University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contemporary Political Systems, PG_00202316						
Field of study	History						
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 Optional subject group Humanistic-social subject group			
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery	at the university			
Year of study	2		Language of instruction	Polish			
Semester of study	4		ECTS credits	2.0			
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form	credit			
Conducting unit	Division of Methodology of History, History of Historiography and Archival Science -> Institute of History -> Faculty of History -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Zbigniew Landowski				
	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	Providing students with knowledge about contemporary political systems of selected European and non-European countries and their history in the 20th century. Familiarizing students with selected contemporary theories of political science regarding democratic systems and dictatorships. Developing the ability to analyze available data on political systems.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[HISTMU2_W02] The student possess in-depth knowledge of the research methods and problems characteristic of selected fields of history, such as political, social, economic, cultural, regional, family, and gender history, among others	K2H_W02: Has in-depth knowledge of selected research methods and problems fields of history, such as political history, history of political systems	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[HISTMU2_W07] The student knows and understands the fundamental dilemmas of modern civilisation	K2H_U02: Consciously selects research methods and tools appropriate for the chosen one fields of history (e.g. history of political systems), allowing for solving various tasks and problems	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[HISTMU2_U02] The student selects and critically evaluates research methods and tools appropriate to the chosen field of history, enabling them to tackle a variety of tasks and problems in the work of a historian and within their chosen field of specialisation	K2A_W07: Knows and understands the fundamental dilemmas of modern civilization, especially relating to the functioning of modern systems political	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTMU2_K02] The student is prepared to recognise the importance of knowledge in solving theoretical and practical problems, and to seek expert advice when encountering difficulties in independently resolving issues in the work of a historian and activities within their chosen specialism	K2H_K02: Is ready to recognize the importance of knowledge in solving problems cognitive and practical and seeking expert opinions in the case Difficulty solving the problem on your own.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents

We understand the term "political system" broadly as:

- form of government
- political parties and other forms of political life
- legal standards regulating the functioning of the system
- socio-economic system supported by the state
- value systems and customs sanctioned by the state.

Selected European and non-European countries are presented during subsequent lectures.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
oral examination	10.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Z. Lewicki, Historia cywilizacji amerykańskiej: era tworzenia 1607 - 1789, Warszawa 2009 J. Żarnowski, Współczesne systemy polityczne: zarys problematyki, Warszawa 2012 Partie polityczne - przywództwo partyjne, red. J. Siekelskiego i M. Czerwińskiego, Toruń 2008 A. Antoszewski, R. Herbut, Systemy polityczne współczesnej Europy, Warszawa 2006
Supplementary literature	Larkin M., France since the Popular Front, Oxford 1988 Łepkowski T., Historia Meksyku, Wrocław 1986 Malinowski M. J., Republika Południowej Afryki: przemiany wewnętrzne i ich międzynarodowe uwarunkowania, Warszawa 1988 Myers B. R., Najczystsza rasa: propaganda Korei Północnej, Warszawa 2011 Misiuda-Rewera W., Włochy republika autonomii, Lublin 2005 Rock D., Argentina 1519-1987: from Spanish colonization to Falklands War and Alfonsin, London 1997 Wrzesińska A., Elity kongijskie w poszukiwaniu tożsamości, Warszawa 1999
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Political party - functions. Political systems: name three and characterize them. Presidential system - list the advantages and disadvantages. Parliamentary system in Great Britain - describe. Differences between the Prime Minister and the Chancellor. China's political system. Parliamentarism in the Czech Republic.
Work placement	Not applicable

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