University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Tracking the provenance of old books, PG_00135620		
Field of study	Studies in Classical Philology		
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 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	2	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	4	ECTS credits	3.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of Classical Philology -> Institute of Classical and Slavonic Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Jacek Pokrzywnicki	
	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	2.0	43.0	75

Subject objectives

- Practical introduction to the research of the provenance of an old book, both manuscript and printed one;
- tracking local and supra-regional early modern cultures of knowledge in the context of intellectual history;
- integrating knowledge of the history of the book or paleography that was acquired during other courses from the topic block "Knowledge about the book".

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[FKL3_U02] He/she has advanced research skills to solve problems in literary studies. He/she can edit and publish the results of his/her research with appropriate attention to copyright.	The Student is able to characterize the collection using list of its items.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[FKL3_W02] To an advanced degree, he/she knows and understands the terminology, theories and research methodology of literary studies, cultural and religious studies and linguistics.	The Student knows concepts such as bibliophilia, exlibris, provenance.	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW5] implementation of a problem task
[FKL3_K02] He/she demonstrates an entrepreneurial spirit in efforts to maintain and promote knowledge of Greco-Roman antiquity.	The Student is aware of the importance of Gdańsk's Latin and Greek cultural heritage.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK5] implementation of a problem task
[FKL3_W07] He/she has advanced knowledge of Greco-Roman culture, Christian culture and their significance for European culture.	The Student knows: thematic profile of the book collection that was developed and specified during the classes; the most important bibliophiles associated with Gdańsk.	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[FKL3_U08] He/she is able to fulfill the role of a classical philologist and organize work in a research team; use various methods and forms of work in accordance with the methodology of literary studies.	The student is able to): hypothesize provenance based on the analysis of (super)exlibris or provenance notes and marginalities in the book; use knowledge of Latin palaeography (and Gothic neography) to read handwritten notes in a book.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU5] implementation of a problem task

Subject contents

Classes are divided into two parts: theoretical and practical. Practical activities dominate, conducted in the presence of the curator of the old collections of the Gdańsk Library of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

1. Theoretical level:

Bibliophiles and bibliophilia - a general introduction.

General issues regarding the types of collections (collections of books on one topic, collections of books from a selected printing house, multi-topic collections). Individuals and institutions collecting books in Gdańsk and Gdańsk Pomerania, e.g. J. Uphagen, G.B. Bonifacio, Ch.C. Mrongowius, B. Keckermann, A. Mundt, W. Schlieff, H. Schwarzwald, St. Mary's Church, St. John's Church.

2. Practical level:

Search for selected volumes from the book collections in old Gdańsk (collectors and donors, private and institutional, the Library of the Gdańsk City Council alias Bibliotheca Senatus Gedanensis;

research defining specifics of a given collection (qualitative and quantitative analysis).

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Satisfactory scoring in the introductory course in paleography or epigraphy.

Basics of Latin language.

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
presentation of the results of the work done during the classes	51.0%	30.0%
getting regularily invovled in the works during classes	51.0%	70.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	M. Bogucka, Książka jako element kultury masowej w Gdańsku w XVII wieku [in:] Polska w świecie: szkice z dziejów kultury polskiej, Warszawa 1972, pp. 267-272. Cywilizacja prowincji Rzeczypospolitej szlacheckiej, pod red. A. Jankowskiego i A. Klondera, Bydgoszcz 2004. H. Dzienis, Znaki własnościowe biblioteki Bartłomieja Schachmanna, Libri Gedanenses vol. 11/12 (1994), pp. 87-98. H. Dzienis, Jakob Kabrun i jego księgozbiór, Libri Gedanenses 25 (2009), pp. 228-245. A. Fabiani-Madejska, Jan Bernard Bonifacio markiz Orii Fundator Biblioteki Gdańskiej, Gdańsk 1995. Gdański ekslibris XV-XVIII wieku, oprac. A. Kurkowa, Gdańsk 1978. A. Gryzio, Księgozbiór Bartłomieja Keckermanna, Rocznik Biblioteki Narodowej 39-40 (2008), pp. 225-244. A. Grześkowiak-Krwawicz, Gdańsk oświecony. Szkice o kulturze literackiej Gdańska w dobie Oświecenia, Warszawa 1998. Historia Gdańska, tom II 1454-1655, ed. E. Cieślak, Gdańsk 1982. Historia Gdańska, tom III/1: 1655-1793, ed. E. Cieślak, Gdańsk 1993. Książkowe znaki własnościowe XV-XVIII wiek. Katalog wystawy, Malbork 1998. A. Lewczuk, Charakterystyka księgozbioru Mrongowiusza na podstawie inwentarza rękopiśmiennego jego biblioteki, Mrągowskie Studia Humanistyczne vol. 6 (2004/2005), pp. 276-287. Z. Nowak, Książka w Gdańsku, Gdańsk 1997. Z. Nowak, Po starą księgę sięgam ze wzruszeniem. Szkice z dziejów i kultury książki w Prusach Królewskich od XV do XVIII wieku, Gdańsk 2008 (fragments). E. Piotrowska, Historia Gdańska w zbiorach Jana Uphagena, W kręgu książki no. 3 (1985), pp. 61-77. E. Piotrowska, Jan Uphagen historyk gdański XVIII wieku i jego księgozbiór. Próba interpretacji inwentarza bibliotecznego, Roczniki biblioteczne A. 27, fasc. 1-2 (1985), pp. 193-207. K. Reyhamn, Ex-librisy gdańskie, Warszawa 1928. Skarby. Z dziejów kolekcjonerstwa sztuki w Polsce od XIII do końca XVIII wieku, Olszanica 2003. P. Szafran, Księgozbiory prywatne w siedemnastowiecznym Gdańsku, Bibliotekarz Gdański a special issue (1975), pp. 53-70. Terrae Leopoliensis Filius. Terrae Gedanensis Civis, ed. M. Babnis, M. Pelczar, Gdańsk 2007. H. Zins, Ród Ferberów i jego rola w dziejach Gdańska w XV i XVI wieku, Lublin 1951. Z badań nad polskimi księgozbiorami historycznymi. Bibliologia dyscypliną integrującą. Studia ofiarowane profesor Barbarze Bieńkowskiej, Warszawa 1993.
	Supplementary literature	Ecyclopaedias, dictionaries: Encyklopedia Wiedzy o Książce Encyklopedia książki Polski Słownik Biograficzny Słownik Biograficzny Pomorza Nadwiślańskiego Słownik pracowników książki polskiej
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Working on supplementary notes for the catalogue of the owners of the old prints in the Gdańsk LIbrary PAS.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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