

Subject card

Subject name and code	Girard's idea and its application in political science., PG_00179298						
Field of study	Political Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2024		Academic year of realisation of subject		2025/2026		
Education level	Master'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		
Semester of study	3		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Adam Romejko, prof. UG				
	Teachers		dr hab. Adam Romejko, prof. UG				
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		0.0		0.0	30
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to introduce students to the basic assumptions of the thought of the French-American anthropologist and literary scholar René Girard (1923-2015). His theories are called mimetic or mimetic-sacrificial, emphasizing the issue of imitation and the unifying violence that is reflected in it. His thought is used in various fields of science, primarily the humanities and social sciences. It is also used (although not as often) in political science.						
Learning outcomes	Course outcome		Subject outcome		Method of verification		
Subject contents	1. René Girard a biographical sketch; 2. Girards scientific work; 3. Mimetic desire; 4. The scapegoat mechanism; 5. Rituals, myths and Greek tragedy as evidence of the scapegoat mechanism; 6. The biblical dismantling of the scapegoat mechanism; 7. Political aspects of mimetic theory; 8. The film Tristan and Isolde (Great Britain, Germany, Czech Republic, USA 2006); 9. Mimetic analysis of the film Tristan and Isolde the motif of rivalry for power; 10. The role of the other (other) in building national consciousness on the example of Polish-Lithuanian relations; 11. The Polish diaspora in Great Britain from a mimetic perspective; 12. The contemporary papacy as a scapegoat; 13. The sacrificial perspective in contemporary media coverage (on Kirstin Breitenfellners analyses); 14. Political benefits of positioning oneself as a political scapegoat on the example of the Muslim community in Austria; 15. Summary.						
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Knowledge of basic concepts and terms in philosophy and religious studies, knowledge of the main literary works, including the Bible and myths, knowledge of the basics of European and world history.						
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria		Passing threshold		Percentage of the final grade		
	80% final test, 20% active participation in lectures		61.0%		100.0%		

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Film Tristan i Izolda (Wielka Brytania, Niemcy, Czechy, USA 2006); Girard R., Dawna droga, którą kroczyli ludzie niegodziwi, Warszawa 1992; Girard R., Kozioł ofiarny, Łódź 1987 (wyd. 2: 1991); Romejko A. Współczesne papieżstwo jako kozioł ofiarny. Interpretacja mimetyczna, Przegląd Religioznawczy 4 (286)/2022, s. 119-132; Romejko A., Polacy w Wielkiej Brytanii: interpretacja mimetyczna, Tuchów 2015; Romejko A., René Girard jako chrześcijański apologeta, w: Nowa apologia. Czego, wobec kogo i jak bronimy?, red. P. Artemiuk, Płock 2020, s. 163-185; Romejko A., W trosce o austriacką szkołę. Dyskusja nad książką Kulturkampf im Klassenzimmer. Wie der Islam die Schulen verändert. Bericht einer Lehrerin, Studia Gdańskie 2019, t. 45, s. 225-243; Zambrzycki M., Problematyka relacji polsko-litewskich w świetle teorii mimetycznej René Girarda, Studia Gdańskie 2011, t. 29, s. 275-303.
	Supplementary literature	Breitenfellner K., Wir Opfer. Warum der Sündenbock unsere Kultur bestimmt, München 2013; Gielarowski A., O możliwym końcu kultury. Apokaliptyka René Girarda, Kraków 2021 Girard R. Apokalipsa tu i teraz, Kraków 2018; Kirwan M., Discovering Girard, Cambridge 2005; Maciejewski J., Nic to! Dlaczego historia Polski musi się powtarzać?, Kraków 2025; Strączek B, Konwersja w kulturze przemocy. Myśl antropologiczno-etyczna René Girarda, Kraków 2019.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	What is René Girard's model of "triangular" desire? Explain the concept of the sacred. How does the issue of gaining power present itself in the context of the Book of Job? Indicate the political aspects of "modern care" for the victim.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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