



Shanghai Jiao Tong University

KR380 Korean Culture and Society Studies (Online)

Instructor Information	Yihua Hong Home Institution: Suzhou University Email: yhhong@suda.edu.cn		
Term	June 28, 2021 - July 23, 2021	Credits	4 units
Course Delivery	The class will be delivered in the format of online. Other than recorded lecture videos, the instructor will arrange 2-3 hours' real-time interactions with students per week (via discussion forum, zoom meeting, Tencent Meeting, and WeChat). The workload students are expected to complete to properly pass this course is about 10-12 hours per week.		
Required Texts (with ISBN)	None.		
Prerequisite	None.		



Course Overview

This course is to provide students (who have minimal or no prior knowledge of Korea) with key features and concepts in Korean society, history, culture, politics, and economy. Taking a topical and comparative approach, we will cover the following topics and themes: (1) development of modern Korean nation and its division into North and South; (2) religious and philosophical traditions and values that are basis of the modern Korean culture; (3) Korea's relationship with its neighbors, China, Japan, Russia and the USA in terms of politics, culture and economy; (4) the economic, political, and social changes of South and North Korea in the last seven decades; (5) nation-building of North Korea, its leadership, and ideology; (6) challenges of globalization and demographic changes of the two Koreas in the post-1990s; (7) popular cultures of the two Koreas; (8) Koreans residing overseas and their relationship with their homeland; and (9) the inter-Korean relationship, unification efforts, and future of the Korean Peninsula.

Course Goals

To help understand Korean culture, society and history in a broader regional and global context, the two Koreas will be compared with China, and Japan where such comparisons are useful.

At the end of the semester, students are expected to have a solid knowledge of the key features and issues of South and North Korean society, culture, politics, economy, and international relations. In learning these issues, students would develop critical and independent thinking. Upon completing this course, they will be ready to take other higher level courses on Korea and/or Asian countries.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, it is intended that students will be able to:

- Be well-versed in the themes and topics dealt in the course in regard to the Korean culture, history, society, economy and politics.
- Describe and explain some of the important cultural norms and practices of Korea and how they are different and similar among the three Northeast Asian countries of China, Japan and Korea.
- Critically evaluate popular media views on some of the important historical, cultural and political issues of the two Koreas.

Exams

Final Exam (40%) : 2 hours' Written Test



Assessment Summary:

The final grade of the course is based on Course work (60%) and Final Examination (40%). The course work part of the grade is comprised of Assignment (10%), Research Essay (30%), Lecture participation (10%), and Tutorial participation (10%).

Grading Policy

Type	Description	Weight	Due	Length/ Required Time
Lecture Participation	Attendance	10%	Multiple Days	N/A
Tutorial Participation	2 Quizes; On-line Submission	10%	July 9, 16	200 wds each
Assignment	Home Assignment; On-line Submission	10%	July 5	500 wds
Research Essay	On-line Submission	30%	July 21, 4pm	1,500 wds
Final Exam	Written Test; On-line Submission	40%	July 23, 4pm	1.5-2 hours

Grading Scale

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4.0
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3.0
70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2.0
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1.0
≤59	F (Failure)	0



Class Schedule

Date	Lecture	Readings/Films Recommended	Online Teaching Arrangement
Day 1	Course Introduction & Two Koreas in Global and Asian context	William Elliot Griffis, 1882, <i>Less Understood Country than its Neighbours Korea, The Hermit Kingdom</i>	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 2	History of Korea: From Pre-Dynastic Period to Korean Empire(1910)	The Fortress (SK Film, 2017)	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 3	15 Fascinating Facts about South Korea & Things you need to know to survive in SK & K-Pop and Korean Wave		Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 4	Religious and philosophical traditions of Korea & Korean Culture and Values	Kim Tae-gil (1995) “Changes in Korean Value System” in the Encyclopedia of Korean Culture. AKS	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 5	Development of the Korean Identity & Modern Nation-Building	Duncan, John (1998) “Proto-nationalism in Pre-modern Korea” in Sang-Oak Lee & Duk-soo Park (eds.) Perspectives on Korea. Sydney: Wild Peony: 198-221.	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures plus 120 minutes online interaction via Zoom
Day 6	National Division & Korean War Perspectives & Two Koreas (1945-1950s)	TaeGukGi: Brotherhood of War (Sk Film, 2003); Nahm, Andrew C. 1993. "The Liberation, Partition, and Emergence of the Two Korean States, 1945-1950." In Introduction To Korean History And Culture, 213-243. Seoul: Hollym Corporation.	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 7	Economic Developments of SK and NK(1950s-1990s) : Miracle on the Han River vs. International Food aid receiver	Seth, Michael (2017) “South Korea’s Economic Development, 1948-1996” Oxford Research Encyclopedias Asian History. DOI: 10.1093/acrefore/9780190277727.013.271	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 8	Political and Social Changes in North Korea	Dear Pyongyang (Documentary by Yang Yong-hi, 2006); Lee, Jean (2017) “Soap Operas and Socialism: Dissecting Kim Jong-un’s Evolving Policy Priorities through TV Dramas in North Korea” Kore Economic Institute of America Academic Paper Series, November 2017.	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 9	Nuclear Development in North Korea & US-ROK Cooperation in Deterring North Korea’s Military Threat		Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures



Day 10	Social, Political Changes and Democratisation in South Korea (1950s-1990s)	A Taxi Driver (SK Film, 2017); Hope(SK Film, 2013); Silenced (SK Film, 2011); Nahm, Andrew C. 1993. "South Korea, Political History After 1953." In Introduction To Korean History And Culture, 281-318. Seoul: Hollym Corporation.	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures plus 120 minutes online interaction via Zoom
Day 11	Post-1990s South Korean Society (1990s-2021)	Default (SK Film by Kook-hee Choi, 2018)	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 12	Eleven Ex-Presidents of SK: What happened during their presidential terms? & Where did they go after presidency?	The Man Standing Next (SK Film, 2019); Our President (SK Film, 2017)	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 13	Gender Politics & The Metoo Movement in SK & Queer Korea	Harisu/ Man on High Heels (SK Film by Jang Jin, 2014); Kim Ji-young, Born 1982 (SK Film, 2019)	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 14	The Image of North Koreans in Contemporary South Korean films and Soap Operas	Bevan, Jake (2010) "Welcome to Panmunjeom: encounters with the north in contemporary South Korean cinema" New Cinemas Journal of Contemporary Film; Lee, Jean (2017) "Soap Operas and Socialism: Dissecting Kim Jong-un's Evolving Policy Priorities through TV Dramas in North Korea" Kore Economic Institute of America Academic Paper Series, November 2017.	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 15	A Transition from an Ethnically Homogeneous Society to a Multicultural Society: 7.5million Koreans residing Overseas and 2.5million Foreigners in South Korea	He's on Duty(방가방가) (SK Film 2010); Armstrong, Bruce (1989) "Racialisation and nationalist ideology: The Japanese case" International Sociology 4: 329-343.	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures plus 120 minutes online interaction via Zoom
Day 16	Inter-Korean Relations and Imagining the Unified Korea	Shin, G-Wook, James Freda, and Gihong Yi (1999) "The politics of ethnic nationalism in divided Korea" Nations and Nationalism 5/4: 465-484. Steel Rain2: Summit (SK Film, 2019)	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 17	Korea's Relationship with its Neighbors, China, Japan, Russia and the USA in terms of Politics, Culture and Economy	Armstrong, Charles (2014) "Korea in the World" In The Koreas (2nd edition). London & New York: Routledge.pp.1-13.	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures
Day 18	Colonial Memory in the Contemporary Korea & Issues Left Over	A Resistance (SK Film, 2019) Herstory (SK Film, 2017)	Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures



Day 19	Things that Threaten SK young people in Contemporary SK		Approximately 60 minutes pre-recorded video lectures plus 120 minutes online interaction via Zoom
Day 20	Final Exam		On-line Submission