University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	The concept of the Anthropocene (Lecture), PG_00196122		
Field of study	Physical geography and geoinformation		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2027	Academic year of realisation of subject	2027/2028
Education level	Master'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	credit
Conducting unit	Laboratory of Palaeoenvironmental Research -> Department of Geomorphology and Quaternary Geology -> Faculty of Oceanography and Geography -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	prof. dr hab. Wojciech Tylmann	
	Teachers		

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15

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	15	1.0	34.0	50

Subject objectives

1. Explaining the definition and development of opinions on the Anthropocene.
2. Identification and understanding the main problems caused by human impact on the environment.
3. Showing trends and scenarios of future environmental changes and their consequences.
4. Indicating the complicated nature of social and political discussions about the Anthropocene.
5. Preparing the student to express his or her own opinion on selected problems of the Anthropocene.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[GFGMU2_U02] is able to precisely and appropriately use terminology in the field of physical geography and geoinformation in oral statements and written works	Is able to fluently and appropriately use terminology related to the impact of human activity on the environment and global environmental changes in written work	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
[GFGMU2_U03] is able to use academic literature in the fields of physical geography and geoinformation in Polish and English, selecting it appropriately for the research objective	Is able to effectively use scientific literature on the Anthropocene problems both in Polish and English	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[GFGMU2_K01] is able to behave appropriately in the workplace and in everyday life by critically evaluating information received in the light of their existing knowledge, recognising the importance of knowledge in solving cognitive and practical problems, and, when faced with difficulties, drawing on expert knowledge	Is ready to critically assess his knowledge of anthropogenic environmental changes, supplement and verify it by critically reading the literature on the subject	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
[GFGMU2_U05] is able to integrate knowledge from the discipline of Earth and environmental sciences, explaining and interpreting the interrelationships between environmental processes and phenomena in order to solve research problems in physical geography and geoinformation	Is able to integrate knowledge in the field of Earth and environmental sciences, correctly explaining and interpreting mutual relations between processes and phenomena accompanying global environmental changes during the Anthropocene	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[GFGMU2_W08] knows and understands in a deepened extent the most important contemporary problems in the field of contemporary climate change and environmental crises on a regional and global scale, their essence, genesis and possible consequences	Knows and understands the problem of anthropogenic environmental changes on a regional and global scale, their essence, causes and possible consequences	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion

Subject contents

1. Anthropocene as a period in the history of the Earth.
2. The history of human impact on the environment.
3. Global effects of human impact on the environment.
4. The social and political dimensions of the discussion on the Anthropocene.
5. Scenarios of future environmental changes and concepts for mitigating their effects.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
PowerPoint presentation	51.0%	50.0%
Active participation in a discussion	51.0%	50.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	1. Mannion A.M., 1992, Zmiany środowiska Ziemi. Historia środowiska przyrodniczego i kulturowego. PWN, Warszawa (in Polish). 2. Bińczyk E., 2018, Epoka człowieka. Retoryka i marazm antropocenu. PWN, Warszawa (in Polish). 3. Cameron R., 1999, Historia gospodarcza świata. Od paleolitu do czasów najnowszych. Książka i Wiedza, Warszawa (in Polish).
Supplementary literature	1. Kinder M., Tylmann W., Bubak I., Fiłoc M., Gąsiorowski M., Kupryjanowicz M., Mayr C., Sauer L., Voellering U., Zolitschka B., 2019, Holocene history of human impacts inferred from annually laminated sediments in Lake Szurpiły, northeast Poland. Jaournal of Paleolimnology, DOI 10.1007/s10933-019-00068-2. 2. Poraj-Górska A., Żarczyński M.J., Ahrens A., Enters D., Weisbrodt D., Tylmann W., 2017, Impact of historical land use changes on lacustrine sedimentation recorded in varved sediments of Lake Jaczno, northeastern Poland. Catena, 153: 182-193.
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed

1. Views on the Anthropocene as a geological epoch.
2. Microplastic as a threat to the marine environment.
3. The decline of the Amazon forest as a global environmental problem.

Work placement	Not applicable

Document generated electronically. Does not require a seal or signature.