

**A COURSE SYLLABUS – DOCTORAL SCHOOL
REGARDING THE QUALIFICATION CYCLE FROM 2025 TO 2029.**

| GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT COURSE | | | | |
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| Course title | OPTIONAL SPECIALISED SUBJECT: Paradigms in economic sciences. Challenges of the 21st century. | | | |
| Name of the unit running the course | Doctoral School at the University of Rzeszów | | | |
| Type of course (<i>obligatory, optional</i>) | optional specialised | | | |
| Year and semester of studies | year I, semester: II | | | |
| Discipline | economics and finance | | | |
| Language of Course | Polish/English | | | |
| Name of Course coordinator | Dr Lidia Kaliszczak | | | |
| Name of Course lecturer | Dr Lidia Kaliszczak | | | |
| Prerequisites | In-depth knowledge of economics, the history of economic thought, and the economic aspects of the challenges of the 21st century. Knowledge of English at B2 CEFR level, | | | |
| BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE (100-200 words) | | | | |
| <p>The aim of the OPTIONAL SPECIALISED SUBJECT: Paradigms in Economic Sciences. Challenges of the 21st Century is to supplement and organise knowledge in the field of the evolution of the theoretical foundations of economic sciences and to critically analyse contemporary trends in economic thought. The subject focuses on the confrontation between the neoclassical paradigm, based on equilibrium and rationality, and the dynamic paradigm of entrepreneurship and new concepts of heterodox economics. The programme content includes an analysis of key scientific breakthroughs and the identification of the functions of paradigms in the cognitive process. Particular attention will be paid to the challenges of the 21st century, which are characterised by a high degree of uncertainty, complexity and volatility. This requires a shift away from traditional, linear models of development towards new paradigms that emphasise sustainability, digitalisation and inclusiveness.</p> <p>The course develops the ability to take a multidimensional view of contemporary development processes, promotes a critical attitude towards traditional models, and points to the need to adapt economic theories to the dynamically changing socio-economic reality. Examples of research on the conditions that imply the choice of a paradigm for describing the functioning of enterprises and the economy will be presented.</p> | | | | |
| COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND METHODS OF EVALUATING LEARNING OUTCOMES | | | | |
| Learning outcome | The description of the learning outcome defined for the course | Relation to the degree programme outcomes (symbol) | Learning Format (Lectures, classes,...) | Method of assessment of learning outcomes (e.g. test, oral exam, written exam, project,...) |
| Knowledge (NO.) | <i>Knows and understands, expresses knowledge</i> | | | |
| P8S_WG1 | Explains and critically evaluates the main paradigms in economic sciences in the context of their methodological assumptions. | P8S_WG | seminar | essay |
| P8S_WG2 | Has extensive knowledge and is familiar with the latest global scientific achievements and contemporary development trends in the field of 21st century challenges. | P8S_WG | seminar | essay |

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| P8S_WG3 | Knows, understands and applies terminology appropriate to economics and related disciplines in Polish and a foreign language leading in the discipline. | P8S_WG | seminar | essay | | |
| P8S_WK1 | Has knowledge of the impact of technical progress and technology on the advancement of civilisation, including the discovery of new opportunities related to entrepreneurship, creativity, innovation, digitalisation and AI. | P8S_WK | seminar | essay | | |
| Skills (no.) | Able to | | | | | |
| P8S_UW1 | Based on interdisciplinary knowledge in the field of economics, is able to identify and analyse contemporary economic challenges (globalisation, competitiveness, digitisation, inequalities, etc.) and interpret them through the prism of various economic theory paradigms. | P8S_UW | seminar | essay | | |
| P8S_UW2 | Based on available interdisciplinary scientific publications, they are able to recognise and solve a research problem that can be used to create a new element of their academic output. | P8S_UW | seminar | essay | | |
| P8S_UW3 | They are able to use their interdisciplinary knowledge and research experience to analyse and evaluate scientific achievements, expert opinions and other studies, formulating opinions on this basis, including critical judgements. | P8S_UW | seminar | essay | | |
| P8S_UK6 | Is able to carry out and present scientific work, actively participate in the national and international scientific and professional community, communicating in a foreign language at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. | P8S_UK | seminar | essay | | |
| Social competence (no.) | Ready to | | | | | |
| P8S_KK3 | Is ready to exchange ideas, conduct substantive scientific discussions and solve cognitive and practical problems using their knowledge of the scientifically explored discipline of economics. | P8S_KK | seminar | essay | | |
| LEARNING FORMAT – NUMBER OF HOURS | | | | | | |
| Semester (no.) | Lectures | Seminars | Lab classes | Internships | others | ECTS |
| II | - | 15 hrs. | - | - | - | 2 |

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- informative lecture with multimedia presentation
- seminar
- discussion.

COURSE CONTENT

Seminar:

Substantive description of the course content (1.5 hours):

Topic 1 – The essence of the paradigm according to Thomas Kuhn; interpretation of the concept

Topic 2 – Paradigms in social sciences – types, meaning, functions, application in research

Topic 3 – Main trends in economics – evolution of assumptions and research approaches, classical and neoclassical economic paradigms – critical analysis.

Topic 4 – Paradigm as a determinant of research project methodology (quantitative, qualitative and mixed approaches)

Topic 5 – Identification of development challenges of the 21st century

Topics 6 and 7 – Selected paradigms in the face of the challenges of the 21st century

a) Paradigm of entrepreneurship (open innovation), creativity

b) Paradigm of sustainable development

c) Behavioural paradigm (traits and values)

d) New management paradigms in the 21st century according to P.F. Drucker

e) The turquoise organisation paradigm;

Topic 8 – Presentation of final projects (essays)

COURSE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Requirements for passing the course:

- completion of 3 written essays on topics covered in the course
- active and consistent work by the doctoral student;
- active participation in classes

Very good grade:

- very high level of activity and engagement during classes,
- visible ability to lead discussions and draw constructive conclusions,
- very high substantive value of the paper and artistic value of the visual project;
- attendance at least 4/5 of the total number of classes;
- active use of the recommended literature, expanded and deepened on one's own.

Good plus grade:

- high level of activity during classes;
- high substantive value of the paper;
- attendance at least 4/5 of the total number of classes;
- visible satisfactory ability to lead discussions and draw conclusions;
- active use of the recommended literature.

Good grade:

- satisfactory activity during classes;
- satisfactory substantive value of the paper;
- attendance at least 4/5 of the total number of classes;
- moderate ability to lead discussions and draw conclusions;
- satisfactory use of the recommended literature.

Pass with distinction:

- moderate level of activity during classes

- relatively poor substantive value of the paper;
- attendance at least 3/5 of the total number of classes;
- moderately poor ability to lead discussions and draw conclusions;
- moderate use of the recommended literature.

Satisfactory grade:

- low level of activity during classes
- poor substantive value of the paper;
- attendance at least 3/5 of the total number of classes;
- poor ability to lead discussions and draw conclusions;
- sporadic use of the recommended literature.

Unsatisfactory grade:

- lack of activity during classes;
- unacceptable substantive value of the paper;
- lack of ability to conduct discussions and draw conclusions;
- absence from more than 3/5 of the total number of classes;
- failure to use the recommended literature.

**TOTAL PhD STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE THE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES
– NUMBER OF HOURS AND ECTS CREDITS**

| Activity | Number of hours |
|---|-----------------|
| Scheduled course contact hours | 15 |
| Other contact hours involving the teacher (consultation hours, examinations) | 1 |
| Non-contact hours – student's own work (preparation for classes or examinations, project, etc.) | 34 |
| Total number of hours | 50 |
| Total number of ECTS credits | 2 ECTS |

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

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| Compulsory literature: | <p>Kuhn, T. S., <i>Structure of Scientific Revolutions</i>, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London 1969. (T.S. Kuhn, <i>Struktura Rewolucji Naukowych</i>. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Aletheia, 2009)</p> <p>Gartner, W. (editor), <i>New Perspectives and Paradigms in Applied Economics and Business. Select Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Applied Economics and Business</i>, Munich, Germany, 2024</p> <p>Bartkowiak, R., Matuszewicz, M., <i>Paradygmaty w naukach ekonomicznych wyzwania XXI w.</i>, Wydawnictwo: SGH 2014.</p> <p>Kahneman, D., Sibony, O., & Sunstein, C. R., <i>Noise: A flaw in human judgment</i>. Little, Brown Spark, 2021.</p> <p>Majkut, R., <i>Przedsiębiorca wobec współczesnych uwarunkowań i czynników przedsiębiorczości</i>, CeDeWu, Warszawa, 2021.</p> <p>Sunny, F. A., Jeronen, E., & Lan, J. <i>Influential Theories of Economics in Shaping Sustainable Development Concepts</i>. <i>Administrative Sciences</i>, 15(1), 6. 2025. https://doi.org/10.3390/admsci15010006</p> |
| Complementary literature: | <p>Głapiński, A., <i>Meandry historii ekonomii</i>, Oficyna Wydawnicza SGH, 2012.</p> <p>Sułkowski, Ł., <i>Paradygmaty i nurty badawcze w metodologii nauk o zarządzaniu – próba syntezy w oparciu o światową literaturę przedmiotu</i>, <i>Prace Naukowe Uniwersytetu Ekonomicznego we Wrocławiu</i>, Wydawnictwo UE we Wrocławiu nr 340, 2014,</p> |

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| | Kaliszczak, L., Schumpeterowska teoria przedsiębiorczości i jej współczesne implikacje. Nauki o Zarządzaniu Management Sciences, 2011, Nr 8, s. 345-355 Drucker, P.F., Zarządzanie XXI wieku – Wyzwania, MT Biznes, Warszawa 2009. |
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**(1 erts credit correspondes to 25–30 hours of total workload of the doctoral student, needed to achieve the intended outcomes)*

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Date and signature of the subject instructor

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Approval of the Head of the Unit or an authorized person