University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Methodology of History - seminars, PG_00205439		
Field of study	History		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject	2026/2027
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	part-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	Institute of History -> Faculty of History -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Tomasz Maćkowski	
	Teachers	dr Tomasz Maćkowski	

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20

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	20	2.0	53.0	75

Subject objectives

1. overview of the terminology in the methodology and theory of history2. to develop skills of critical attitude to historical sources3. developing the ability to select and properly apply research methods relating to fact-finding and fact-exploration4. development of skills of constructing a professional historical narrative

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[HISTMU2_W05] Has in-depth knowledge of the principles, methods and tools used for the criticism, analysis and interpretation of a wide range of sources employed in historical research.	K2H_U04: The student is able to make an advanced analysis of historiographicl sources, identifying their connections with the views of the theoretical and/or political views of the author	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[HISTMU2_W04] Has in-depth knowledge of the main developmental trends and the most significant recent achievements in historical studies, and understands their importance for the interpretation of the fundamental dilemmas of contemporary civilisation.	The student has advanced knowledge of the main developmental trends and major achievements in historical knowledge.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[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	K1H_W07 The student knows and understands to an advanced degree the most important theories, methods of research methods and tools of the historian's workshop	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[HISTMU2_W03] The student knows in depth the terminology, theories, methodology and descriptive tools of the historical sciences and related sciences	K1H_W08 The student knows and uses specialized terminology of historical knowledge.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[HISTMU2_U06] The student is able to moderate academic debate and discussion, arguing and justifying one's position, drawing on knowledge and own research experience as well as the views of representatives of different historiographical currents	K2H _U04 The student is able to take an active part in a debate during which he/she expresses, accepts and evaluates different opinions and positions, is able to discuss them using professional terminology of historical sciences	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[HISTMU2_U03] The student correctly applies a variety of forms of historical writing, with particular emphasis on the ability to prepare academic texts correctly for publication, in accordance with the canons of criticism accepted in the chosen field of historical science	K2H _U03 The student is able to communicate with the community using specialized terminology charskteristic for historical and social sciences.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[HISTMU2_U01] The student possess research skills in the field of historical sciences, enabling him/her to independently, critically, and creatively solve complex and non-standard research problems	The student has advanced research skills to innovatively formulate opinions and solve unusual problems	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[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	K2H _U01 The student is able to use his/her knowledge in order to solve complex and untypical problems in the field of history through the appropriate choice of research methods.	[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	[HISTMU2_K02] The student is aware of the importance of science in solving cognitive problems and is able to refer to specialized opinions in argumentation	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents	1. introductory classes 2. historical source theory. External source criticism 3 4. Internal source criticism. 5. Methods of establishing historical facts 6. Procedures of explanation in history (objective versus subjective side of historical process; nomological-deductive model in explanation; rational model (humanistic, motivational); explanation by reference to psychological theories; types of explanation in historical narrative (genetic w., structural w., definitional w., causal w., model w.); positive and negative verification of hypotheses 7. Tools for constructing historical narrative (narrativism; tools that bind narrative in terms of form; tools that bind narrative in terms of content; the role of imagination in historical research; historical interpretation; idealization and concretization of narrative) 8. Time, periodization and space in historical narrative (conceptualization of time; ways of understanding time; types of time in historical narrative; the role of periodization; the time of the merchant and the time of the monk; three measures of duration according to F. Braudel; historicism and ahistoricism; presentism and anachronism) 9. Historiographical and fundamental myths (examples of historiographical myths; means of historical mythologisation; fundamental myths: progress, evolution, sublimation, coherence, causality, activism, determinism) 10. History as a tool of manipulation (what is historical politics; functions of historical politics; education as a tool of manipulation; history in the service of propaganda; instrumentalisation of memory - history as a tool of politics). 11. the limits of scientism in history a discussion on the publications of J. T. Gross 12. colloquium 13. should a historian evaluate his/her heroes? (textual analysis). 14. history in research practice and theory summary of the lesson
Prerequisites and co-requisites	

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	51.0%	30.0%
	51.0%	70.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Wprowadzenie do Metodologii historii, red. E. Domańska, J. Pomorski, Warszawa 2022 J. Topolski, Jak się pisze i rozumie historię. Tajemnice narracji historycznej, Warszawa 1996J. Topolski, Wprowadzenie do historii, Poznań 2001 K. Zamorski, Dziwna rzeczywistość. Wprowadzenie do ontologii historii, Kraków 2008.
	Supplementary literature	B. Literatura uzupełniająca. J. Appleby, L. Hunt, M. Jacob, Powiedzieć prawdę o historii, Poznań 2000. F. Ankersmit, Narracja, reprezentacja, doświadczenie. Studia z teorii historiografii, Kraków 2004. M. Bugajewski Maciej [red.], Czy przeszłość powinna być inna? Studia z teorii i historii historiografii. Poznań 2008. E. Carr, Historia. Czym jest, Poznań 1999. E. Domańska, Mikrohistorie: spotkania w międzyświatach, Poznań 2005. E. Domańska, Historie niekonwencjonalne. Refleksja o przeszłości w nowej humanistyce, Poznań 2006. E. Domańska, Pamięć, etyka i historia. Angloamerykańska teoria historiografii lat dziewięćdziesiątych, Poznań 2002. E. Domańska [red.], Teoria wiedzy o przeszłości na tle współczesnej humanistyki, Poznań 2010. E. Domańska, Historia egzystencjalna, Warszawa 2012. E. Domańska, Nekros. prowadzenie do ontologii martwego ciała, Warszawa 2017. J. Kowalewski [red.] Rzeczy i ludzie. Humanistyka wobec materialności, Olsztyn 2008. D. LaCapra, Historia w okresie przejściowym. Doświadczenie, tożsamość, teoria krytyczna, Kraków 2009. W. M. Nowak, Robina G. Collingwooda filozofia historii, Lublin 2002. J. Ostoja-Zagórski, Gra i konieczność. Zbiór rozpraw z filozofii i historii historiografii, Bydgoszcz 2005. T. Pawelec [red.], Psyche i Klio. Historia w oczach psychohistoryków, Lublin 2002. T. Pawelec, Dzieje i nieświadomość. Założenia teoretyczne i praktyka badawcza psychohistorii, Katowice 2004. K. Polasik, Antropologiczny rekonesans historyka. Szkice o antropologii historycznej, Bydgoszcz 2007. K. Pomian, Przeszłość jako przedmiot wiedzy, Warszawa 2010. J. Pomorski, Historyk i metodologia, Lublin 1991 J. Pomorski, Paradygmat "New Economic History". Droga do "Nobla", Lublin 1995. J. Pomorski [red.], Metodologiczne problemy narracji historycznej, Lublin 1990. J. Pomorski [red.], Światopoglądy historiograficzne, Lublin 2002. J. Pomorski [red.], Między modernizmem a postmodernizmem w historiografii, Res Historica 19, Lublin 2005. A. Radomski, Historiografia a kultura współczesna, Lublin 2006. P. Ricoeur, Pamięć, historia, zapomnienie, Kraków 2006. P. Ricoeur, Czas i opowieść, Kraków 2008. K. Rosner, Narracja, tożsamość i czas, Kraków 2003. B. Skarga, Granice historyczności, Warszawa 1989. M. Solarska, Historia zrewoltowana. Pisarstwo historyczne Michela Foucaulta jako diagnoza teraźniejszości i projekt przyszłości, Poznań 2006. W. Werner, Historyczność kultury. W poszukiwaniu myślowego fundamentu współczesnej historiografii, Poznań 2009.W. Wener, Wprowadzenie do historii, Warszawa 2012. H. White, Poetyka pisarstwa historycznego, Kraków 2000. H. White, Proza historyczna, Kraków 2009. P. Witek, M. Mazur, E. Solska [red.], Historia w kulturze współczesnej. Niekonwencjonalne podejścia do przeszłości, Lublin 2011. M. Woźniak, Przeszłość jako przedmiot konstrukcji. O roli wyobraźni w badaniach historycznych, Lublin 2010. W. Wrzosek, Historia kultura- metafora. Powstanie nieklasycznej historiografii, Wrocław 1995. W. Wrosek, O myśleniu historycznym, Bydgoszcz 2009. W. Wrzosek [red..] Świat historii. Prace z metodologii historii i historii historiografii dedykowane Jerzemu Topolskiemu z okazji siedemdziesięciolecia urodzin, Poznań 1998. W. Wrzosek [red.] Problemy współczesnej metodologii, Bydgoszcz 2009. G. G. Iggers, Historiografia XX wieku. Przegląd kierunków badawczych, Warszawa 2010. D. R. Kelley, Granice historii. Badanie przeszłości w XX wieku, Warszawa 2009
	eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	
Work placement	Not applicable

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