

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contemporary regional problems - Africa, PG_00204093						
Field of study	Political Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject			2027/2028		
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	2	Language of instruction			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 Margot Stańczyk-Minkiewicz				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	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		3.0		17.0	50
Subject objectives	The purpose of the course is to familiarize students with the specifics of the African continent, its role and position in international relations, the situation of individual states and also the influence of external actors and the relations taking place between internal actors.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[POLMU2_W08] Has an in-depth understanding of the mechanisms of social perception of politics and is able to analyze their significance for public opinion and political processes.		
	[POLMU2_W04] Has an in-depth understanding of the functioning of political power and the factors influencing the behavior of political actors at both the individual and societal levels.		
	[POLMU2_U09] Is able to indicate the conditions for the evolution of political systems by properly selecting sources, critically assessing, analysing and synthesising them, creatively interpreting and transferring the acquired knowledge, using advanced information and communication techniques.		
	[POLMU2_U04] Is able to identify real and hypothetical threats in the political space.		
	[POLMU2_K02] Is able to apply disciplinary knowledge in the analysis of complex political, social, and institutional problems in various contexts. Is aware of the level of their knowledge and skills, understands the need for continuous professional development, and conducts a self-assessment of their own competences determining their position and role in the labour market.		
Subject contents	<p>African continent - historical outline:colonial conquest of African countries,paths to independence of African countries,artificial division of borders.Specifics of the African continent:geographical, political, economic, social and cultural conditions,ethno-cultural contradictions,level of economic development vs. African conflicts,religion as a destabilizing factor for security in Africa.Sub-Saharan Africa - characteristics of the region:Horn of Africa countries,problems and challenges for security in the region.Africa's position in international relations:foreign policy of African states,Regional powers in Africa, sectoral powers,North Africa in European foreign policy,analysis of mutual relations after the decolonization process,Arab Spring - internal and external consequences of the revolution.International activity on the African continent - balance of losses and gains:Chinese presence in Africa - economic and political consequences,Europe - Africa - the new face of economic cooperation.US policy towards Africa.State in Africa - functioning and directions of transformation:condition of modern states in Africa,democracy as the foundation of state development,lack of democratization of African states - analysis of the causes,tribalisms in Africa, lack of nation-states.Authoritarian regimes in Africa:weakness of state institutions,dysfunctionality of the continent's states,rates of state bankruptcy,epidemic of dysfunctionality inside and outside the African continent.Challenges and threats to the continent's internal security:international terrorism - Africa as a space for extremists to operate,internal and inter-state conflicts (ethnic, religious, resource, territorial, political, etc.),organized crime,failure to respect human rights,the scale of migration and refugeism in Africa,social problems of the continent,Mediterranean region in international relations,The situation of the African continent as a factor posing a threat to global security:The scale of legal and illegal migration from Africa,Africa as a cradle of international terrorism,Organized crime - trafficking of people, weapons, drugs outside the African continent.International activity to improve the situation on the African continent:activities of the EU, UN, NATO, WTO, UNICEF, UNESCO,humanitarian activities in Africa,development assistance to African countries,problems and risks associated with humanitarian and development aid,Who needs dysfunctional states</p>		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
		0.0%	0.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	<p>A. Literature required for final course credit (passing the exam):A.1. used during the class:B. Davidson, Social and political history of Africa in the 20th century, Warsaw 2011.M. Meredith, History of Modern Africa. Half a century of independence, Warsaw 2011.A.2. studied independently by the student:W. Lizak, African security institutions, Warsaw 2012.K. Trzeciński, Demokratyzacja w Afryce Subaharyjskiej, Warsaw 2013.</p>	
	Supplementary literature	<p>B.Supplementary literature:K. Jarecka - Stępień, J. Kościółek, Problems of contemporary Africa. Opportunities and challenges for the future, Krakow 2012.</p>	
	eResources addresses		

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	
Work placement	Not applicable

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