University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Statistics and Historical Demographics, PG_00205443		
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	Division of the History of Gdańsk, Pomerania and the Baltic Region -> Institute of History -> Faculty of History -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Radosław Kubus	
	Teachers	dr Radosław Kubus	

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	Acquaint the students with the practical dimension of social quantitative research. To provide a basis for critical reflection on the usefulness of research tools and the data obtained from their application

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.	Students will be able to critically assess the quality and reliability of historical data and the sources from which they are derived, and skilfully estimate the statistical result obtained on the basis of these data	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[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	The student has an in-depth knowledge of the methods and problems of research in statistics and historical demography and knows how to apply these methods in historical analysis	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[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	Students will be able to combine knowledge of statistics and demography with other areas of history, such as political history, social history, economic history, cultural history, regional history, family history, gender history, etc., in order to obtain a more complete picture of the historical problem under analysis	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[HISTMU2_K01] The student is ready to critically evaluate the knowledge he possesses and the content he receives	the student is ready to expand his knowledge independently	[SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[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	Students will be acquaint with basic concepts and statistical methods used in historical research, such as data analysis, sampling, correlation, extrapolation and interpolation.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
Subject contents	Sources for statistical-historical research. Difficulties and benefits of using statistical sources in history. Statistical estimation; Sources of demographic statistics from the 16th to the early 19th century (state censuses, treasury sources, church censuses); Preferences in the choice of statistical methods. Development of statistical material; Measures of central tendency - classical and positional averages; Measures of dispersion and measures of asymmetry; Types of chronological series; Absolute and relative growth, indices of dynamics; Equation of chronological series, extraction of seasonal variations, extraction of trend; Analysis of interdependence of phenomena (structure index, intensity index); Methods of studying the state and natural movement of the population (population structure by sex, age and marital status, family reconstruction method); Population relations (population density, urbanisation process, natural population movement).		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			

Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Practical test	51.0%	40.0%
	Theoretical test	51.0%	40.0%
	Presentation	51.0%	10.0%
	Activity during classes	51.0%	10.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Introduction to Old Polish demography, IH PAN, Warsaw 1976; Basics of statistics. Textbook for humanists, Department of History "Mówią Wieki", Warsaw 2005; Demography of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth , DiG, Warsaw 2009.	
	Supplementary literature	Methodology of History, PWN, Warsaw 1984; Problems and Methods of Economic History, PWN, Warsaw 1983; Demographic changes in Gdańsk in the years 1601-1846 in the light of tables of natural movement, UG, Gdańsk 1995; Changes in demographic structures in Toruń in the 19th and early 20th centuries, Adam Marszałek, Toruń 2012; Family in XVIII-century Warsaw, IHF UW, Białystok 1991.	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Identify the dangers of using past state censuses in statistical research. Outline the difficulties arising from the use of statistical sources. Characterize the information contained in Old Polish baptism, marriage and funeral registers and suggest - formulate - research problems that can be undertaken on the basis of this type of source.		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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