

Subject card

Subject name and code	Prison History - lecture, PG_00132781						
Field of study	Criminology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		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		1.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Department of History of Law -> Faculty of Law and Administration -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Dawid Michalski				
	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: 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		0.0		5.0	25
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to analyze the evolution of the prison institution in Europe.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[KRYMMU2_K01] Is aware of the level of their knowledge and skills, critically evaluates them, understands the need for lifelong learning, and recognizes the importance of knowledge in solving cognitive and practical problems; when unable to solve a problem independently, seeks the opinions of experts.		
	[KRYMMU2_W06] Has in-depth knowledge and is familiar with the terminology used in psychology, sociology, and related disciplines applied in criminology, and understands the fundamental dilemmas of contemporary civilization associated with these fields. The graduate is also familiar with the basic principles of intellectual property and copyright protection, as well as the conditions for the creation and development of various forms of entrepreneurship.		
	[KRYMMU2_W04] Has an in-depth knowledge of various types of crime, their social, legal and economic determinants, theories explaining their development and dynamics, as well as methods of their prevention and control.		
	[KRYMMU2_W01] Has in-depth knowledge of the nature of legal sciences and penal sciences, their place within the system of sciences, their mutual relationships, and the main directions of their development, as well as their connections with other fields of science and the axiological and social determinants of activities related to counteracting crime.		
Subject contents	The subject aims to familiarize students with the history of penal systems and penitentiary institutions in different historical periods and to show the evolution of the ideas of justice, punishment and resocialization. The classes include an analysis of philosophical, social and legal changes that influenced the way people deprived of their freedom were treated - from repressive archaic systems, through humanist reforms of the 18th and 19th centuries, to contemporary models of resocialization. The course covers, among others: the origins of punishment and prison systems in antiquity, the development of medieval and modern penitentiary practices, the history of penitentiaries in Poland and Europe, the influence of Enlightenment thought and reformers such as Beccaria, Bentham and Howard, the model of prisons in totalitarian systems (e.g. gulags, concentration camps), the transformation of the idea of punishment and resocialization in the 20th and 21st centuries, the role of psychology, sociology and pedagogy in the development of contemporary penitentiary systems, the analysis of selected cases of prison reforms in the context of human rights and the rule of law. The subject emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach to the subject, taking into account social, political, legal and ethical contexts. It allows students not only to gain historical knowledge, but also to better understand the current challenges and directions of development of contemporary penal and prison systems.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	presentation	50.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	-	
	Supplementary literature	-	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	-		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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