

Subject card

Subject name and code	Esotericism in Russia, PG_00209661						
Field of study	Russian Philology						
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 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	3		Language of instruction		Russian		
Semester of study	6		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit	Institute of Russian and Eastern Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Monika Rzeczycka				
	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: 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	20		2.0		28.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to introduce students to one aspect of Russian culture: esotericism in Russia from the 19th to the 21st century, its specificities and its role in the formation of Russian identity.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[FROSL3_U06] The graduate is able to present the results of their work in Polish and Russian in a clear, systematic, and well-thought-out manner, using various modern methods and techniques.	The student is able to present the results of their research on esotericism in Russian culture in Russian in a clear and systematic form, using modern presentation methods and techniques.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[FROSL3_W11] The graduate has contextual knowledge in the field of cultural and religious studies and auxiliary and related sciences of Russian philology, useful in research on the Russian language and literature and in the professional work of a Russian language specialist.	The student has contextual knowledge in the field of cultural and religious studies, useful for the analysis of esoteric phenomena in Russian literature and culture.	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[FROSL3_W08] The graduate has advanced knowledge and understanding of historical and contemporary phenomena and processes in Russian literature, as well as the methods of analyzing and interpreting literary texts.	The student knows and understands to an advanced degree the phenomena and processes related to the development of esoteric currents and formations in Russia (XIX-XXI century), as well as methods of analysis and interpretation of cultural texts inspired by Western esotericism.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[FROSL3_U09] The graduate is able to participate in a debate in Russian, Polish, and a second foreign language, presenting and evaluating various opinions and viewpoints, as well as discussing them.	The student is able to take part in discussions on topics related to the history of esotericism in Russia in Polish and Russian, present and evaluate various opinions and positions and discuss them.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[FROSL3_U01] The graduate is able to apply general linguistic and literary knowledge, as well as general knowledge from related disciplines, to solve tasks involving the study of specific issues, including those related to the Russian language and literature.	The student is able to apply general knowledge of cultural studies to tasks related to the study of the history of esotericism, especially its influence on Russian culture in the 19th, 20th and 20th centuries.	[SU5] implementation of a problem task
	[FROSL3_U03] The graduate is able to recognize various types of Russian literary texts and conduct their critical analysis and interpretation using appropriate methods, including advanced information and communication technologies.	The student is able to recognise various cultural texts inspired by esotericism and to carry out their critical analysis and interpretation.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
Subject contents	Esotericism as a cultural phenomenon. Western esotericism as a subject of academic study. Enlightenment esotericism. Secret societies and secret sciences in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Helena Blavatsky and the theosophical revolution of the West. Post-theosophy: Agni Yoga and others. Anthroposophy in Russia. Esotericism and Russian literature. Esotericism in the circle of arts. Esoteric projects of the New Era and the 1917 Revolution. Repression of Russian esotericists in the USSR. Russian esotericism after 1991.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Choice of literary and cultural specialisation		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
		51.0%	45.0%
		51.0%	50.0%
		51.0%	5.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	1. Hanegraaf W.J, Zapadnyj ezotierizm. Putiewoditel dla zaputawszyschia, Moskwa 2016 2. Rzeczycka M., Wtajemniczenie. Rosyjska proza ezoteryczna końca XIX początku XX wieku, Gdańsk 2010. 3. Klimowicz T., Poszukujący, nawiedzeni, opętani. Z dziejów spirytyzmu i okultyzmu w literaturze rosyjskiej, Wrocław 1992 4. Braude A., Radical Spirits. Spiritualism and Womens Rights in Nineteenth-Century America, Indiana 20016. 5. Hanegraaff W.J, Dictionary of Gnosis and Western Esoterism, Boston-Leiden Boston 2006 6. Światło i ciemność, vol.1-8, Gdańsk 2001-2017 7. Polskie tradycje ezoteryczne 1890-1939, vol. 1-5, Gdańsk 2019-2021
	Supplementary literature	An up-to-date reading list and supporting literature is given to students at the first lecture.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed		
Work placement	Not applicable	

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