University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Using Use of Historical Knowledge in Culture and Art, PG_00205600		
Field of study	History		
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 Optional subject group
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			
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr hab. Barbara Klassa	
	Teachers	dr hab. Barbara Klassa	

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

Introducing students to the functioning of historical knowledge in culture and the arts, with reference to various historical policies, with particular emphasis on the instrumentalisation and mythologisation of history and historical knowledge.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[HISTL3_K05] Is ready to perform professional roles responsibly and to adhere to the professional ethics of the historian and to demonstrate an understanding of the world of values and attitudes of people in different historical periods and contexts	Student is ready to adhere to the professional ethics of the historian	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK3] text preparation/written work
[HISTL3_W01] Has an advanced knowledge and understanding of selected facts, objects and phenomena, as well as the methods and theories that explain the complex relationships between them, constituting fundamental general knowledge in the humanities	Student knows and understands at an advanced level selected issues related to historical politics and the functioning and application of history in culture and the arts	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW3] text preparation/written work
[HISTL3_W10] Knows and understands the key dilemmas of contemporary civilisation and recognises the relationships and interdependencies between the past and current events, including in the context of the dissemination of historical knowledge.	Student understands the importance of reliable historical knowledge for solving contemporary problems in intercultural contacts	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[HISTL3_W07] The student has an advanced knowledge and understanding of the key theories, research methods and tools of the historian's trade, including those relevant to their chosen area of specialisation.	Student understands the specific ways in which historical motifs function in art and culture, including the usage and instrumentalisation of history.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[HISTL3_U06] Is able to prepare written work in Polish, correctly applying professional terminology and scientific apparatus	Student can prepare a written paper, using scientific apparatus in a correct manner	[SU3] text preparation/written work
[HISTL3_U04] The student is able to take part in a debate – presenting and evaluating different viewpoints and leading a discussion using specialist terminology from the field of history.	Student can discuss historical issues in an easily understandable way, can present various approaches and can participate in historical discussions, correctly applying professional terminology of historical sciences.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU6] demonstration of practical skills

Subject contents

Introduction - functions of history and historical science, the concept of the politics of history
Historical motifs in art - selected examples
Historical motifs in film - selected examples
The instrumentalisation and mythologisation of history - selected examples of the use and abuse of history

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
written paper	51.0%	60.0%
Student's active participation in class discussions	0.0%	40.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Ferro M., Use and Abuse of History or how the past is taught to children, Routledge, London-New York 2003.
Supplementary literature	Hen I., Innes M. [eduitors], The Uses of the past in the early middle ages, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2000. Hobsbawm E., Ranger T. [editors], The Invention of Tradition, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2012.
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed

The use of history in art and culture from antiquity to the 18th century.
Historical painting.
Historical film as an image of the past and its determinants.
The politics of history.

Work placement

Not applicable

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