

Course	Lecturer	Hours	ECTS	Semester
<a href="#">Introduction to Polish History and Culture (till 1795)</a>	prof. Robert Bubczyk	30	4	winter
<a href="#">Introduction to Polish Modern and Contemporary History and Culture</a>	prof. Robert Bubczyk	30	4	summer
<a href="#">Polish Modern and Contemporary History in Film</a>	prof. Robert Bubczyk	30	4	summer

Course title: **Introduction to Polish History and Culture\***

- Course code: PHC/2017/2018
- Number of didactic hours: 30 (15 sessions, 90 mins each)
- Course duration: 1<sup>st</sup> semester; **classes on Thursdays, from 14:40 to 16:10, starting from 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017\*\***. **Note: it is possible to change this timetable following the arrangement with the participants in the first meeting**
- Venue: classroom no. 226, 2nd floor (important: the **'old' building with a clock on the wall of the Faculty of the Humanities**)
- ECTS credits: 4

- Course description

**The aims of the course are the following:**

- To provide the participants with the knowledge of major aspects of the history of Poland down through the centuries
- To offer students an opportunity of better understanding the challenging process of creating and sustaining a civil society and liberal democracy in post-Communist Poland
- To foster a creative comparison between Poland and the participants' own country
- To compare the Polish political, social and cultural arrangements with other EU member states

The classes have been devised to be conducted in a interactive lecture format, consisting of lectures and possible follow-up discussions on the respective subjects which cover the history of Polish society and civilization from the origins of the nation and state until the collapse of the Polish state at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.\* Since Lublin and the Lublin region are historic areas with lots of historical monuments and artefacts (a number of them dating from the Middle Ages), students' individual excursions to such sights are highly recommended, which should facilitate a deeper insight into the history of Polish society and culture of the area. The history of Poland, as a history of any other country, is a process, best described as a chain of causes and consequences, therefore it is strongly advisable that the students who have enrolled at the course attend all the classes, as any absence from one class may later result in misunderstanding some further material.

**Suggested subjects:**

- 1,2.The origins of the Polish state ( till the beginning of the 11<sup>th</sup> century).
- 3,4.Poland in the Middle Ages ( till the end of the disintegration into provinces)
- 5,6.Poland in the late Middle Ages ( 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> centuries)
- 7,8.The 'Golden Age' in the history of the Polish nation ( 16<sup>th</sup> century)
- 9,10.The transformations of Polish society in the 16<sup>th</sup> century (reformation movement, Renaissance and Baroque in culture)
- 11,12.The dominance of magnates (aristocrats) in Poland ( 17<sup>th</sup> – mid-18<sup>th</sup> century – Poland and its neighbours)
- 13,14.The Enlightenment in Poland in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and attempts of reforms
- 15.Poland under the rules of foreign monarchs (the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century)

**Selected Works for Further Reference:**

- Banaszak D., Biber T., Leszczyński M., *An Illustrated History of Poland*, Poznań 1998  
 Brumberg A. (ed.), *Poland. Genesis of a Revolution*, New York 1983  
 Bubczyk R., *A History of Poland in Outline*, Lublin 2011 (3<sup>rd</sup> edition)  
 Davies N., *Heart of Europe*, revised edition, Oxford 2001

Davies N., *God's Playground. A History of Poland*, vols. I and II, Oxford 1981  
Kolek L., *Polish Culture. An Historical Introduction*, Lublin 1997, 2001  
Lukowski J., Zawadzki H., *A Concise History of Poland*, Cambridge 2001

- **Course type:** interactive lecture
- **Assessment criteria:** attendance, multiple choice final test
- **Prerequisites:** some general knowledge of European history at secondary level
- **Primary target group:** all B.A. and M.A. students interested in exploring history and culture of Poland
- **Lecturer: prof. Robert Bubczyk, professor of history**
- **Contact person:** prof. Robert Bubczyk
- Institute of Cultural Studies, Pl. Marii-Curie Skłodowskiej 4, room: **325 or 329 (secretary)**
- Email: [r.bubczyk@umcs.pl](mailto:r.bubczyk@umcs.pl)
- Phone: 81 5372773 (secretary's office)
- Mobile: 663420506 (private, only available in emergencies)

\*This course will be complemented with another course on Polish history and culture to be held in the summer semester. The latter will cover the period from the beg. of the 19<sup>th</sup> century till the present day. Ideally, the students who are at UMCS for two semesters will attend both courses.

**\*\*It is the university's regulation that this course can take place provided TEN or more STUDENTS wish to participate, so if you are interested, please, come and encourage your colleagues to join the group!**

- **Course title:** **Introduction to Polish Modern and Contemporary History and Culture**
- **Course code:** PHC/2017/2018
- **Erasmus subject area code:** IPHCC/2017/2018
- **Number of didactic hours:** 30 (15 sessions, 90 mins each)
- **Course duration:** 2<sup>nd</sup> semester; **classes to be held on Tuesdays from 14.40 to 16.10, starting from February 2018\*** (or by separate arrangement with the participants)
- **Venue:** **classroom no. 226** (Faculty of the Humanities Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor -important: the '**Old building**' [Pol. **Stary Humanik**])
- **ECTS credits:** 4
- **Course description:**

**The aims of the course are the following:**

- To provide the participants with the knowledge of major aspects of the history of Poland down through the centuries till the present
- To offer students an opportunity of better understanding the challenging process of creating and sustaining a civil society and liberal democracy in post-Communist Poland
- To foster a creative comparison between Poland and the participants' own country
- To compare the Polish political, social and cultural arrangements within EU member states

The classes will be conducted in a lecture/seminar format, consisting of lectures and possible follow-up discussions on individual subjects which cover the history of Polish society and its culture from the collapse of the so called Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (1795) until the present-day. Since Lublin and the Lublin region are historic areas with lots of ancient monuments and artifacts (a number of them dating from the Middle Ages), students' individual excursions to such sights are recommended, which should facilitate a deeper insight into the history of Polish society and culture of the area. The history of Poland, as a history of any other country, is a process, best described as a chain of causes and consequences, therefore it is strongly advisable that students attend all the classes, as any absence from one class may later result in misunderstanding some further material.

**Suggested subjects:**

1. Poland under the rules of foreign monarchs (the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century)

- 2., 3. The evolution of the Polish nation and its struggle for the political freedom (1815-1864)
- 4., 5. Towards Poland's independence. Polish society at the turn of 19<sup>th</sup> century (1864-1918)
- 6., 7. The Second Republic. The beginning, development and collapse. (1918-1939)
- 8., 9. Poland and Polish citizens during World War II (1939-1945)
- 10., 11. Communist dictatorship in Poland (1945-1956)
- 12., 13. The Communist regime in Poland under the rules of Władysław Gomułka and Edward Gierek (1956-1980)
- 14., 15. Towards the end of the Polish People's Republic and first years of democratic Poland (1981-1990)

**Selected Works for Further Reference:**

- Banaszak D., Biber T., Leszczyński M., *An Illustrated History of Poland*, Poznań 1998  
 Brumberg A. (ed.), *Poland. Genesis of a Revolution*, New York 1983  
 Bubczyk R., *A History of Poland in Outline*, Lublin 2011 (3<sup>rd</sup> edition)  
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 Kolek L., *Polish Culture. An Historical Introduction*, Lublin 1997, 2001  
 Lukowski J., Zawadzki H., *A Concise History of Poland*, Cambridge 2001

- **Course type:** lecture (follow-up discussions are welcome)
- **Assessment method/criteria:** attendance, active participation in classes (questions welcome), written project (students choose a subject and prepare a project on it – it can be a presentation or an essay).
- **Prerequisites:** some general knowledge of European history, good command of English
- **Primary target group:** all undergraduate or graduate students interested in exploring history and culture of Poland
- **Language of instruction:** English
- **Lecturer:** prof. Robert Bubczyk
- **Contact person:** prof. Robert Bubczyk
- Institute of Cultural Studies, Pl. Marii-Curie Skłodowskiej 4, office: **325 or 329 (secretary)**
- Email: [r.bubczyk@umcs.pl](mailto:r.bubczyk@umcs.pl)
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- **Course title:** Polish Modern and Contemporary History in Film
- **Course code:** PHiF/2017/2018
- **Erasmus subject area code:** PMCHiF/2017/2018
- **Number of didactic hours:** 30 (15 sessions, 90 mins each)
- **Course duration:** 2<sup>nd</sup> semester; **classes to be held on THURSDAYS from 14.40 to 16.10, starting from February 2018\*** (or by separate arrangement with the participants)
- **Venue:** classroom no. 328 (Faculty of the Humanities Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor -important: the 'Old building' [Pol. Stary Humanik])
- **ECTS credits:** 4
- **Course description:**

**The aims of the course are the following:**

- To provide the participants with the knowledge of major aspects of the history of Poland down through the 20<sup>th</sup> century till the present
- To offer the students an opportunity to see how individual award-winning film directors, representing a few generations of filmmakers, approached in their films different problems, usually breakthroughs in Polish contemporary history
- To provide the students with a number of opportunities for better understanding contemporary Polish society, its historical sentiments, divisions and dilemmas
- To compare the Polish political, social and cultural achievements and attachment to democracy with the students' own countries

- To show how Polish filmmakers understand the concept of historical memory and how they implement it in their works

The classes will be conducted in a seminar format, consisting of lectures/ talks and presentations of follow-up films, shown on individual subjects which cover the history of Polish society and its culture from the regaining of independence of Poland in November 1918 (after the 123-years' period of partitions) until the present-day. After the presentation of each film a discussion on the respective subject will be very welcomed. The history of Poland, as a history of any other country, is a process, best described as a chain of causes and consequences, therefore it is strongly advisable that students attend all the classes, as any absence from one class may later result in misunderstanding some further material.

#### **Suggested subjects and films to be seen:**

-Early days of the Polish Second Republic (1918-1921). Fighting for the frontiers. The Polish - Soviet War

Film: *1920. Bitwa Warszawska* [1920. The Battle of Warsaw], directed by Jerzy Hoffman (2011)

-Poland and Polish citizens during World War II (1939-1945)

Films: 1. *W ciemności* [In Darkness], directed by Agnieszka Holland (2011)

2. *Miasto 44* [City 44], directed by Jan Komasa (2014)

3. *Katyni*, directed by Andrzej Wajda (2007)

-Polish People's Republic under the rules of Władysław Gomułka and Edward Gierek (1956-1980)

Films: 1. *Czarny Czwartek* [Black Thursday], directed by Antoni Krauze (2011)

2. *Człowiek z żelaza* [Man of Iron], directed by Andrzej Wajda (1981)

-Towards the end of the Polish People's Republic and first years of democratic Poland (1981-1990)

Films: 1. *Jack Strong*, directed by Władysław Pasikowski (2014)

2. *Śmierć jak kromka chleba* [Death like a Slice of Bread], directed by Kazimierz Kutz (1994)

3. *Wałęsa. Człowiek z nadziei* [Wałęsa. Man of Hope], directed by Andrzej Wajda (2013)

#### **Selected Bibliography for Further Reference:**

Banaszak D., Biber T., Leszczyński M., *An Illustrated History of Poland*, Poznań 1998

Brumberg A. (ed.), *Poland. Genesis of a Revolution*, New York 1983

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Kolek L., *Polish Culture. An Historical Introduction*, Lublin 1997, 2001

- **Course type:** lecture/seminar
- **Assessment method/criteria:** attendance, active participation in classes (questions welcome), written project (students chose a subject and prepare a project on it – it can be a presentation or an essay).
- **Prerequisites:** some general knowledge of European history, good command of English
- **Primary target group:** all undergraduate or graduate students interested in exploring history and culture of Poland
- **Language of instruction:** English (all the films are provided with English subtitles)
- **Lecturer:** prof. Robert Bubczyk
- **Contact person:** prof. Robert Bubczyk
- Institute of Cultural Studies, Pl. Marii-Curie Skłodowskiej 4, office: **325 or 329 (secretary)**
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