University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Introduction to archaeology, PG_00203169		
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	2	ECTS credits	2.0
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	dr Dorota Sakowicz	
	Teachers	dr Dorota Sakowicz	

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	Introduction to the basic issues of the discipline. Placing archaeology in the context of historical and anthropological sciences. Forming an understanding of archaeological sources and source-making processes. Introducing the history of archaeological interpretation as a history of recognizing the diversity of archaeological sources and the variability of the concept of archaeological narrative. To introduce the protection of archaeological heritage and the perception of the social context of archaeology.

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[ODKML3_K02] Is ready to take action to protect and promote the cultural heritage of the region, Poland and Europe	Knows the available options for actions to protect Poland's archaeological heritage	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ODKML3_W08] Knows and understands the key economic, legal, ethical and other conditions of various professional activities, including the basic concepts and principles of industrial property protection and copyright law		
	[ODKML3_W07] Has advanced and structured detailed knowledge of the protection and maintenance of cultural heritage		
	[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 aware of the diverse approaches to respecting cultural heritage, determined by differing national and cultural backgrounds. Understands that these approaches have varied across periods and historical contexts.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[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	Has advanced knowledge of the connections between art sciences and archaeology and is aware of the positive effects of interdisciplinary research	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ODKML3_U06] Defines, explains and applies correctly orally and in writing the basic terms and concepts specific to the art sciences and related sciences in working on selected topics and eras	Defines, explains and uses correctly, both orally and in writing, basic terms and concepts relevant to archaeology.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents	What is archaeology? Between humanities and natural sciences. Basic concepts of archaeology and auxiliary sciences of archaeology. Narratives in archaeology (classical evolutionism, historical-cultural archaeology, diffusionism and migrationism, functionalism, processual archaeology, structuralism, cognitive archaeology, post-processual archaeology). Frontiers and the future of archaeology. Archaeological sources and source-making processes. Archaeological excavations as a way of learning about the past. Dating in archaeology. Analyzing the past. Classifications in archaeology. The social context of archaeology: to whom does the past belong? Archaeology of identity. Protection of archaeological heritage. Ethics in archaeology.
Prerequisites and co-requisites	The most general knowledge of history and geography; the ability to read independently.

Assessment methods and criteria

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

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Renfrew, C., Bahn, P., 2002. *Archeologia. Teorie, metody, praktyka*. Prószyński i s-ka. Ławecka D., 2003, *Wstęp do archeologii*, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN Ashmore, W., R.J. Sharer, R.J., 2008. *Odkrywanie przeszłości. Wprowadzenie do archeologii*. Kraków: Avalon.
Supplementary literature	Johnson, M., 2013. *Teoria archeologii. Wprowadzenie*. Kraków: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego. Fagan B., 2021, *Krótka historia archeologii*, Wydawnictwo RM Kobyliński Z., 2009, *Własność dziedzictwa kulturowego*, Warszawa: Instytut Archeologii i Etnologii PAN
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Basic concepts of archaeology and auxiliary sciences of archaeology. Narratives in archaeology (classical evolutionism, historical-cultural archaeology, diffusionism and migrationism, functionalism, processual archaeology, structuralism, cognitive archaeology, post-processual archaeology). Frontiers and the future of archaeology. Archaeological sources and source-making processes. Archaeological excavations as a way of learning about the past.
Work placement	Not applicable

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