University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Paleontology - lecture, PG_00191265		
Field of study	Geology		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject	2026/2027
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	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	1	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	2	ECTS credits	2.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	exam
Conducting unit	Laboratory of Marine Geology -> Department of Chemical Oceanography and Marine Geology -> Faculty of Oceanography and Geography -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr hab. Małgorzata Witak	
	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: 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	1.0	19.0	50

Subject objectives

Understanding of the mechanisms of evolution of organisms. Knowledge of the main stages in the evolution of plants and animals. Knowledge of the importance of fossils in the geological sciences.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[GEOLL3_W04] knows and understands phenomena and processes occurring in the past and today in the interior of the Earth and on its surface, defines the methods of how to study them	knows and understands the mechanisms of plant and animal evolution in the Phanerozoic	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[GEOLL3_W02] knows and understands the terminology appropriate in science and natural sciences	knows and understands the terminology specific to palaeontology	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[GEOLL3_U02] has the skill of analytical and synthetic way of reasoning leading to correct inference based on the results obtained or the facts presented	has the ability to reason analytically and synthetically in the field of paleontology leading to correct inferences about the evolution of animals and plants	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[GEOLL3_W01] knows and understands the basic natural phenomena and explains their course in relation to geological processes	knows and understands basic natural phenomena and explains how they relate to fossilisation processes	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents

Palaeontology in comparison with other geological sciences. Basic concepts in palaeontology. Ediacara fauna. Evolution of the main groups of invertebrates (archaeocysts, sponges, corals, brachiopods, arthropods, molluscs, echinoderms) and vertebrates (jawless and jawed vertebrates). Environment and lifestyle, soft body parts and skeleton.The succession of phytic eras. Importance of fossils in the life sciences.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

<table>
<tr><td>Assessment methods and criteria</td><td colspan="2"><table><tr><th>Subject passing criteria</th><th>Passing threshold</th><th>Percentage of the final grade</th></tr><tr><td>oral or written test/examination</td><td>51.0%</td><td>100.0%</td></tr></table></td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Recommended reading</td><td>Basic literature</td><td>Lehmann U., Killmer G., 1991. Bezkręgowce kopalne, Wyd. Geologiczne, Warszawa

Radwańska U., 2007, Podstawy paleontologii, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, Warszawa</td></tr>
<tr><td>Supplementary literature</td><td>Bieda F., 1966. Paleozoologia cz. I i II, Wyd. Geologiczne, Warszawa

Dzik J., 1997. Dzieje życia na Ziemi, Wyd. Naukowe PWN, Warszawa

Raup D.M., Stanley S.M., 1984. Podstawy paleontologii, Wyd. Naukowe PWN, Warszawa

Stanley S.M., 2002. Historia Ziemi, Wyd. Naukowe PWN, Warszawa

Clarkson E.N.K. 2007, Invertebrate Palaeontology and Evolution, Blackwell Science Ltd., Bristol</td></tr>
<tr><td>eResources addresses</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed</td><td colspan="2">1. List the most important common features of the Ediacaran fauna

2. The main inveterbrate fossils in the Early Palaeozoic were....

3. Possible causes of the great extinction at the turn of K and Pg are....</td></tr>
<tr><td>Work placement</td><td colspan="2">Not applicable</td></tr>
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