

Current Issues in Korean Society

Course Name	Course type (credit/hours)	Required course(3/3)		Course code	X182
	Target students Division/major/grade	/		Opening semester	2019 2ND SEMESTER
	Class time and classroom	Mon B(Yul254)Thu B(Yul254)		English Grade	A(100%English)
Reference to this course	Prerequisite courses				
	Related basic courses				
	Recommended concurrent courses				
	Related advanced courses				
Instructor	Name (title/division)	Byoung-Kwan Kim (Associate Professor, Sociology)			
	Office Room Number	을곡관 421	Office phone Number	2781	e-mail
	Office hours	Mon 14:00-15:00 & Thu 13:30-15:00	Homepage address		
Teaching Assistant	Name (title/division)				
	Office Room Number		Office phone Number		e-mail

1. Introduction

This course is designed to give foreign students an introduction to contemporary Korean society, economy, industry, politics, and culture. We will begin with an overview of contemporary Korea by glancing through the basic information such as geographic setting, population, cultural traits, and historical background of Korea. The experience of rapid development, transformation and modernization of Korean society are some of the other topics that will be dealt with throughout the course.

We will then discuss the traditional value systems and modern ones. Psychological traits and behavioral patterns of contemporary Koreans will be surveyed. The kind of things you should understand in business environments in Korea will be studied as well.

Economy and industry of Korea is one of the main topics that will be dealt with in this course. Not only the current status of economy and industry but the developmental and transformative aspects of economy and industry in modern Korea will be surveyed in depth. They will be viewed in comparative perspective as well, with concrete numbers and figures.

International relations both between the South and North Korea and among the major stakeholder countries in East Asian context will be studied in the course, including the issue of reunification of two Koreas.

Contemporary social issues such as inequality and poverty, gender problem, generational gap, population aging, new positioning within the new global world order will be studied and discussed as well.

As a special module of this course, we will have a chance to look at some of the salient contemporary issues in both of the neighboring countries in East Asia, China and Japan.

Throughout the course, the perspective of future-orientation, the comparative perspective, including the context of East Asia, and the basis of empirical evidence and hard facts will be valued as significant backgrounds for proper understanding of Korean society.

In this course, the balance between commonality (similarity) and peculiarity (difference) between Korea and other societies will be pursued throughout.

Upon having taken this course, students are expected to have been exposed to the basic knowledge and information about contemporary Korean society, have acquired a balanced perspective on Korean society, and have some far-reaching overall ideas about contemporary East Asian region.

Students are encouraged to do a course project on the one issue or problem of their choice about Korean society, and if they choose to do, they will have a chance to present their research at the end of the semester in class. They will be awarded extra points for their efforts.

2. Course Objectives

3. Class types and activities

The weekly lectures in this course are to be administered mostly by the professor in charge of this course.

4. Teaching Method

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> discussion and debate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> team project(presentation and case studies) | <input type="checkbox"/> experiments(role-playing,etc) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> designing and production | <input type="checkbox"/> on-site learning(on-site training) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> others | |

5. Support Systems in Use

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AjouBb | <input type="checkbox"/> automatic recording system | <input type="checkbox"/> web-based assignment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cyber lecture | <input type="checkbox"/> online content | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> class behavior analyzing system | <input type="checkbox"/> others | |

6. Teaching Tools

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|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PBL(Problem Based Learning) | <input type="checkbox"/> CBL(Case Based Learning) | <input type="checkbox"/> TBL(Team Based Learning) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UR(Undergraduate Research) | <input type="checkbox"/> FL(Flipped Learning) | <input type="checkbox"/> DSAL(Data Science Active Learning) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> others | | |

7. Knowledge and ability required for taking this course

8. Method of Evaluation

Evaluation Item	The Number of Times	Evaluation Proportion	Remarks
Attendance		10	
midterm exam		35	
final exam		35	
quiz			
presentation			
discussion			
homework		20	
etc			
study hours			

9. Textbook and supplementary material

Main/Sub	Title (Web-site)	Writer	Publisher	Publication year
Main	Salmon, Andrew. Modern Korea. London: John Murray Learning. 2014.			
Main	Kim, Kyung-dong and Korea Herald (eds.), Social Change in Korea. Seoul: Jimoondang. 2008.			
Ref.	Reading materials and statistical reports will be posted on e-class.			

10. Class system and Class shedule

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< Class Schedule >

* language : K-korean, E-English

Weeks	Topics	language	Instructor	Teaching Method	Evaluation Method	Matter to be prepared
1	Introduction: Course info and introduction	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
2	Geography, Population, History, Economic and Political Institutions	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
3	Legacy of Traditional culture	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
4	Cultural Codes and Behavioral Patterns of Koreans	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
5	How to do business in Korea	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
6	Economy and Industry I	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
7	Economy and Industry II	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
8	Mid-term Exam Week	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
9	Economy and Industry III	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
10	Domestic Politics and Int'l Relations I	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
11	Domestic Politics and Int'l Relations II	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
12	Social Issues in Korea I	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
13	Social Issues in Korea II	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
14	Popular Culture in Korea	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
15	What next for Korea? Students' Presentation and Discussion Session	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			
16	Final Exam Week	E	Byoung-Kwan Kim			

11. Other items of notification

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