GDAŃSK UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Subject card

Subject name and code	WELFARE ECONOMICS, PG_00070595		
Field of study	Economics		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject	2027/2028
Education level	first-cycle 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	2	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	3	ECTS credits	4.0
Learning profile	general academic profile	Assessment form	assessment
Conducting unit	Department of Economic -> Faculty of Management and Economics -> Faculties of Gdańsk University of Technology		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	mgr Piotr Płatkowski	
	Teachers		

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	45

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	45	3.0	52.0	100

Subject objectives

Preparing students to analyze and evaluate socio-economic issues related to social welfare, based on knowledge of microeconomics and public sector economics, as well as fostering attitudes of responsibility and ethical sensitivity in making decisions regarding redistribution, inequality, and the role of the state in the economy.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[K6_W01] demonstrates advanced knowledge and understanding of economic problems, and selects methods for resolving them while taking into account the complex interrelationships among the phenomena being analyzed.	knows and understands the mechanisms shaping social welfare and the relationships between economic efficiency and social justice, in the context of income redistribution, inequality, and market failures.	[SW3] Assessment of knowledge contained in written work and projects [SW1] Assessment of factual knowledge
[K6_U06] acquires specialized knowledge in the field of economics, demonstrating the ability to effectively plan individual work and pursue lifelong learning.	is able to analyze microeconomic data and interpret phenomena related to inequality and poverty, using basic methods of economic and statistical analysis to formulate empirical conclusions.	[SU4] Assessment of ability to use methods and tools [SU3] Assessment of ability to use knowledge gained from the subject
[K6_K01] is ready to fulfill professional roles responsibly, taking legal, ethical, and cultural aspects into account in decision-making processes.	is prepared to responsibly and ethically formulate assessments regarding redistributive policies and state interventions, particularly through the critical analysis of the social consequences of economic decisions discussed in welfare economics classes.	[SK5] Assessment of ability to solve problems that arise in practice

Subject contents	Course content – lecture 1. Introduction to welfare microeconomics - objectives, scope, main concepts; 2. Pareto efficiency and social justice - basic criteria for assessing resource allocation, first and second fundamental theorems of welfare economics; 3. Social welfare functions and market failure - theory, causes and consequences; 4. Public sector economics - state functions, public goods and externalities; 5. Redistribution and tax systems - horizontal and vertical equity, Pigou tax; 6. Concept of unconditional basic income; 7. Theories and measures of income and wealth inequality (Gini, Atkinson, Theil); 8. Causes and consequences of inequalities - economic, social and political aspects; 9. Gender economics - wage gap, labour market discrimination and compensation policies; 10. Poverty - definitions, measures (relative and absolute), policies against poverty and social exclusion. Course content – laboratory 1. Introduction to welfare microeconomics - objectives, scope, main concepts; 2. Pareto efficiency and social justice - basic criteria for assessing resource allocation, first and second fundamental theorems of welfare economics; 3. Social welfare functions and market failure - theory, causes and consequences; 4. Public sector economics - state functions, public goods and externalities; 5. Redistribution and tax systems - horizontal and vertical equity, Pigou tax; 6. Concept of unconditional basic income; 7. Theories and measures of income and wealth inequality (Gini, Atkinson, Theil); 8. Causes and consequences of inequalities - economic, social and political aspects; 9. Gender economics - wage gap, labour market discrimination and compensation policies; 10. Poverty - definitions, measures (relative and absolute), policies against poverty and social exclusion.
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Knowledge of basic statistical methods (Introduction to statistics)
Assessment methods and criteria	

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Essay with analytical and reflective components.	60.0%	60.0%
Problem-solving tasks with data (data analysis).	60.0%	40.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	1. Varian, H.R. *Intermediate Microeconomics: A Modern Approach*, W.W. Norton & Company 2. Stiglitz, J.E., Rosengard, J.K. *Economics of the Public Sector*, W.W. Norton & Company
	Supplementary literature	1. Brzeziński M., Bukowski P., Sawulski J. *Nierówności po polsku.* Wydawnictwo Krytyki Politycznej [POL] 2. Piketty, T. *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*, Harvard University Press [ANG] 3. Krugman, P. *The Conscience of a Liberal*, W. W. Norton & Company [ANG] 4. Milanovic, B. *Global Inequality: A New Approach for the Age of Globalization*, Harvard University Press [ANG]
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	• Laboratory assignments to be developed during the laboratory classes. • Empirical analysis (essay) on a selected topic covered by the course to be completed as part of the student's own work.	
Practical activites within the subject	Not applicable	

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