GENERAL SYLLABUS
for

Introduction to Polish Language & Culture

Discover a New World: Poland & Polish Culture & Language
Inspirations from the Past – Possibilities for the Future

JANUARY 2009

Directed by Polish Language & Culture & History Instructor
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Language: "The key to a nation's heart."

Hayyim N. Bialik

“The only thing more expensive than education is ignorance.”

Benjamin Franklin

"The sun enlightens the earth and education enlightens people."

Polish Proverb

“Nauka historii, zajmuje powazne miejsce w kształtowaniu duszy człowieka-obywatela. Tylko przez poznanie historii swego narodu, można pokochać swój kraj i być dumnym, ze swej do niego przynależności."

Honorata B. Wolowska
President of PWA

Required Textbooks:

1/ Mastering Polish, with 2 Audio CDs, Albert Juszczak, Hippocrene Books, Inc., New York, 2007 (or different book)

Selected Recommended Books:


**Statement of Educational Philosophy & Course Description:**

**ONLY EDUCATION CAN IMPROVE AND ENRICH AMERICAN - POLISH RELATIONS**

It is a very strange fact that today’s Poland and Polish culture while famous in European culture are still unknown in the USA for many Americans, even of Polish descent. Therefore, this versatile course will teach, expose and show the rich variety of Polish culture and language. As a result, students will better understand Polish culture and community in the USA and will be inspired to use cultural and historical knowledge to think critically and beyond political, cultural, social or individual stereotypes or prejudice.

This versatile, unique course is designed for adult students who want to achieve basic Polish conversation skills and also understanding of the Polish culture. Students will learn grammar, speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Polish, and will “travel” in an attractive way through Polish history to learn its tradition and culture.
In addition, students will really enjoy learning in this class because they will have support from many interesting Polish audiovisual materials as well as professional and enthusiastic, inspiration and assistance from an experienced Polish native/instructor and expert in Polish language, culture, and history.

Ireneusz R. Raciborski,
Chicago, IL

Course Objectives:

A.

- Discover the passion and many profits from learning a new language, culture, and new attitude for Poland.

- Learn with an enthusiastic native speaker / experienced bilingual instructor who will guide you through authentic Polish pronunciation.

- Learn the alphabet, necessary basic words and grammar, greetings, and count to 100, etc.

- Talk in Polish about yourself, your family, friends and places, etc.

- Develop good Polish listening, reading, basic writing and conversation skills.

- Personal language active interactions between native speaker/instructor – student and student – student.

- Exercise Your mind, memory and brain with continuing education and new social/languages activities in class.

- Expand Your education, foreign language skills and international jobs opportunities.

B.

- Explore important Polish historical, cultural and film events, which were the subjects of many political and artistic discussions in Poland.
-Go beyond the English language, contemporary American cultural landscape and entertainment images from Hollywood and test different cultural fruits: from 1000 year old, rich in traditions, fascinating and heroic history – Poland.

-Examine correlation between Polish culture and Polish history by looking at historical and current: political, social and cultural life in Poland.

-Discover, explore and enjoy a new world: Polish language, culture, customs, traditions, literature, film, history and became finally the new expert about those topics.

-Be inspired and intellectually transformed by new and real cultural knowledge about Europe, Poland, and Polish - American relations.

-Increase your knowledge, cultural experience and international employments opportunities in our multilingual and multicultural world today.

- Make a great difference about real and actual knowledge about Poland, Polish and Polish culture in the USA and became creative ambassador and "translator" of Polish rich culture to American society that will bring many profits for you and to Polish and American society today and in the future.

"Understanding and tolerance of other culture, tradition and language comes from knowledge, experience and education."

Ireneusz R. Raciborski, Chicago 2008/2009