

Subject card

Subject name and code	Identity Policy and Minory Rights in Europe, PG_00209941						
Field of study	Biology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2024		Academic year of realisation of subject				
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 Polish but during the course, multimedia materials in English may be used.		
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 Małgorzata Puto				
	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		0.0		20.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to familiarize students with the issues of identity politics and the protection of minority rights in Europe, with particular emphasis on historical, legal, and socio-political contexts. The course develops students' ability to analyze contemporary debates and public policies concerning cultural, ethnic, religious, and linguistic diversity.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
		Student: - has knowledge of key concepts and theories related to identity politics and minority rights; - is familiar with European systems for the protection of minority rights (e.g., the Council of Europe, the EU) and their legal foundations; - understands the historical, social, and political factors shaping the formation of minorities in Europe; - identifies the main challenges and controversies related to cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity. Student: - analyzes and interprets contemporary debates on identity politics and minority rights; - evaluates public policies and legal solutions concerning the protection of minorities; - applies theoretical concepts to the analysis of specific cases (case studies); - formulates and argues their own position in discussions on diversity and human rights. Student: - demonstrates sensitivity to issues of cultural diversity and minority rights; - is prepared to engage in intercultural dialogue with respect for diverse identities; - critically reflects on stereotypes and exclusionary discourses; - understands the importance of human rights and equal treatment in democratic societies.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written [SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
Subject contents	• Introduction to identity politics – definitions, concepts, and theoretical approaches. • National, ethnic, cultural, and religious identity – interdisciplinary perspectives. • The concept of minorities – typologies (national, ethnic, linguistic, and religious minorities). • Development of minority rights in Europe – historical context (20th–21st centuries). • European system of minority rights protection: • Council of Europe (e.g. Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities), • European Union (anti-discrimination law). • Public policies towards minorities in selected European countries – comparative perspectives. • Issues of discrimination, social exclusion, and inequality. • Migration and its impact on identity politics in Europe. • Minorities and democracy – political representation and participation. • Identity-related conflicts and diversity management. • The role of NGOs and civil society in the protection of minority rights. • Current challenges and debates in identity politics in Europe.		

Prerequisites and co-requisites	Student:		
	- has basic knowledge in the field of social sciences, in particular: political science, sociology, and law (with regard to fundamental concepts of human rights), - understands basic concepts such as: state, nation, citizenship, democracy, human rights, equality, - is familiar with the main historical and political processes in Europe (20th–21st centuries), - possesses basic skills in analyzing academic and journalistic texts, - demonstrates fundamental competencies in working with academic literature (reading comprehension, interpretation). Additional requirements: - interest in issues related to human rights, social policy, international relations, and cultural and ethnic diversity, - command of English at a level enabling the reading of academic texts, use of source materials (e.g. EU and Council of Europe documents), and understanding of video materials in English, - the ability to think critically and formulate arguments, - willingness to participate in discussions and analyze controversial socio-political topics, - basic awareness of current political developments in Europe, - completion of related courses (e.g. human rights, European integration, social policy) is an advantage.		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Pass with a grade	51.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature		

	Supplementary literature	General and theoretical works 1. Bokszański, Z., <i>Collective Identities in a Changing World</i>, Warsaw: Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, 2011. 2. Bauman, Z., <i>Identity: Conversations with Benedetto Vecchi</i>, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2004. 3. Appiah, K. A., <i>The Ethics of Identity</i>, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005. 4. Hall, S., "Cultural Identity and Diaspora," in J. Rutherford (ed.), <i>Identity: Community, Culture, Difference</i>, London: Lawrence & Wishart, 1990. 5. Eriksen, T. H., <i>Ethnicity and Nationalism: Anthropological Perspectives</i>, London: Pluto Press, 1993 (2nd ed. 2002). Minority rights and politics 1. Weller, M., <i>Universal Minority Rights: A Commentary on the Jurisprudence of International Courts and Treaty Bodies</i>, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. 2. Thornberry, P., <i>International Law and the Rights of Minorities</i>, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991. 3. Pentassuglia, G., <i>Minorities in International Law: An Introductory Study</i>, Strasbourg: Council of Europe Publishing, 2002. 4. Henrard, K., <i>Devising an Adequate System of Minority Protection: Individual Human Rights, Minority Rights and the Right to Self-Determination</i>, The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 2000. Europe and public policy 1. Checkel, J. T., Katzenstein, P. J. (eds.), <i>European Identity</i>, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009. 2. McGarry, J., O'Leary, B., <i>The Politics of Ethnic Conflict Regulation: Case Studies of Protracted Ethnic Conflicts</i>, London: Routledge, 1993. 3. European Commission, <i>Annual Reports on Equality and Non-Discrimination</i>. 4. Council of Europe, <i>Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities</i>, Strasbourg, 1995. 5. Council of Europe, <i>Advisory Committee Thematic Commentaries on the Protection of National Minorities</i>, Strasbourg, various years.
	eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Topics and questions: • What is identity politics and what are its main theoretical approaches? • How are national, ethnic, and cultural minorities defined? • What are the main instruments for minority rights protection in Europe? • What challenges does multiculturalism face in contemporary Europe? • How does migration influence social identities? • Does identity politics strengthen or weaken democracy? • What are the mechanisms of discrimination and social exclusion affecting minorities? • What is the situation of selected minorities in Europe (e.g. Roma, linguistic minorities)? • What is the role of the European Union and the Council of Europe in protecting minority rights? • How can identity-based conflicts be managed? Sample tasks: • case study analysis of a specific minority group in Europe, • comparative analysis of state policies towards minorities, • participation in a structured debate (e.g. Oxford-style debate), • analysis of current political events in Europe in the context of minority rights.
Work placement	Not applicable

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