University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	The sociology of law in democracy - auditorium classes, PG_00176585						
Field of study	Sociology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2027		Academic year of realisation of subject	2027/2028			
Education level	Bachelor'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	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	Division of Sociological Theory and Social Research Methodology -> Institute of Sociology -> Faculty of Social Sciences -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Piotr Pawliszak				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	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		0.0	20.0	50	
Subject objectives	The goal of the course "Sociology of Law in Democracy" is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the interplay between legal systems and democratic societies. Students will explore how laws shape and are shaped by social structures, behaviors, and institutions. The course aims to develop critical thinking skills, enabling students to analyze the role of law in protecting rights, promoting justice, and addressing social inequalities.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[SOCL3_W07] The graduate has an advanced knowledge about the ethical and moral norms of social life as well as legal and organisational norms regulating social life, is familiar with the processes of their introduction and changes	Understanding the Role of Law in Protecting Rights: The student understands the role of law in protecting human rights and ensuring justice in democratic societies, and can critically assess the effectiveness of legal frameworks.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_W01] The graduate has advanced knowledge about the nature of social sciences, their place in the system of sciences and relations to other sciences and common knowledge, he/she can determine the specificity of sociology as a science in relation to its history, functions, subject and tasks, he/she can distinguish thematic areas of sociology common with other disciplines of social sciences and he/she knows different theoretical and methodological approaches in sociology	Examination of Legal Processes and Institutions: The student examines the roles, functions, and interactions of legal processes and institutions within democratic societies.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_W02] The graduate has advanced knowledge about different types of social structures and institutions such as the state, nation, classes and social strata, ethnic group, local community, social group, family, political party, enterprise, she/he knows the differences in the functioning principles of social, public and commercial organisations	Critical Analysis of Legal Systems: The student can critically analyze different legal systems, comparing their structures, functions, and impacts within democratic contexts.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_W03] The graduate knows and understands in an advanced way the relationships between the relationship between micro and macro social structures and institutions, on a national and international scale in the fields of private life, work, politics, civil society, etc	Knowledge of Legal Theories and Concepts: The student has a comprehensive understanding of key legal theories and concepts, particularly those relevant to democratic societies.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_U02] The graduate is able to use theoretical knowledge from different streams of sociology and acquire data to analyse specific social processes and phenomena	Communication of Legal and Sociological Knowledge: The student can effectively communicate complex legal and sociological concepts in both written and oral forms, suitable for academic and professional audiences.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_U04] The graduate is able to forecast social processes and phenomena on the basis of sociological knowledge using sociological research methods	Understanding the Relationship between Law and Society: The student understands the fundamental relationship between law and society, including how legal systems influence and are influenced by social structures and processes.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_U05] The graduate is able to apply legal, professional and ethical norms and rules when solving a specific task in the field of sociology	The student is well-informed about current legal issues and can integrate this knowledge when addressing sociological problems, ensuring a comprehensive and contextually relevant approach.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_K01] The graduate is ready to appropriately determine priorities in the implementation of a specific task	The student can identify and prioritize the most pressing legal and social issues within democratic societies, making informed decisions about which problems require immediate attention.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Subject contents	The Concept of Law Pre-State Law and State Law Functions of Law Legitimization of Law Emergence and Functions of the State Law and Ideology Social Action of Law Quantity and Quality of Legal Control Sociological Theories of Crime Sociology of Civil Law Models of Democracy Civil Disobedience and Conscientious Objection The Role of the Judge The Future of Law and Democracy
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Promotion to the second semester of studies.

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Test exam	50.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Cotterell, Roger. *The Sociology of Law: An Introduction, Oxford University Press 1992.*.
Supplementary literature	Kaczmarczyk Michał, Nieposłuszeństwo obywatelskie a pojęcie prawa, Oficyna Naukowa 2010. Kaczmarczyk Michał, Wstęp do socjologicznej teorii własności, Oficyna Naukowa 2006. Winczorek Jan, Dostęp do prawa, Scholar 2020.
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Provide the systems for calculating the number of seats in the Sejm elections List the criteria for civil disobedience List the functions of law List the factors of the effectiveness of law
Work placement	Not applicable

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