University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Earth's Natural System - lecture, PG_00194267						
Field of study	Geography						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2027		Academic year of realisation of subject	2027/2028			
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study 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	1		Language of instruction	Polish			
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits	2.0			
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form	exam			
Conducting unit	Climate Research Laboratory -> Department of Physical Oceanography and Climate Research -> Faculty of Oceanography and Geography -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Janusz Filipiak				
	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		1.0	29.0	50	
Subject objectives	To consolidate and expand knowledge of the place and role of physical geography in the system of sciences, the basic processes and phenomena occurring on the Earth, and the interaction of the components of physical geography. To acquire the ability to describe the interacting processes taking place in the interior and on the surface of the Earth and to explain their causes. Acquire the ability to recognize the basic forms of the earth's surface and explain their genesis.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[GEOGRL3-W05] knows the interactions between the natural and anthropogenic environments on various spatial and temporal scales, with particular emphasis on the processes and phenomena occurring in the area of the South Baltic Coast and Lake District and the conditions of these interactions	Student has has advanced knowledge of the natural environment of the Earth, understood as a system of interrelated and interacting components, its differentiation and functioning.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[GEOGRL3-W02] knows and understands key concepts and theories in geography, as well as advanced processes and phenomena related to spatial diversity and the distribution of processes and phenomena on the Earth's surface at various spatial scales, particularly in Poland	Student knows and understands key concepts in physical geography and theories of spatial differentiation and distribution of physical geographic processes and phenomena on the Earth's surface.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[GEOGRL3-U01] can dentify and analyze basic natural and socio-economic processes and phenomena, analyze their causes and course, and formulate and discuss basic issues concerning physical-geographical conditions and the social, economic, and political situation and their changes on various spatial scales	Student is able to identify and analyze basic natural processes and phenomena and analyze their causes and course.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[GEOGRL3-W01] has an advanced knowledge of the specifics of geography as a discipline integrating knowledge from various fields, its origins and development, as well as the specifics of Earth and environment sciences, their internal structure, subject of research, and place in the system of sciences	Student knows and understands in an advanced degree the specificity of physical geography as a discipline integrating knowledge from various fields and the specificity of physical geographic sciences, their internal structure, the object of research and place in the system of sciences.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[GEOGRL3-W04] has advanced knowledge of the Earth's geographical environment, understood as a unified system of interconnected and interacting components; its diversity, functioning, and dynamics of change, including the interaction of environmental components in the area of the South Baltic Coast and Lake District	The student has an advanced understanding of the Earth’s natural environment, understood as a unified system of interrelated and interacting components; its diversity, functioning and dynamics of change.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents

1. Geography as a science. The tasks and objectives of physical geography. General and regional physical geography. The classification of geographical sciences.
2. The Earths place in the universe. The shape and size of the Earth. The consequences of the Earths orbital and rotational motion.
3. Basic features of the Earths surface structure. The relief of the Earths surface. The distribution of land and oceans on Earth.
4. Internal processes shaping the Earths surface: the structure of the Earths interior, plate tectonics, plutonism, orographic movements, rock dating, volcanism and earthquakes, isostasy.
5. External processes shaping the Earths surface: denudation as part of the geological cycle, weathering and mass movements, the land-shaping activity of flowing rivers, the sea, ice sheets and glaciers, the land-shaping activity of the wind.
6. Composition and structure of the atmosphere. Distribution of heat and moisture on Earth.
7. The hydrological cycle. Ocean currents.
8. Surface waters and groundwater on Earth.
9. The pedosphere. Soil-forming processes, soil zones and sub-zones on Earth.
10. The biosphere. Climatic and vegetation zones on Earth.
11. Earth as a system. Interactions between the various components of the natural environment.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
written/oral test	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature

- Atlas geograficzny świata, PPWK lub Demart (dowolne wydanie)
- Flis, J., 1988. Wstęp do geografii fizycznej. Wyd Szk. i Ped.
- Makowski J., 2018, Geografia fizyczna świata. Wyd. Nauk. PWN
- Niedźwiedź T (red.), 2011. Słownik meteorologiczny. Wyd. Nauk. PWN
- Kostrzewski A., 2001. Wielka encyklopedia geografii świata t: I i II (Słownik pojęć geograficznych). Wyd. Kurpisz.

	Supplementary literature	- Van Andel T.H., 1998. Nowe spojrzenie na starą planetę. Zmienne oblicze Ziemi, PWN - Marcinek J., 1991. Lodowce kuli ziemskiej. PWN - Martyn D., 1991. Klimaty kuli ziemskiej. PWN, Warszawa.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Using the South Baltic Lake District as an example, describe the interactions between any three components of the natural environment. Explain the mechanism behind the formation of ocean currents. Describe the processes occurring in a subduction zone. Describe the general atmospheric circulation model.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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