

Subject card

Subject name and code	History of societal development, PG_00206744						
Field of study	Economics, International Economic Relations						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group Humanistic-social subject group		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	2		Language of instruction		English English		
Semester of study	4		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Giuseppe Cirella, prof. UG				
	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		2.0		18.0	50
Subject objectives	To provide knowledge of the major stages of human societal development from the earliest civilizations to the contemporary world. To familiarize students with the key social, economic, political, and cultural processes shaping societal development. To develop the ability to analyse the historical determinants of contemporary social and economic phenomena. To foster the ability to critically evaluate processes of social change and their consequences for civilizational development. To prepare students to interpret contemporary global challenges from a historical perspective.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[MSGL3_W09] has knowledge about a human being as an individual making economic decisions, acting within social structures and organisational units (in particular enterprises) or conducting individual economic activity	Has knowledge about a human being as an individual operating within social and organisational structures and understands the historical and social determinants of his/her decisions and actions.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW3] text preparation/written work [SW5] implementation of a problem task
	[EKONL3_W09] has an advanced knowledge of the evolution of theories describing economic entities and organisations as well as public institutions, and is familiar with the functional links within them	Has advanced knowledge of the evolution of theories describing the functioning of societies, organisations, and public institutions, and understands their interrelationships throughout history.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report [SW5] implementation of a problem task
	[EKONL3_U12] can independently plan and implement own lifelong learning	Can independently plan and implement the development of his/her knowledge concerning historical and contemporary processes of societal development.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU6] demonstration of practical skills
	[MSGL3_U16] can plan and implement his/her own lifelong learning, expand and improve his/her acquired knowledge and economic skills; is open to new ideas and techniques; is willing to learn using any method, and has a tendency to interact with other participants of the learning process	Can plan and implement his/her own intellectual development by expanding knowledge of historical, social, and economic processes and is open to new ideas and interpretative perspectives.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU6] demonstration of practical skills
	[MSGL3_U11] has language skills in the field of economics, specific to the field of study of International Economic Relations, in accordance with the requirements of Level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages	Has language skills enabling the analysis and presentation of issues related to societal development and socio-economic transformations in accordance with the requirements of Level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU7] entries and opinions in the internship diary [SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[MSGL3_W03] has an advanced and structured knowledge of the world economy and international economic relations; understands the process of their evolution, including its causes and consequences	Has advanced and structured knowledge of societal development, the world economy, and international relations, understanding the processes of their evolution, including their causes and consequences.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work [SW5] implementation of a problem task
	[EKONL3_U11] has language skills in economics which meet the requirements of level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages	Has language skills enabling the analysis and discussion of issues related to societal development, historical processes, and socio-economic transformations in accordance with the requirements of Level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.	[SU3] text preparation/written work [SU6] demonstration of practical skills [SU7] entries and opinions in the internship diary
	[EKONL3_W05] has a knowledge of man as a subject who creates social structures and the principles of their functioning and of his action in these structures, knows well the motives of human economic decision-making	Has knowledge of human beings as creators of social structures and the principles governing their functioning, and understands the impact of social and historical transformations on the behaviour of individuals and social groups.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW3] text preparation/written work [SW5] implementation of a problem task

Subject contents	• Introduction to the history of societal development. • The emergence of early human communities and civilizations. • Development of ancient societies and their legacy. • Society and economy in the Middle Ages. • The Renaissance, geographical discoveries, and the beginnings of globalisation. • Political, social, and economic revolutions of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. • The Industrial Revolution and social transformation. • The emergence of modern states and societies. • Development of the world economy and international processes. • Social and economic consequences of the World Wars. • Social and economic transformations in the twentieth century. • Globalisation, the information society, and contemporary development challenges. • Sustainable development and the future of societies. • Analysis of selected historical processes and their influence on the contemporary world.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	None.		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Final	51.0%	70.0%
	Midterm	51.0%	30.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	• McNeill, W.H. (1999). A World History. Oxford University Press. • Stearns, P.N. (2020). World Civilizations: The Global Experience. Pearson. • Roberts, J.M., & Westad, O.A. (2013). The History of the World. Oxford University Press. • Diamond, J. (2017). Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies. W.W. Norton & Company.	
	Supplementary literature	• Harari, Y.N. (2015). Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind. Harper. • Landes, D.S. (1999). The Wealth and Poverty of Nations: Why Some Are So Rich and Some So Poor. W.W. Norton & Company. • Acemoglu, D., & Robinson, J.A. (2012). Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty. Crown Business. • Selected scientific articles and reports provided by the instructor.	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	• Analysis of the major stages of human societal development. • Evaluation of the impact of the Industrial Revolution on social and economic transformations. • Comparison of selected civilizations in terms of social and economic organisation. • Analysis of the historical origins of contemporary social and economic inequalities. • Evaluation of the impact of globalisation on societal development. • Interpretation of contemporary social issues from a historical perspective.		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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