

Current Issues in Korean Society

Course Name	Course type (credit/hours)		교필(3/3)		Course code	X081
	Target students Division/major/grade		/		Opening semester	2017 1ST SEMESTER
	Class time and classroom		Mon C(Yu1254) Wed C(Yu1254)		English Grade	A(100%English)
Reference to this course	Prerequisite courses					
	Related basic courses					
	Recommanded concurrent courses					
	Related advanced courses					

Instructor	Name (title/division)		Byoung-Kwan Kim (Professor/Sociology)			
	Office Room Number	Yulgok #421	Office phone Number	2781	e-mail	
	Office hours	Mon, Wed 14:00-16:00		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 on 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 saliently dealt with in this class.

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 formative aspects of economy and industry in modern Korea will be surveyed in depth. They will be surveyed in comparative perspective as well, with concrete statistics 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.

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 society will be sought 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 term 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

This course is designed to give foreign students an introduction on 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 saliently dealt with in this class.

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3. Class types and activities

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4. Teaching Method

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> discussion and debate
<input checked="" 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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> e-class	<input type="checkbox"/> automatic recording system	<input type="checkbox"/> web-based assignment
<input type="checkbox"/> cyber lecture	<input type="checkbox"/> blended learning(combination of online and offline teaching)	
<input type="checkbox"/> class behavior analyzing system	<input type="checkbox"/> others	

6. Teaching Tools

<input type="checkbox"/> PBL(Problem Based Learning)	<input type="checkbox"/> CBL(Case Based Learning)
<input type="checkbox"/> TBL(Team Based 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	1	20	
final exam	1	40	
quiz			
presentation		+10	

8. Method of Evaluation

Evaluation Item	The Number of Times	Evaluation Proportion	Remarks
discussion			
homework	1	30	
etc			
study hours			

9. Textbook and supplementary material

Main/Sub	Title (Web-site)	Writer	Publisher	Publication year
Ref.	Salmon, Andrew. Modern Korea. London: John Murray Learning. 2014.			
Ref.	Kim, Young Hoon. Understanding Everyday Life in Korea. Seoul: Jimoondang. 2015.			
Ref.	Kim, Hyuk-Rae and Song, Bok (eds.). Modern Korean Society: Its Development and Prospect. Berkeley: University of California Press. 2007.			
Ref.	Kim, Kyung-dong and Korea Herald (eds.), Social Change in Korea. Seoul: Jimoondang. 2008.			

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	김병관			
2	Introduction: Basic information for understanding Korean Society Geography, Population, History, Economic and Political situation, Society and Culture at a glance	E	김병관			

< Class Schedule >

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Weeks	Topics	language	Instructor	Teaching Method	Evaluation Method	Matter to be prepared
3	Introduction: Basic information for understanding Korean Society Geography, Population, History, Economic and Political situation, Society and Culture at a glance	E	김병관			
4	Legacy of Traditional Culture in Modern Korea	E	김병관			
5	Cultural Codes and Behavioral Patterns of People in Modern Korea How to do business in Korea	E	김병관			
6	Economy and Industry I	E	김병관			
7	Economy and Industry II	E	김병관			
8	Mid-term Exam Week	E	김병관			
9	Economy and Industry III	E	김병관			
10	Domestic Politics in Korea	E	김병관			
11	International Relations of Korea Geopolitical situations around Korean peninsula Prospects of Unification for two Koreas	E	김병관			
12	Social Issues in Korea I Gender Poverty and Inequality Labor relations Development of Civil Society in Korea	E	김병관			
13	Social Issues in Korea II Education in Korea Crimes and other social issues Popular Culture in Korea	E	김병관			
14	Social Issues in Korea III Wrap up: What's next for Korea?	E	김병관			
15	Students' Presentation and Discussion Session	E	김병관			
16	Final Exam Week	E	김병관			

11. Other items of notification

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