University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Recent Trends in Historiography, PG_00205450						
Field of study	History						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2027/2028		
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		e-learning		
Year of study	2		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	3		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Division of Methodology of History, History of Historiography and Archival Science -> Institute of History -> Faculty of History -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Barbara Klassa				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20
	E-learning hours included: 20.0						
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		28.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to broaden students' knowledge of contemporary trends and developments in historiography (with a particular focus on various theoretical and conceptualisation proposals) as well as to improve their skills in text analysis, discussion and participation in discussions.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[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.	Student has in-depth knowledge of the most important trends in contemporary world and Polish historiography.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[HISTMU2_W07] The student knows and understands the fundamental dilemmas of modern civilisation	The student knows and understands the problems of contemporary civilisation related to social and cultural transformations and their interaction with historiography.	[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	Student has an in-depth knowledge of terminology and contemporary theoretical and conceptual approaches in history and related disciplines.	[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	Student can moderate a discussion on contemporary historiography, using his/her knowledge of various currents and concepts.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU6] demonstration of practical skills
[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 in-depth skills in comprehensive analysis of historical narrative, including its theoretical content and ways of conceptualising the issue.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
[HISTMU2_K06] The students ready to perform professional roles responsibly in a changing world and uphold the ethos of the professional historian	Student is ready to perform professional roles responsibly in a changing world, particularly when faced with the challenges of evolving perceptions of history and its role. The student is prepared to uphold the ethos of the professional historian through research integrity, critical openness to new concepts and responsibility for his/her statements	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
[HISTMU2_K01] The student is ready to critically evaluate the knowledge he possesses and the content he receives	Student is ready to critically evaluate his/her knowledge and critically analyse contemporary historical narratives.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion

Subject contents

The programme content will include selected proposals from contemporary historical theory, but also issues from anthropocentric and non-anthropocentric present-day historiography. The basis of the course will be a discussion of selected theoretical texts and diverse narratives of the past (including issues of memory, alternative history and historiophoty).

Prerequisites and co-requisites

knowledge of the methodology of history and the history of historiography as pursued in the course of study at MSU History

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Chairing class discussions	100.0%	20.0%
Student's active participation in class discussions	51.0%	80.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Breisach E., Historiography. Ancient, medieval and modern, 3rd Edition, The University of Chicago Press 2008. Mayaram S., Against History, Against State. Counterperspectives from the Margins, New York 2003.
Supplementary literature	Virtual History. Alternatives and Counterfactuals, ed. N. Ferguson, Cambridge 1999. White H., The Practical Past, Northwestern University Press, Evanston 2014.

	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	On the basis of texts that are representative for various trends in contemporary historiography, students analyse issues related to methodology, theoretical concepts and narrative solutions proposed by a number of different scholars. The chronological range is from the end of the Second World War to the present day. Example topics: Modernism in historiography Concepts of history by Michael Foucault, Robin Collingwood, Hayden White, Franklin Ankersmit, Simon Schama, Natalie Zeman Davies. Selected issues of 21st century historiography.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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