



UNIVERSITY OF
ST. THOMAS
Saint John Paul II Institute

SPRING 2023 POLISH ONLINE CLASSES

1) PLSH 2300: Introduction to Polish Culture

Cross-listed with HIST 4393: Special Topics in History

by **Dr. John Radziłowski (new Director of Orchard Lake, Michigan)**

Spring semester 2023, Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:10-3:25 pm Central Time

First class: January 17 2023 (Tuesday)

Course Description:

Major characteristics and historical stages of the development of Polish Culture, as well as European contexts and question of Polish distinctiveness, both religious and secular.

Rationale:

In many ways, Polish national identity is defined in cultural terms, perhaps more than most European nations, because of the experience of the partitions in the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries, among other reasons. The influence of Polish Culture in East-Central Europe (and even Russia) has been significant with Polish models acting a primary transmitters and interpreters of Western Culture for people further East in many periods, most notably the Early Modern period. There will be especial attention to the religious aspect of Polish culture, which had remained relatively stronger in Poland than in many European countries, in recent generations, while not excluding consideration of the secular dimension of Polish culture, which also can be historically quite vital.

2) PLSH 3335: Contemporary Polish Writers: Writing as a Gesture of Freedom by Dr. Jolanta Wróbel-Best

Spring semester 2023, Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-12:15 pm Central Time

First Class: January 17 2023 (Tuesday)

Course Description:

Using masterpieces of Polish contemporary literature, the course is designed to introduce essential and unknown topics of Polish culture, history, and society for English language readers. Works by Polish writers not only possess high aesthetic values, but they should be viewed as artistic records revealing the major upheavals of Polish history such as Poland's Three Partitions (1772, 1793, and 1795), prolonged lack of independence (1795-1918), Communist regime (1945-1989), and the latest democratic governance. Applying interdisciplinary tools of literature, history, art, and philosophy to readings, students will decipher a manifold depiction of Polish culture and society.

3) PLSH 3320: Contemporary Poland by Dr. Agnieszka Oskiera

Spring Semester 2023, most likely Mondays and Wednesdays 10:30-11:45 am Central Time

First class: January 16 2023 (Monday)

Course Description:

The course is designed to present students with the most important facts, events about modern Poland XX/XXI century, including the political situation, Polish business, daily life, tourism, Polish customs and traditions. The class is a combination of a series of lectures and in-class discussion.

Rationale:

Poland is a very well developing European country. Well known in Europe, but still unknown in the USA for Americans, even of Polish descent. The country has undergone enormous changes throughout the 20th and 21st century. Therefore, there is a need to introduce students to the modern political and socio-economic situation in Poland. The course also aims to familiarize students with the most popular tourist destinations, Polish culture and tradition as well as everyday lifestyle of Poles.

4) PLSH 1331: Elementary Polish I by Małgorzata Bujak (2nd semester)

Spring semester 2023, Mondays and Wednesdays 12:10-1:25 pm Central Time

Course Description:

Polish language for the beginners (2nd semester).