

Subject card

Subject name and code	Critical Spatial Studies, PG_00209332						
Field of study	Sociology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2024		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		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	3		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	6		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Karolina Ciechorska-Kulesza				
	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	The aim of the course is to introduce students to critical perspectives on the study of social space and to develop their ability to analyse contemporary spatial processes taking place in cities, rural areas, and regions. The course presents space as a socially and culturally produced dimension of social life, shaped by power relations, everyday practices, processes of memory and heritage, and social conflicts. The course also aims to develop students' sociological imagination and competencies enabling them to critically interpret social phenomena related to space, with particular emphasis on contemporary transformations taking place in Poland, especially in the Pomeranian region.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[SOCL3_U08] The graduate is able to analyse current social phenomena in the context of knowledge about the mechanisms of human activity, the impact of a group on an individual and the processes of change that Polish society, European society and that of the world undergoes	The student is able to analyse contemporary socio-spatial phenomena, taking into account the mechanisms of individual and group action as well as the processes of change occurring in Polish, European, and global societies.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[SOCL3_W03] The graduate knows and understands in an advanced way the relationships between the relationship between micro and macro social structures and institutions, on a national and international scale in the fields of private life, work, politics, civil society, etc	The student knows and understands the relationships between social structures and institutions at the micro and macro levels and their significance for the social and cultural production of space at the local, regional, national, and global levels.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[SOCL3_W02] The graduate has advanced knowledge about different types of social structures and institutions such as the state, nation, classes and social strata, ethnic group, local community, social group, family, political party, enterprise, she/he knows the differences in the functioning principles of social, public and commercial organisations	The student has advanced knowledge of the role of social structures, institutions, and local communities in shaping social space and contemporary socio-spatial processes.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[SOCL3_U01] The graduate is able to interpret social phenomena using sociological concepts and sociological imagination	The student is able to critically interpret contemporary socio-spatial phenomena using sociological concepts and theories as well as sociological imagination.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[SOCL3_K03] The graduate is ready to appropriately determine priorities in the implementation of a specific task	The student is prepared to set priorities in the analysis and evaluation of contemporary socio-spatial transformations, taking into account diverse social interests and the consequences of undertaken actions.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[SOCL3_K04] The graduate is ready to recognise and accurately resolve dilemmas related to his/her profession	The student is prepared to identify and address ethical dilemmas related to the analysis and interpretation of socio-spatial phenomena and to the responsible use of sociological knowledge in professional practice.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion

Subject contents

1. Introduction to Critical Spatial Studies
 - space as a social and cultural construct
 - major theoretical approaches and key concepts (space, place, locality, landscape)
2. The Social and Cultural Production of Space
 - who produces space and how?
 - relationships between everyday practices, public policies, and capital
3. Centres, Peripheries, and Spatial Marginalisation
 - the social production of peripherality
 - territorial inequalities and infrastructural exclusion
4. Mobility, Infrastructure, and Accessibility
5. Gentrification, Touristification, and the Commercialisation of Space
 - conflicts surrounding revitalisation and development
6. Spatial Conflicts and Social Resistance
 - NIMBY and its critique
 - conflicts over investment, the environment, and landscape
7. Space, Environment, and Climate Justice
8. Spatial Practices: Between Control and Agency
 - social regulation of everyday spaces
 - informal ways of using and transforming places
 - practices of resistance, appropriation, and reclaiming space
9. Socio-spatial Inequalities
 - spatial exclusion, access to space, housing, and gentrification
10. Post-socialist Spaces
 - post-state farm landscapes: memory, stigmatisation, and socio-spatial exclusio
11. Material Heritage and Politics of Memory

	• folklorisation, commercialisation, and touristification of cultural landscapes • difficult and dissonant heritag 12. Small Towns and Rural Areas in the Face of Contemporary Transformations • depopulation, ageing, seasonality, and new functions of rural areas and small town 13. The Future of Local and Regional Spaces • crises and development scenarios for Pomerania space in the context of social, cultural, economic, and environmental change									
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Successful completion of an introductory course in sociology.									
Assessment methods and criteria	<table><tr><td>Subject passing criteria</td><td>Passing threshold</td><td>Percentage of the final grade</td></tr><tr><td>Presentation</td><td>50.0%</td><td>70.0%</td></tr><tr><td>Participation and preparedness for classes</td><td>50.0%</td><td>30.0%</td></tr></table>	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade	Presentation	50.0%	70.0%	Participation and preparedness for classes	50.0%	30.0%
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	Presentation	50.0%	70.0%							
Participation and preparedness for classes	50.0%	30.0%								
Recommended reading	Basic literature									
	Supplementary literature									
	eResources addresses									
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed										
Work placement	Not applicable									

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