

Subject card

Subject name and code	Anthropology of future, possibility and hope, PG_00179472						
Field of study	Ethnology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		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 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	1		ECTS credits		4.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Anna Zadrożna				
	Teachers		dr Anna Zadrożna				
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		27.0		43.0	100
Subject objectives	1. Familiarization with basic issues in the field of anthropology of the future 2. Placing anthropology of the future in the broader context of research on temporality 3. Ability to distinguish between concepts such as hope, possibility, and expectation 4. Familiarization with basic methods used in ethnography of the future 5. Acquiring the ability to synthesize and analyze text						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[ETNOMU2_K02] Is prepared to initiate and actively participate in activities for the preservation of national and world cultural heritage	Students are prepared to participate in activities aimed at protecting and reinterpreting cultural heritage in the context of future challenges.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_U06] Is able to carry out a critical analysis and interpretation of various types of cultural products, applying original approaches, taking into account new developments in the humanities in order to determine their meanings, social impact, place in the historical-cultural process	Students are able to carry out critical analyses of cultural phenomena related to the future, identifying their meanings and potential social impacts.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_W03] Has well-ordered detailed knowledge in selected areas of cultural knowledge, including the knowledge and understanding of the importance of promotion and protection of cultural heritage of Pomerania, Poland and the world	Students have knowledge of selected cultural areas and understand their importance for shaping visions of the future and safeguarding heritage.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_K01] Critically evaluates acquired knowledge, personal and social competences; is prepared to critically evaluate information received	Students critically assess their knowledge and sources concerning future studies, recognising the limits of their competencies.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_W04] Has in-depth knowledge of the relationship between ethnology and cultural anthropology and other humanities and social sciences, allowing for the integration of perspectives relevant to several scientific disciplines	Students have advanced knowledge of the links between anthropology and other humanities and social sciences, enabling interdisciplinary research on the future.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_W09] Has an in-depth knowledge of the complex nature of language in different cultural circles	Students have advanced knowledge of language as a tool for constructing visions of the future and narratives of hope in different cultures.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_U01] Is able to independently search, verify, evaluate, select information, applying modern techniques of acquiring and analysing data with the use of various sources, integrate knowledge, and formulate critical opinions on this basis	Students are able to independently search for and analyse materials on contemporary and future-oriented cultural interpretations, formulating critical conclusions.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_U14] Can work in a group with different roles, including leadership	Students are able to work in a group, taking on different roles in discussions and projects related to visions of the future and hope in culture.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_W02] Has a structured, in-depth knowledge, including terminology, theory and methodology in ethnology and cultural anthropology	Students have systematic knowledge of terminology, theories, and methodologies used in cultural analyses from the perspective of the anthropology of the future.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_U02] Has in-depth research skills, including analysis of other authors' works, synthesis of various ideas and views, selection of methods, and construction of research tools, elaboration and presentation of results, allowing for original solutions of complex problems in the field of ethnology and cultural anthropology	Students are able to synthesise ideas and concepts from different authors in research on the future of culture and to create tools for analysis and presentation of results.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_W01] Has in-depth knowledge of the specific subject matter and methodology of ethnology and cultural anthropology, which they are able to develop and creatively apply in professional activity	Students have advanced knowledge of the methodological specificities of cultural anthropology and are able to apply it in creative reflection on the future of societies.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written

	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[ETNOMU2_W07] Knows and understands advanced methods of analysing, interpreting, valuing and problematising cultural products from different cultural backgrounds	Students know and understand methods of cultural analysis that enable the interpretation of phenomena related to social possibilities and hopes.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_K07] Systematically takes part in cultural life, is interested in current cultural events, innovative forms of artistic expression, new phenomena in art	Students are interested in contemporary cultural events and new artistic forms as sources of knowledge about possible futures.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_U09] Communicates in Polish and/or foreign language using professional terminology specific to ethnology and cultural anthropology	Students are able to communicate using anthropological terminology related to the future, possibilities, and hope in culture.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ETNOMU2_U05] Has the ability to integrate knowledge in the field of ethnology and cultural anthropology, and to apply it in non-typical professional situations	Students are able to integrate knowledge from cultural anthropology and other disciplines in the analysis of future cultural scenarios.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
Subject contents	1. Time and temporality in anthropology 2. Towards a time-conscious anthropology: Hodges 3. How to study the future?: Bryant & Knight (introduction) 4. The future as a cultural fact: Appadurai 5. The ethnography of expectation: Bryant & Knight 6. The ethnography of possibility: Guyer 7. On the possibility of possibility: Knight & Manley 8. Possibilities for survival in capitalist ruins: Tsing 9. The ethnography of hope: Bryant & Knight 10. Hope in research, hope as a method: Miyazaki 11. Hope, uncertainty, and doubt: Jansen 12. Spaces of hope: Harvey 13. Horizons of Imagination: Crapanzano 14. Towards the Future as a Method: Bryant & Knight		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Written exam	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Appadurai, Arjun. <i>The Future as Cultural Fact: Essays on the Global Condition</i>. New York, 2013. Introduction Bryant, Rebecca, and Daniel M. Knight. <i>The Anthropology of the Future</i>. Cambridge University Press, 2019. Crapanzano, Vincent. <i>Imaginative horizons: An essay in literary-philosophical anthropology</i>. University of Chicago press, 2004. Harvey, David. <i>Spaces of hope</i>. Vol. 7. Univ of California Press, 2000. Hodges, Matt. Rethinking Time's Arrow. <i>Anthropological Theory</i>, vol. 8, no. 4, 2008, pp. 399-429., doi:10.1177/1463499608096646 Jansen, Stef. "For a relational, historical ethnography of hope: Indeterminacy and determination in the Bosnian and Herzegovinian meantime." <i>History and Anthropology</i> 27, no. 4 (2016): 447-464. Knight, Daniel M., and Gabriela Manley. "The possibility of possibility: Between ethnography and social theory." <i>Possibility Studies & Society</i> 1, no. 1-2 (2023): 118-126. Miyazaki, Hirokazu. <i>The method of hope: anthropology, philosophy, and Fijian knowledge</i>. Stanford University Press, 2004. Munn, Nancy D. The Cultural Anthropology of Time: A Critical Essay. <i>Annual Review of Anthropology</i>, vol. 21, no. 1, 1992, pp. 93-123. Tsing, Anna Lowenhaupt. "The mushroom at the end of the world: On the possibility of life in capitalist ruins." In <i>The Mushroom at the End of the World</i>. Princeton University Press, 2015 (Introduction).
	Supplementary literature	Ringel, Felix. "Beyond temporality: Notes on the anthropology of time from a shrinking fieldsite." <i>Anthropological theory</i> 16, no. 4 (2016): 390-412.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Explain what time-conscious anthropology is. Discuss the concept of space of hope as an alternative form of the future in times of capitalist exploitation. Referring to the texts discussed, compare the concepts of possibility and hope.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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