University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Introduction to non-European art, PG_00203156		
Field of study	Museology and Preservation of Cultural Heritage		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject	2026/2027
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	1	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	1	ECTS credits	3.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of Art Theory -> Institute of Art History -> Faculty of History -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	prof. dr hab. Tomasz Torbus	
	Teachers	prof. dr hab. Tomasz Torbus	

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	43.0	75

Subject objectives	To acquaint students with basic information about non-European architecture - Islam, India, China, Japan and Pre-Columbian America. In addition to the most important stylistic features and basic information about the development of the art of these civilizational circles - based on key surviving works of architecture, the class will also devote itself to the influence of these cultures on Western European art

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[ODKML3_W05] He has advanced knowledge of the relationship of art sciences with other humanities and social sciences: history, cultural studies, philosophy, psychology, economics, sociology, ethnology, anthropology, theology	Knows and understands the relationships between non-European art and the historical, religious, and cultural contexts in which it developed, with particular emphasis on the influence of belief systems, traditions, and social organization on the form and function of architectural works.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[ODKML3_K04] Is ready to recognize and respect different points of view determined by different national and cultural backgrounds; to show understanding of the world of values and attitudes of people in different periods and historical contexts	Is prepared to respect cultural and religious diversity and to understand different systems of values and attitudes shaped by diverse traditions and historical contexts, as exemplified by non-European art.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
[ODKML3_W03] Has a structured and advanced knowledge of the history of Polish and universal art from antiquity to modern Times	Knows the main stages in the development of non-European art, with particular emphasis on the architecture of the Islamic world, India, China, Japan, and Pre-Columbian America, and recognizes the principal formal and thematic characteristics of selected works in their historical and cultural contexts.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents

The subject of the class is selected, the most relevant issues in the history of non-European art - mainly architecture, but with exceptions, for example, for African tribal art, where the topic of interest will also be sculpture. The knowledge will be transmitted according to countries (or regions dependent on supra-regional centers, e.g., the art of Southeast Asia will be discussed together with Indian art, on which it is dependent) and chronology, but also problematically (the evolution of the main types of mosques since the 7th century, or Asian stupas since the time of Ashoka). The lecturer emphasizes primarily the analysis of form and content - less factography, because this, for such a large area of interest, is impossible to convey more accurately to the audience. At the same time, the visualization of the most important monuments of non-European cultures provides a penumbra of knowledge that will help grasp the interrelationship between the art of Europe and other continents.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

no

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
credit colloquium	51.0%	80.0%
attendance	75.0%	20.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature

Białostocki, J. O sztuce dawnej Ameryki, Warszawa 1972

Ettinghausen, R. O. Grabar, M. Jenkins-Madina, Sztuka i architektura Islamu 650 1250, Warszawa 2007

Grabar, O. Alhambra, Warszawa 1990

Jakimowicz, A. Indie panorama sztuki. Warszawa 1978

Sztuka świata, t. 4, (praca zbiorowa) Wydawnictwo Arkady, Warszawa 1990 (m. in. rozdział "Sztuka Indii")

Künstler, M. J. Sztuka Chin. Warszawa 1991

Barucki, T. Architektura Japonii. Warszawa 1988

	Supplementary literature	Willett, F. African Art. New York 1988 Jakimowicz A., Zachód a sztuka Wschodu, Warszawa 1967. Jakimowicz-Shah M., Metamorfozy bogów indyjskich, Warszawa 1983. Sztuka i kultura wizualna Indii, red. P. Balcerowicz, J. Malinowski, Warszawa 2010. Sztuka świata, t. 4, (praca zbiorowa) Wydawnictwo Arkady, Warszawa 1990: rozdział "Sztuka Indii", s. 253-273: "Sztuka starożytnych i klasycznych Indii" - J. Pijoan; "Sztuka Indii średniowiecznych" - J. Auboyer. Srinivasan K. R., Temples of South India, New Delhi 2008. Stierlin H., Hindu India. From Khajuraho to Temple City of Madurai, 2002. Wheeler M., The Indus Civilization, Cambridge 1960. White D. G., Kiss of the yogini. "Tantric sex" in South Asian contexts, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London. Guide to the Ajanta Paintings: Narrative Wall Paintings by Dieter Schlingloff, Monika Zin, et al. 1999 E. W. Said, Orientalism. London: Routledge, 1978. L. Nochlin, The Imaginary Orient. Art in America 1983, vol. 71 (5), pp. 118131, pp. 187191 H. K. Bhabha, The Location of Culture. New York, London: Routledge, 2004
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	The fashion for 'Chinese' or Turkey in modern times The fascination of the 20th century, such as Black Africa Discuss non-European cultural circles using the research methods of art ethnology with elements of postcolonial discourse	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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