University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Performing arts and contemporary challenges - Seminar, PG_00201846						
Field of study	Management and Communications in Performing Arts						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject	2027/2028			
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	2		Language of instruction	Polish			
Semester of study	3		ECTS credits	3.0			
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form	credit			
Conducting unit	Division of Drama, Theatre and Performance -> Institute of Polish Philology -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Sylwia Dobkowska				
	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		4.0	43.0	77	
Subject objectives	The aim of this course is to introduce a range of trends and phenomena noticeable in recent theatrical plays as a reaction to various problems and challenges posed by modernity in its broadest sense. Students will acquire knowledge on the influence of socio-cultural context on the content, shape and function of contemporary theatre performances and related forms. They will develop the ability to reflect critically on stage plays using a range of methods and theoretical approaches related to the discussed issues.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[ZKWSSMU2_W05] Knows in-teapth terminology in the field of art sciences.	K_W05 - knows the terminology of the arts sciences at an extended level, with particular reference to the socio-cultural conditions of contemporary performing arts;	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ZKWSSMU2_W10] Has structured knowledge of development trends and dilemmas of contemporary civilization occurring in the area of contemporary performing arts.	K_W10 - has a structured and in-depth knowledge of the development trends and most important phenomena in the area of contemporary performing arts, especially the social engagement of theatre, performance in media society and scenic redaction of contemporary problems.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ZKWSSMU2_K02] Is ready to fulfill social obligations and act for the public interest in the field of performing arts.	K_K02 - is ready to fulfil obligations related to the social function of theatre and to act for the public interest in the field of performing arts.	[SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[ZKWSSMU2_W04] Has in-depth knowledge of the connections between art sciences and management and quality sciences, and is also aware of the problems and research opportunities arising from the connection of these areas.	K_W04 - has an in-depth knowledge of the links between the arts sciences and management and quality sciences, and is aware of the problems and research opportunities arising from the link between these areas, particularly in the context of the socio-cultural conditions of contemporary theatre;	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[ZKWSSMU2_U03] Is able to critically analyze various forms of performing arts based on different methods and theoretical approaches.	K_U03 - is able to critically analyse various forms and functions of performing arts as a response to contemporary challenges based on different methods and theoretical approaches.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
Subject contents	Example content: Social tasks of contemporary theatre (e.g. community theatre, theatre in a pedagogical, animating, re-socialising function, etc.). Forms and tasks of engaged art (e.g. guerilla theatre, The Theatre of the Oppressed), alternative theatre, critical theatre Theatre and art collectives Freedom of artistic expression and cultural policy Contemporary issues in the performing arts (e.g. globalisation, pop culture, post-humanism, ecology, feminism, terrorism, refugees, etc.). Identity issues of the human individual and community in theatre (e.g. documentary theatre, Playback Theatre) Scenic presence of the other, the stranger, the excluded (e.g. theatre of the disabled, deaf theatre, therapeutic theatre, minority theatre) Theatre as an art laboratory: aesthetic changes in contemporary performing arts Theatre in a media society, intermediality of the performing arts		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			

Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	test	50.0%	70.0%
	active presence	80.0%	30.0%

Recommended reading		
	Basic literature	Fischer-Lichte E., Estetyka performatywności, transl. M. Borowski and M. Sugiera, Kraków 2008.Lehmann H.-T., Post-dramatic theatre, transl. D. Sajewska and M. Sugiera, Kraków 2004.Limon J. (ed.), Żukowska A. (ed.), Amalgams of Art: Intermedial Entanglements of Theatre, Gdańsk 2011 (or English edition: Theatrical Blends, Gdańsk 2010).Pavis P., Contemporary Staging. Sources, tendencies, perspectives, transl. P. Olkusz, Warsaw 2011.
	Supplementary literature	Aston E., An Introduction to Feminism and Theatre, London 1995.Balme C. B., The Theatrical Public Sphere, Cambridge 2014.Bielanska A., Theatre that Heals, Krakow 2005.Boal A., The Theatre of the Oppressed, New York 1993.Bodzioch-Bryła B. (ed.), Szczepaniak R. (ed.), Wałczyk K. (ed.), Globalisation in Culture. Dissemination or simplification? Kraków 2010.Borkowska M. (ed.), Akademia Ruchu. City. Field of Action, Czarne Publishing House 2006.Carlson M., The Haunted Stage, Ann Arbor 2003.Case S.-E., Feminism and Theatre, New York 1988.Dixon S., Digital Performance, Cambridge 2015.Godlewska-Byliniak E. (ed.), Lipko-Konieczna J. (ed.), Reclaiming Presence. Disability in theatre and performance, Warsaw 2017.Gołaczyńska M., Mozaika współczesności. Alternative theatre in Poland after 1989, Wrocław 2002.Grenda M., Practices of resistance of contemporary alternative theatre on the example of artistic and extra-theatrical activities of the Barak Kultury Foundation, Przegląd Kulturoznawczy 41.3 (2019).Guderian-Czaplińska E. (ed.), Godlewski S. (ed.), Theatre, artistic and research collectives, Warsaw 2018.Kluszczyński R., Interactive art. From work-instrument to interactive performance, Warsaw 2010.Kluzowicz J., To see the other. Contemporary art as a space for informal adult education, on the example of theatre activities", Adult Education No. 2 (77) (2017), 87-99.Korzeniowska-Bihun A. (ed.), Contemporary drama and theatre in the face of war, violence and refugees, Warsaw 2018.Kwaśniewska M., Question of community. Jerzy Grzegorzewski and Jan Klata, Kraków 2016.Lavery C., Introduction: Performance and Ecology: What Can Theatre Do? Green Letters: Studies in Ecocriticism 20.3 (2016), 229-236 (also other articles in this issue).Lewkowicz I. (ed.), Piasecka A. (ed.), Therapy and theatre. Around the subject of theatre for the disabled, Łódź 2006.Leyko M. (ed.), Bartosiak M. (ed.), Kulturowe konteksty dramatu współczesnego, Cracow 2008.Molicka R., Schejbal M., Theatre and therapy. Artistic process - group process, Bielsko-Biała 2006.Ostrowska J., Tyszka J., Szkice o teatrze alternatywnym, Poznań 2008.Partyga E. (ed.), Morawski P. (ed.), Dangerous relationships. Drama, theatre and popular culture, Warsaw 2010.Plata T. (ed.), Strategie publiczne, Strategie prywatne. Polish theatre 1990-2005, Warsaw 2006.Przastek D., Cultural policies and freedom of artistic expression in Poland in 1989-2015, Warsaw 2017.Rokem F., Wystawianie historii, transl. M. Sugiera and M. Borowski, Kraków 2010.Schechner R., Guerrilla Theatre: May 1970, The Drama Review 14.3 (1970), 163-168.Shaughnessy N., Applying Performance: Live Art, Socially Engaged Theatre and Affective Practice, Basingstoke 2012.Sikorski W., Sikorska A., From pedagogical theatre to therapeutic theatre, 2019.Wąchocka E. (red.), Intymne prywatne publiczne, Katowice 2015.Wąchocka E. (red.), Fox D. (red.), Głowacka A. (red.), Teatr historii lokalnych w Europie Środkowej, Katowice 2015.Wilk K., Obecność sztuki teatralnej w codzienności życia społecznego, Katowice 2015.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed		
Work placement	Not applicable	

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