

Course Syllabus

Fall 2013

Subject Number		Professor	Oh, Se In
Major	International Studies	Phone Number	
Subject Name	Understanding Korean Culture and Society	E-mail	koreanliterature@gmail.com
Credit / Hours	3	Classroom	

1. Course Description

This course aims to introduce students to Korean culture and society. It explores the distinctive nature of Korean culture and society including those pertaining to the religion, family & gender, living culture (life & death), popular culture & Korean Wave, information technology & cyber culture, labor movement, democratic movement, urbanization & industrialization, authoritarianism, collectivism and etc. These elements still have an influence on everyday lives of Korean people. This course will examine these topics and issues through socio-cultural, historical and comparative perspectives. Also, recent changes will be investigated with the perspective of globalization of Korea.

2. Course Objective

The primary objective of this course is to provide an overview of Korean culture and society. Students will have comparative and balanced views on Korean culture and society.

3. Course Purpose

4. Course Features

The class is primarily based on students' active participation in class discussion. The class will be taught in English and reading materials will be in English, too. Throughout the course we will also use audio visual resources including movies and dramas. At the end of the course, 25 to 30 minutes group presentation on particular aspects of Korean culture and society is required by all students.

5. Course Type

Theory (), Theory, Practice (*), Practice ()

6. Assignments

Individual & Group Presentation

7. Grades

Attendance	10%	Group work	30%
Quiz	%	class participation	20%
Report	20%	mid-term exam	%
Discussion	20%	final-term exam	%

8. Note

9. Expectation

10. Required Text (Recommended Texts)

Reading Packet

week	Title	Content	multi-media	class room
1	Introduction	Introduction (Korea-Culture of Relation)	PPT	
2	East & West	(EBS Docu-prime East & West 1) & Discussion	Docu-film	
3	Korean People	The Anthropology of the Discourse on the Koreanness of Koreans		
4	Shamanism	Shamanism in Korea 'Between' (Documentary film on Korean shaman-Initiation & Performance)	Docu-film	
5	Buddhism 1	The Purpose of Buddhism Training in the Meditation Hall		
6	Buddhism 2	Documentary Film 'Monk BeopJeong's Chair BeopJeong's Essay 'Non-attachment'(Non-possession)	Docu-film	
7	Confucianism	Rational Rendering of Confucian Relationship in Contemporary Korea.		
8	Mid-term	Mid-term		
9	Ancestor Worship	Movie 'ChukJe'(Feast/Festival)	Movie	
10	Ancestor Worship	The Concept of Ancestors and Ancestor Worship * Group Presentation Topic and Plans		
11	Christianity	A History of Christianity in Korea Novel <i>The Shaman Painting (Muneodo)</i> * Characteristics of Korean Christianity		
12	Korean Women	The Rise of Women in Korea More Gender Equality, but Women Still Held Back		
13	Korean Music	Korean Wave(Hallyu) & Music		
14	Group Presentation	Group presentation1	PPT	
15	Group presentation	Group presentation2	PPT	
16	Group presentation	Wrap-up Discussion (What is Korean culture?)		