University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Siberia: Known and Unknown, PG_00205929		
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 Optional subject group
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	2	Language of instruction	Polish Polish and Russian
Semester of study	3	ECTS credits	2.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of Russian Studies, Russian Literature and Culture -> Institute of Russian and Eastern Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Svetlana Pavlenko	
	Teachers	dr Svetlana Pavlenko	

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 the course is to provide students with fundamental knowledge about Siberia, essential for understanding its distinctive characteristics and its differences from the European part of Russia, as well as to develop their ability to analyze and interpret various cultural texts depicting the regions beyond the Ural Mountains and the communities and peoples inhabiting them.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[SWSCHL3_U16] Can work in a group, assuming various roles within it	The student demonstrates the ability to work effectively in a team, assuming different roles depending on the task (e.g. as a team leader or a team member).	[SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
[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	The student is prepared to assess the scope of their knowledge and specialist skills related to Siberian studies and understands the need for the continuous development of their academic and social competences.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
[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	The student demonstrates knowledge of the distinctive characteristics of Siberia and its uniqueness in comparison with the European part of Russia. They are familiar with the terminology of the relevant academic disciplines (history, cultural and religious studies, literary studies, and social sciences) required for the course, as well as with the basic methods of analysing and interpreting a variety of cultural texts related to Siberia.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW3] text preparation/written work

Subject contents

Clarification of the concepts of Syberia (Siberia) and Sybir; perceptions of Siberia and Siberians among Poles and Russians/Siberians; Siberia: its history (stages of the colonization of the territories beyond the Ural Mountains from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century), geography, administrative divisions, and ethnic and cultural diversity; the myth of the Trans-Siberian Railway and contemporary modes of travel across Siberia; well-known and lesser-known Siberian places and cities; representations of Siberia in various cultural texts, including film, fiction, and non-fiction (reportage and travel writing) – selected examples.

The lecturer reserves the right to modify the range of topics covered during the elective course.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Elective course.

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Participation in class discussions and the oral and/or written preparation of assigned topics	51.0%	40.0%
Written coursework (case study)	51.0%	60.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	**For each semester, the lecturer reviews and updates the course reading list, taking into consideration the availability of the materials and their suitability for the course.** Bachórz A., *Rosja w tekście i w doświadczeniu. Analiza współczesnych polskich relacji z podróży*, Kraków 2013. Bazylow L., *Syberia*, Warszawa 1975. Brysacz P., *Patrząc na Wschód. Przestrzeń, człowiek, mistycyzm*, Białystok 2013. Czapliński P., *Wschód, czyli brud Europy*, [in:] P. Czapliński, *Poruszona mapa. Wyobraźnia geograficzno-kulturowa polskiej literatury przełomu XX i XXI wieku*, Kraków 2016. Dybczak A., *Gugara*, Wołowiec 2012. Dybczak A., *Las duchów*, Warszawa 2024. Eberhardt P., *Geografia ludności Rosji*, Warszawa 2002. Etkind A., *Internal Colonization. Russia's Imperial Experience*, Cambridge 2011. Hartley J. M., *Syberia. Historia i ludzie*, transl. J. Gilewicz, Kraków 2015. Hugo-Bader J., *Szamańska choroba*, Warszawa 2020. Hugo-Bader J., *Dzienniki kołymskie*, Wołowiec 2011. Kośko M. M., *Mitologia ludów Syberii*, Warszawa 1990. Książek M., *Jakuck*, Wołowiec 2013. Łukawski Z., *Historia Syberii*, Wrocław 1981. Milewski P., *Transsyberyjska. Drogą żelazną przez Rosję i dalej*, Warszawa 2020. Piecuch J., *Między Morzem Łaptiewów a Świętym Morzem Buriatów. Społeczno-ekonomiczne krajobrazy Syberii*, Kraków 2022. Skopek M., *Dobra krew. W krainie reniferów, bogów i ludzi*, Warszawa 2012. Smyrski Ł., *Ajdyn znaczy księżyc. Narody południowej Syberii*, Warszawa 2008. Thubron C., *Po Syberii*, transl. D. Kozińska, Wołowiec 2011.

	Supplementary literature	Arsenjew W., *Dersu Uzała*, transl. E. Skórska, Poznań 2010. Barkowski R. F., *Syberia 1581-1697*, Warszawa 2017. Frazier I., *Podróże po Syberii*, transl. J. Korpanty, Warszawa 2013. Jawłowski A., *Milczący Lama. Buriacja na pograniczu światów*, Wołowiec 2016. Lis K., *Syberia w historii literatury Rosji carskiej. Realia i mity*, Kielce 2009. Milczarek M., *Donikąd. Podróże na skraj Rosji*, Wołowiec 2019. Nędza-Sikoniowska K., *Nowoczesne. O syberyjskich miastach okresu radzieckiego*, Kraków 2021. *Syberia - historia i ludzie*, ed. J. Kur-Kononowicz, Rzeszów 2018. Tesson S., *W syberyjskich lasach*, transl. A. Michalska, Warszawa 2011.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed		
Work placement	Not applicable	

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