University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	WPiA - From Caligula to Stalin. The greatest criminals in the world., PG_00179134		
Field of study	History		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025	Academic year of realisation of subject	2025/2026
Education level	Bachelor's studies	Subject group	
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	e-learning
Year of study	1	Language of instruction	Polish Polish
Semester of study	2	ECTS credits	2.0
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 Jacek Wałdoch	
	Teachers		

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: 30.0

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 aim is to present and analyze the behavior of the world's greatest criminals and the attitude of the justice system.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	The student is able to recognize and characterize selected world criminals and analyze their motivations, actions and social impact, as well as assess the reactions and mechanisms of the justice system in the historical and legal context.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Subject contents

The subject is devoted to the analysis of the most famous criminals in the history of the world and the reactions that their actions caused in society and legal systems. The classes will discuss selected cases of individuals responsible for war crimes, genocide, terrorism and other serious violations of law and human rights. Activities include: biographical characteristics of selected criminals (e.g. dictators, terrorists, serial killers), analysis of psychological and social motivations, the historical and political context of their actions, social and media reactions, actions of law enforcement agencies and international tribunals, discussion of court trials (e.g. Nuremberg trials, International Criminal Court), reflection on the concept of justice, punishment and moral responsibility.

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	**Laurence Rees**, *Hitler i Stalin. Tyrani i zbrodnie XX wieku*, Dom Wydawniczy Rebis **Richard J. Evans**, *Trzecia Rzesza u władzy* (wybrane rozdziały), Dom Wydawniczy Rebis **Ian Kershaw**, *Hitler. Hubris/Nemesis*, Penguin / Rebis (biografia i analiza mechanizmów władzy totalitarnej) **Simon Sebag Montefiore**, *Stalin. Dwór czerwonego cara*, Magnum **Christopher Browning**, *Zwykli ludzie. 101. rezerwowy batalion policji i ostateczne rozwiązanie w Polsce*, Czarne **Tomasz Stryjek (red.)**, *Zbrodnie komunistyczne. Geneza, rozmiar i charakter* **Telford Taylor**, *Norymberga. Proces nazistów*, Rebis analiza prawnicza i moralna rozliczenia zbrodni
	Supplementary literature	**Hannah Arendt**, *Eichmann w Jerozolimie. Rzecz o banalności zła*, Znak **Philippe Sands**, *Powrót do Lwowa*, Znak historia dwóch prawników i narodzin pojęć zbrodni przeciwko ludzkości i ludobójstwa **Jean Hatzfeld**, *Strategia antylop*, Czarne o ludobójstwie w Rwandzie **Primo Levi**, *Czy to jest człowiek*, WAB świadectwo zbrodni obozowych **Raporty z procesów ONZ i Międzynarodowego Trybunału Karnego (ICTY/ICTR)** dostępne online (fragmenty jako źródła analityczne) **Nick Turse**, *Zabij wszystko, co się rusza. Prawdziwa wojna w Wietnamie*, Czarne **Joanna Ostrowska**, *Oni. Homoseksualiści w czasie II wojny światowej* , WAB zbrodnie zapomniane
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	-	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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