



Course name	History of Material Culture
Entity running the course	Faculty of Interior Architecture and Design
Entity for which the course has been prepared	Department of Design
Course type	Core / obligatory
Year of study / semester, type of studies	Year I, sem. I, full-time master's degree
ECTS credits	1 point ECTS
Academic tutor	Ass. tutor Dorota Koczanowicz, PhD
Aim of the course	The aim of this course is to introduce students to questions of human condition in the world of objects. We live surrounded by objects, but we rarely observe them as meaningful elements of social interaction. The classes are meant to focus on selected objects of everyday life, such as a chair or a dress, to notice how material culture ties us with other people, is the source of our identity and shows the important values. We discuss specific categories in their historical contexts, which aims to teach students about cultural meanings of material objects, and make them aware that they are the elements of a complicated and ever changing world of meanings.
Prerequisites	Having the art history course completed.
Learning outcomes:	
- knowledge	Student knows the selected theories of the meaning of objects in everyday life; knows selected definitions of culture, considering the division between material and spiritual culture, sophisticated and popular. Student is aware of the controversies which emerge in the context of meaning and functions of some objects in culture; student has the knowledge in the area of selected

	objects of everyday use.
- skills	Student can critically analyze and interpret the arguments of sociological debate, as well as philosophical, anthropological, and cultural aspects of material culture; can show the differences between material and spiritual culture, can read and understand texts and present the opinions of historians and theoreticians of culture; can use the concepts of consumerism, fetishism, objectification; can make an axiological analysis of everyday objects; can notice problems of axiological and ontic nature in the situation of moving an ordinary object into a museum; can compare and contrast different theoretical concepts.
- personal and social competence	Increased sensitivity to the surrounding world; ability to work in team; deeper skills in conducting a theoretical reflection upon everyday life.
Course content	Material and spiritual culture; human – object relationship; human – object – human relationship; objects – society (fashion, design); objectification; fetishism; consumerism; food in art; museum as a house of objects; collecting.
Course form and number of course hours	Conversations, mini-lectures, student presentations, watching documentaries, group discussions. 30 hours.
Assessment methods and criteria	30% presence in classes 40% active participation in discussions 30% preparing short papers
Assessment type	Graded pass
Literature	Zygmunt Bauman, O popkulturze, Wydawnictwa Akademickie I Profesjonalne, Warszawa 2008. Amerykańska antropologia postmodernistyczna, red. Michał Buchowski, Instytut Kultury, Warszawa 1999. Tim Dant, Kultura materialna w rzeczywistości społecznej. Wartości, działania, style życia, tłum. Janusz Barański, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego, Kraków 2007. Georg Simml, Most i drzwi, tłum. Małgorzata Łukasiewicz, Oficyna Naukowa, Warszawa 2006. Georges Vigarello, Historia urody, tłum. Maciej Falski, Wydawnictwo Aletheja, Warszawa 2011. Paul Martin, Seks, narkotyki i czekolada, tłum. Anna Dzierzgowska, Muza, Warszawa 2010. Lynda Nead, Akt kobiecy, tłum. Ewa Franus, Rebis, Poznań 1998. Jean Baudrillard. Społeczeństwo konsumpcyjne, jego mity i struktury, Wyd. Sic!, Warszawa 2006. Jean Baudrillard, Spisek sztuki, Wyd. Sic!, Warszawa 2006. Andrzej Szahaj, Zniwalająca moc kultury. Artykuły i szkice z filozofii kultury, poznania i polityki, Wydawnictwo UMK, Toruń 2004. Renata Tańczuk, Ars colligendi, Wyd. UW, Wrocław 2011.

Teaching aids

Multimedia projector

Language of instruction

Polish (classes in English possible)