



2022 PSI Grant recipient Julia Koblinska
at the Book Art Museum in Łódź

CENTER FOR SLAVIC, EAST EUROPEAN AND EURASIAN STUDIES

Polish Studies Initiative

MISSION

The Polish Studies Initiative (PSI) at The Ohio State University was founded in 2012 under the umbrella of the Center for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (CSEEEES). Its mission is to advance the interdisciplinary study of Poland, to support student and faculty research and study abroad, and to organize events focused on Polish studies.

EVENTS

Organized 26 events since the initiative launched

- One per semester
- Many topics and disciplines have been represented within anthropology, the humanities and the social sciences
- Often co-sponsored with other units on campus and/or community organizations such as the Polish American Club of Columbus and the Columbus Council on World Affairs
- Held a successful online screening of *Warsaw: A City Divided* in October 2020 and Q&A with the filmmaker, Eric Bednarski

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded 15 grants to Ohio State PhD students and faculty to fund academic research, Polish language curriculum development and a residency at the University of Warsaw

- Topics include: Archaeological research in Poland, Polish popular film magazines, the life of Pola Nirenska, the Battle of Warsaw, party politics in Polish parliamentary elections, Polish literature, U.S. relief to Europe after WWI, morphology in Polish heritage speakers and cooperation between the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the Central Committee of Jews in Poland after WWII

Disbursed 37 scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students for education abroad in Poland

- Priority given to Polish language study
- An average of four scholarships are awarded to Ohio State students per year
- Scholarship recipients have participated in education abroad programs and internships in Giecz, Kraków, Łódź and Warsaw

Applications for the grant and scholarship competitions open in mid-November. For more information, email PSI coordinator Alicia Baca at baca.31@osu.edu



LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL INSTRUCTION

- CSEEEES and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures co-sponsor the instruction of Polish language courses at Ohio State by a senior lecturer.
- First- and second-year language levels are usually taught on campus.
 - Through the Big Ten Academic Alliance CourseShare program, these courses also have been made available to other Big Ten universities through distance learning.
- Students at Ohio State can take third-year Polish courses taught by Indiana University through the Big Ten Academic Alliance CourseShare program.
- Ohio State students have the opportunity to study in Poland for a week during the Global May Hungary education abroad program, usually led by a PSI faculty affiliate.

FACULTY TEACHING AND RESEARCH

- Faculty have taught several Central and Eastern European content courses, including courses on Polish film and literature.
- Two faculty members associated with PSI received Fulbright research awards to conduct work in Poland, strengthening ties between Polish institutions and Ohio State scholars, as well as advancing the level of Polish-related research at the university.
- Every year Ohio State hosts a Fulbright Slavic Scholar from Poland who teaches a class focusing on their area of expertise. Topics have included “Poland and the EU” and “The Polish Economy and Economic Policy.”
- In collaboration with the East Asian Studies Center and the Center for Historical Research, CSEEEES and PSI hired a post-doctoral scholar in 2021-22 to conduct research on Poland and teach courses in comparative East European and East Asian Studies. This postdoctoral position was funded through the Global Arts and Humanities Discovery Theme Centers and Institutes initiative.

FUTURE PLANS AND GOALS

- Increase collaborations with heritage community and national organizations
- Solidify strategic partnerships with stakeholders and other groups active in Polish studies
- Strengthen Ohio State’s Polish language program

GIVE TO PSI TODAY

Help support PSI programs! Donations help PSI continue to offer quality programs, strengthen Polish studies and enhance academic opportunities for students, including language study and internships.

To donate, you can:

- Scan the QR code



- Mail a check made out to The Ohio State University to:

Center for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies
Attention: Polish Studies Initiative
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