University of Gdańsk

Subject card

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|---|---|---|---|
| Subject name and code | Introduction to the History of Korea, PG_00205927 | | |
| Field of study | Eastern Studies | | |
| Date of commencement of studies | October 2025 | Academic year of realisation of subject | 2026/2027 |
| Education level | Bachelor's studies | Subject group | Obligatory subject group in the field of study<br>Optional subject group |
| Mode of study | full-time studies | Mode of delivery | at the university |
| Year of study | 2 | Language of instruction | Polish |
| Semester of study | 3 | ECTS credits | 2.0 |
| Learning profile | academic | Assessment form | credit |
| Conducting unit | | | |
| Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers) | Subject supervisor | mgr Marek Skurski | |
| | Teachers | mgr Marek Skurski | |

**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**

The aim of this course is to familiarize students with the fundamentals of Korean history—from ancient times to the present—and to enable them to relate this knowledge to a broader understanding of the East Asian region. Designed as an introductory course focusing on selected issues from various historical periods, it is intended for students specializing in East Asian studies, particularly those with a focus on China or Japan. Consequently, the topics covered will be examined in relation to the history of China, Japan, and the region as a whole.

**Learning outcomes**

| Course outcome | Subject outcome | Method of verification |
|---|---|---|
| [SWSCHL3_K01] Is aware of the scope of their professional knowledge and skills, as well as understands the need for further, continuous development of professional, personal, and social competencies | Is aware of the scope of knowledge and skills regarding the history of Korea, understand how to further expand this knowledge and these skills, and recognize the need for personal and academic development. | [SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion<br>[SK4] test/exam - oral or written |
| [SWSCHL3_U16] Can work in a group, assuming various roles within it | Is able to work in a group to carry out tasks involving the analysis of social, political, and cultural issues related to the history of Korea. | [SU5] implementation of a problem task |
| [SWSCHL3_W01] Has knowledge of the subject-specific and methodological specifics of the scientific sub-disciplines constituting the field of Eastern Studies, primarily humanities disciplines such as cultural and religious studies, linguistics, and history | Possesses knowledge of Korean history viewed not only from the perspective of the discipline of history but also from that of cultural and religious studies or other disciplines within the humanities. | [SW4] test/exam - oral or written<br>[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion |

<table>
<tr><td>Subject contents</td><td colspan="3">The course content covers the following topics: the prehistory of the Korean Peninsula, the origins of Korean civilization, the first states on the Korean Peninsula, China’s cultural influence on Korea, Korea’s relations with neighboring countries, culture and religion on the Korean Peninsula, modernization, colonization, the restoration of independence and the civil war, the origins of the division into North and South, and the contemporary situation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Prerequisites and co-requisites</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Assessment methods and criteria</td><td colspan="3"><table>
<tr><th>Subject passing criteria</th><th>Passing threshold</th><th>Percentage of the final grade</th></tr>
<tr><td>Test</td><td>51.0%</td><td>70.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Work in class</td><td>0.0%</td><td>30.0%</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Recommended reading</td><td>Basic literature</td><td colspan="2">* Hastings, Max, Wojna koreańska: Wielki konflikt, Wydawnictwo Literackie: Kraków 2024.<br><br>* Jacoby, Marcin, Korea Południowa: Republika żywiołów, Wydawnictwo MUZA: Warszawa 2024.<br><br>* Rurarz, Joanna, Historia Korei, Wydawnictwo Akademickie Dialog: Warszawa 2009.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Supplementary literature</td><td colspan="2">* Clark, Donald, Culture and Customs of Korea, Greenwood: Westport, CT 2000.<br><br>* Cumings, Bruce, Korea's Place in the Sun: A Modern History, W.W. Norton & Company, New York 2005.<br><br>* McBridge, Richard II, The Three Kingdoms of Korea: Lost Civilizations, Reaktion Books: London 2024.</td></tr>
<tr><td>eResources addresses</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed</td><td colspan="3">In what ways did Korean civilization distinguish itself from other East Asian civilizations?<br><br>What was the relationship between the process of modernization and the formation of a modern national identity in Korea?<br>Why did the Korean Peninsula split into two antagonistic states?</td></tr>
<tr><td>Work placement</td><td colspan="3">Not applicable</td></tr>
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