University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contemporary Polish History - lecture, PG_00168419						
Field of study	History						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2028/2029		
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	part-time studies		Mode of delivery		e-learning		
Year of study	3		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	6		ECTS credits		3.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit	Division of 20th Century History -> Institute of History -> Faculty of History -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		prof. dr hab. Igor Hałagida				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20
	E-learning hours included: 20.0						
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	20		2.0		53.0	75
Subject objectives	To familiarize students with basic knowledge of the Polish history after 1945, with particular emphasis on the most important events (e.g. "Polish months") and socio-political issues in accordance with the current state of historical research.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[HISTL3_U08] Is able to plan and organise his/her work effectively, independently acquiring and consolidating knowledge in a structured and systematic manner	Is able to effectively plan and organize the process of independently acquiring and consolidating knowledge of the history of Poland after 1945, organizing it in chronological and thematic terms and systematically deepening knowledge of the most important events, processes and phenomena of the period.	[SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
[HISTL3_W05] He has an advanced understanding of the body of historical scholarship and the diversity of perspectives, and is aware of the existence of differing viewpoints within historical and related disciplines, shaped by varying national and cultural backgrounds	The student understands the existence of different views on the events of the People's Republic of Poland, their distinct assessments and the fact that the events and phenomena taking place at that time are assessed variously today.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTL3_W02] Has advanced, chronologically and thematically ordered knowledge of the history of ancient and modern Polish lands	The student has an advanced, organized knowledge of the history of Poland after 1945 and the processes taking place at that time and the cause-and-effect relationships that existed.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTL3_K02] Is ready to fulfil social and professional obligations related to the chosen specialisation and to co-organise activities serving the community in the areas of education and the promotion of the historical and cultural heritage of Poland, the region, and Europe.	The student appreciates the role of history in understanding and proper evaluation of cultural heritage. At the same time, he is aware of the level of his knowledge. He pays attention to counterarguments and has respect for different assessments of the past.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTL3_W06] Knows and understands comparative European history as well as the connections between the history of European integration and contemporary social, economic, and political issues.	The student is able to indicate connections between events in Europe and the world and their reception in Poland. Is able to indicate the origins of some of the current processes in the past.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[HISTL3_K01] Critically evaluates his/her knowledge, demonstrates a willingness to continually expand his/her knowledge and to seek expert advice if he/she has difficulty solving a problem on his/her own	The student is able to critically assess the knowledge he or she possesses. They are aware of changes in historical research on recent history (resulting, for example, from the availability of new sources). They understand the need for further education.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents

1. Political history of Poland after 1945 - the apparatus of power of the People's Republic of Poland and its evolution (compared to the rest of the region).

2. Economic, religious, national, and cultural policy in the post-war period.

3. Socio-cultural changes taking place in Poland after World War II (during similar events in the world).

4. Cause-and-effect relationships of events taking place in particular decades of the Polish People's Republic.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Possesing basic knowledge on Polish history at the high school level.

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Exam	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	1. A. Friszke, Polska. Losy państwa i narodu 1939-1989, Warszawa 2003 (lub późniejsze wydania) 2. A. Paczkowski, Pół wieku dziejów Polski, Warszawa 1998 (lub późniejsze wydania) 3. W. Roszkowski, Historia Polski 1914-2004, Warszawa 2004 (lub późniejsze wydania)

Supplementary literature	**Testbooks for the exam (3 to choose, they cannot be from the same division!).** I. General, covering whole People's Republic of Poland. 1. K. Bitner, Partia z piosenką, piosenka z partią. PZPR wobec muzyki rozrywkowej, Warszawa 2017 2. J. Kochanowski, Tylnymi drzwiami. Czarny rynek w Polsce 1944-1989, Warszawa 2010. 3. M. Siedziako, Bez wyboru. Głosowania do Sejmu PRL (1952-1989), Warszawa 2018 4. D. Stola, Kraj bez wyjścia? Migracje z Polski 1949-1989, Warszawa 2010 5. K. Kosiński, Historia pijaństwa w czasach PRL. Polityka obyczaje szara strefa patologie, Warszawa 2008 6. A. Zawistowski, Bilety do sklepu. Handel reglamentowany w PRL, Warszawa 2017 II. Years 1945-1956. 1. D. Jarosz, Rzeczy, ludzie, zjawiska. Studia z historii społecznej stalinizmu w Polsce, Warszawa 2017 2. N. Jarska, Kobiety z marmuru. Robotnice w Polsce w latach 1945-1960, Warszawa 2015 3. Ł. Kamiński, Polacy wobec nowej rzeczywistości 1944-1948. Formy pozainstytucjalnego, żywiołowego oporu społecznego, Toruń 2000 4. P. Osęka, Rytuały stalinizmu. Oficjalne święta i uroczystości rocznicowe w Polsce 1944-1956, Warszawa 2006 5. A. Paczkowski, Trzy twarze Józefa Światły. Przyczynek do historii komunizmu w Polsce, Warszawa 2009 6. M. Zaremba, Wielka trwoga. Polska 1944-1947: ludowa reakcja na kryzys, Kraków 2012. III. Years 1956-1970. 1. A. M. Adamus, Problemy wsi w Polsce w latach 1956-1980 w świetle listów do władz centralnych, Warszawa 2017 2. J. Eisler, List 34, Warszawa 1993 3. J. Kochanowski, Rewolucja międzypaździernikowa. Polska 1956-1957, Kraków 2017. 4. P. Lipiński, Cyrankiewicz. Wieczny premier, Wołowiec 2016. 5. K. Persak, Sprawa Henryka Hollanda, Warszawa 2006.

		6. M. Szumiło, Roman Zambrowski (1909-1977), Warszawa 2014 IV. Years 1970-1980. 7. J. Dulewicz, Miasta w ruchu. Codzienność w uprzemysławianych ośrodkach miejskich w Polsce w latach siedemdziesiątych XX wieku, Warszawa 2016 8. A. Pelka, Teksas-land. Moda młodzieżowa w PRL, Warszawa 2007. P. Sasanka, Czerwiec 1976. Geneza, przebieg, konsekwencje, Warszawa 2006. P. Sowiński, Wakacje w Polsce Ludowej. Polityka władz i ruch turystyczny (1945-1989), Warszawa 2005. J. Wegner, Bez świadków do obrony. Historia Jerzego i Ryszarda Kowalczyków, Kraków 2008. M. Zaremba, Komunizm, legitymizacja, nacjonalizm. Nacjonalistyczna legitymizacja władzy komunistycznej w Polsce, Warszawa 2001. V. Years 1980-1989/1990. 1. A. Dudek, Rozkład dyktatury komunistycznej w Polsce 1988-1990, Kraków 2004 2. P. Gasztold-Seń, Koncesjonowany nacjonalizm. Zjednoczenie Patriotyczne Grunwald 1980-1990, Warszawa 2012. 3. B. Kaliski, Antysocjalistyczne zbiorowisko? I Krajowy Zjazd Delegatów NSZZ Solidarność, Warszawa 2003. 4. M. Przeperski, Transformacja po polsku 1986-1993, Kraków 2024. 5. A. Smólka-Gnauck, Między wolnością a pokojem. Zarys historii Ruchu Wolność i Pokój, Warszawa 2012. 6. J. Szumski, Rozliczenia z ekipą Gierka 1980-1984, Warszawa 2018.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	1. Structure and methods of operation (and their evolution) of repression apparatus of People's Republic of Poland (1944-1989). 2. Censorship and propaganda in People's Republic of Poland. 3. Religious policy in People's Republic of Poland in 1945-1989 - stages and evolution.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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