University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Iconography I, PG_00203546		
Field of study	History of Art		
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	3.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of Medieval Art -> Institute of Art History -> Faculty of History -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Monika Czapska	
	Teachers	dr Monika Czapska	

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

1. to familiarise the student with the methods of research into the themes and ideological content of works of European art from the first centuries of Christianity to the end of the 19th century.
2. to familiarise the student with iconography, its literary sources and coded content.
3. to show the textual and visual (plastic) sources of iconography of European art in relation to the related religious and philosophical and general cultural contents

The classes are divided into two parts: the first is devoted to Christian iconography, and the second to secular iconography.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[HISTSZL3_U02] Knows how to interpret works of art by means of typical methods of interpretation, taking into account the formal shaping of statements and their place in the historical-cultural process	K_U02 Be able to interpret the iconography and ideological content of a work of art by means of typical methods of interpretation, taking into account the formal shape of statements and their place in the historico-cultural process . K_U02 He/she is able to recognise and analyse the subject matter and ideological content of an artistic statement, as determined by iconography and iconology	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTSZL3_U03] Is able to critically analyse and evaluate the artistic value of works of art	Is able to critically analyze works of art in terms of their iconographic content, the way their message is constructed, and the relationship between artistic form and the content and meanings conveyed.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTSZL3_W04] Has advanced, structured detailed knowledge of the specific culture and art of particular periods	The student has advanced knowledge of iconographic systems, their sources and meanings, and their development in the art of different periods and cultural contexts.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTSZL3_W05] Has advanced knowledge of the relationship between art history and other humanities and social sciences: history, cultural studies, philosophy, psychology, economics, sociology, ethnology, anthropology, theology	K_W05 Has advanced knowledge of the relationship between art history and other humanities and social sciences: history, cultural studies, philosophy, theology as regards knowledge of the themes , iconographic types and contents of a work of art	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTSZL3_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	K_U06 Defines, explains and applies correctly orally and in writing basic terms and concepts specific to iconographic and iconological research in working on selected themes and eras	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents

Christian iconography
1/ Iconography and iconology as methods of art research. The limits of iconology. Methods of studying iconography
2/ Sources of Christian iconography
3/ The Bible and biblical themes in art
4/ Cross - crucifix - Crucifixion
5/ Mary and Mariology
6/ Devotional images as a category in art research
7/ Hagiography
8/ " In mors nostra vita est..."-Christian iconography of death.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Attendance	75.0%	0.0%
Colloquium	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	J. Białostocki, Metoda ikonologiczna w badaniach nad sztuką [w:] J, Białostocki, Pięć wieków myśli o sztuce, Warszawa 1976, s. 249- 275. F. Büttner, A.Gottdang, Einfüuhrung in die Ikonographie. Wege zum Deutung von Bildinhalten, C.H. Beck Vrlg, 2009 (II wyd.) T. Dobrzeniecki , Średniowieczne źródła Piety [w:] Treści dzieła sztuki. Materiały Ogólnopolskiej Sesji SHS Gdańsk, grudzień 1966. Warszawa 1967. D. Förstner, Świat symboliki chrześcijańskiej, tłum. W. Zakrzewska, P. Pachciarek, R. Turzycki, Warszawa 1970 P. Grimmal, Słownik mitologii greckiej i rzymskiej, Wrocław 1990 L. Kalinowski, Geneza piety średniowiecznej , Prace Komisji Historii Sztuki X, 1953, s. 153 260 L. Kalinowski, Ikonologia czy ikonografia? Termin ikonologia w badaniach nad sztuką Erwina Panofsky ego. Zeszyty naukowe UJ, Prace z historii sztuki 10, 1972, s. 5-33 R. Knapiński, Biblia pauperum - czy rzeczywiście księga ubogich?, Roczniki humanistyczne 48, 2000, s. 223-245 S. Kobielus, Krzyż Chrystusa : od znaku i figury do symbolu i metafory, PAX , Warszawa 2000 E. Panofsky, Ikonografia i ikonologia tłum. K. Kamińska [w:] Studia z historii sztuki. Oprac. J. Białostocki, Warszawa 1971, s. 11-33; A.Warburg, Narodziny Wenus i inne szkice renesansowe, Gdańsk 2010J. Baschet, Inwencyjność i seryjność średniowiecznych przedstawień wizualnych. W kierunku poszerzonej metody badania ikonografii, przekł. J. Mackiewicz , Konteksty LIX, nr 39 (270) s.49-70
	Supplementary literature	A. Henkel, Arthur; Schöne, Albrecht (hg.): Emblemata: Handbuch zur Sinnbildkunst des 16. und 17. Jhs., Stuttgart 1976. Héros et dieux de l'Antiquité : Guide iconographique, Paris 2008 M. Kaleciński, Mity Gdańska, Gdańsk 2011 W. Marcinkowski, Przedstawienia dewocyjne jako kategoria sztuki gotyckiej, Kraków, 1994 C.Ripa, Ikonologia, Kraków 1992, (wstępy Andrzeja Borowskiego i Mario Praza) J-C. Schmitt, Le corps des images. Essais sur le culture visuelle au moyen - age, Ed. Gallimard 2002 ,(fragm. s. 35-164). G. de Tervarent, Attributs et symboles dans l'art profane 1450-1600. Dictionnaire d'un langage perdu, vol. 1-2, Genève 1958-1959
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Foundations of medieval iconography the Bible, Physiologus, Golden Legend, Speculum Humanae Salvationis Representational traditions in medieval art Attributes of saints Iconology and iconography in the approach of Erwin Panofsky Art analysis interpreting the ideological program of a work of art	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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