[GFGMU2_U04] is able to describe and analyze the causes and course of physical and geographical processes and phenomena, selecting and applying advanced techniques and research tools in the field of statistical and geoinformation methods, interpreting the results, using theoretical knowledge to formulate own opinions and conclusions	Is able to describe and analyze the causes and course of observed natural or anthropogenic phenomena and processes, as well as draw conclusions and express opinions.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU5] implementation of a problem task
	[GFGMU2_K02] is ready to active actions to raise awareness of changes occurring in the natural environment and their consequences, as well as initiating activities for the protection of the natural environment	Is ready to actively work to raise awareness of changes taking place in the natural environment on topics related to his/her master's thesis.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[GFGMU2_W04] knows and understands theoretical foundations of research methods used in physical geography and closely related sciences, descriptive and mathematical statistics, as well as in a deepened extent methods of analyzing spatial phenomena	Knows and understands the theoretical basis of the scientific problem that is addressed in the master thesis, as well as the research methods used to analyze this problem.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[GFGMU2_K01] is ready to critically assess the knowledge obtained in the field of Earth and environmental sciences, particularly physical geography and geoinformation, its completion and verification through further critical analysis of scientific literature	Is ready to critically assess his/her knowledge in the field of his master's thesis, supplement it and verify it through active participation in the discussion.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[GFGMU2_U05] is able to integrate knowledge from the discipline of Earth and environmental sciences, explaining and interpreting the interrelationships between environmental processes and phenomena in order to solve research problems in physical geography and geoinformation	Is able to integrate knowledge in the field of the master's thesis, as well as explain the relationships between the processes and phenomena analyzed in the master's thesis.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[GFGMU2_U07] is able to efficiently perform, present and critically interpret the results of individual or group research, using a properly understood cause-and-effect sequence of the applied research procedure, visualizing the results of spatial data analysis and reliably documenting own contribution to the conducted procedure	Is able to present and discuss the results of his own research, visualize the research results and credibly document his own contribution to the research.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[GFGMU2_U09] is able to plan individually or in a group and perform specialized field measurements and observations of processes and phenomena occurring in the natural environment and interpret their results	Is able to plan and execute field and laboratory work related to the master's thesis, as well as interpret their results.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[GFGMU2_U02] is able to precisely and appropriately use terminology in the field of physical geography and geoinformation in oral statements and written works	Is able to fluently and properly use terminology related to the master's thesis in oral statements and written works.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[GFGMU2_U01] is able to find, select and critically evaluate sources of information about the research problem to be implemented	Is able to find, select and critically evaluate sources of information about research problem of the master's thesis.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[GFGMU2_W05] knows and understands principles of planning field and laboratory research using techniques and research tools used in geomorphology, hydrology and climatology, as well as principles of operating equipment and devices used to obtain and process digital geographic information in accordance with health and safety principles	Knows and understands the principles of planning field and laboratory research that are necessary to tackle the scientific problem that is addressed in the master thesis, and the methods of obtaining and processing digital geographic information.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[GFGMU2_W06] knows and understands in a deepened extent conceptual apparatus of physical geography and geoinformation, selected Polish and foreign literature on physical geography and principles of preparing and editing scientific texts	Knows and understands the terminology related to the subject of the master's thesis, selected Polish and foreign literature related to the master's thesis and the principles of preparing and editing scientific texts.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[GFGMU2_U03] is able to effectively use selected scientific literature in the field of physical geography and geoinformation, both in Polish and English	Is able to effectively use scientific literature related to the research problem covered by the master's thesis.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Subject contents

1. Presentation of the scope of diploma theses in a specific field of physical geography, including sources and possibilities of obtaining data.
2. Discussion of the principles of: respecting authorship in scientific works, identifying research problems, determining the scope (substantive, temporal and spatial) and goals of the work (cognitive, application, methodological).
3. Formulation of research theses/hypotheses, research procedures and selection of appropriate research methods.
4. Development of the structure and layout of work.
5. Presentation of the introductory chapter of the master's thesis.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Participation in discussions during seminars	51.0%	30.0%
Progress report (presentation)	51.0%	70.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Plit F., 2007, Jak pisać prace licencjackie i magisterskie z geografii, UW, Warszawa (in Polish). Weiner J., 2001, Technika pisania i prezentowania przyrodniczych prac naukowych, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, Warszawa (in Polish).
Supplementary literature	Scientific works related to the master's theses under preparation.
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed

1. Variability of laminated sediments deposition in Lake Garbas, Masurian Lake District.
2. The use of Pb-210 and Cs-137 isotopes for dating sediments of Lake Birkat Al Arayes in Jordan.
3. Historical changes in the natural environment in the Lake Gorzyńskie catchment area.

Work placement

Not applicable

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