

Syllabus (2024-Summer)

Course Title	Korean History and Culture	Course No.	
Credit	3 credits	Hours	45 Hours
Class Time Classroom	Monday to Thursday Classroom TBA		
Instructor	Name Heather Willoughby	Department Graduate School of International Studies	
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Office Hours Office Location	By appointment. Classroom or IEB 907		

I. Course Overview

1. Course Description

Although this course is centered on Korean history, we will *not* discuss the topic in a chronological manner, but rather will investigate Korean culture *through* historical artifacts and creations. In order to try to better understand not only Korea's past, but also the ways in Koreans' and non-Koreans' perceive, preserve, imagine and write about Korea, each class period will be dedicated to the study of one tangible or intangible cultural product as designate by Korea's Cultural Heritage Preservation Act and UNESCO.

2. Prerequisites

No previous knowledge of Korean history of UNESCO World Heritages is necessary, only a keen interest in the subject.

3. Course Format

Lecture	Discussion/Presentations	Experiment/Practicum	Off-campus Field Trips	Other
30%	40%	%	30%	%

* Each week we will have three on-campus class lectures, including student presentations based on the reading materials, which cover one Cultural Heritage and a topic related to Korean history. The fourth class will be an off-campus visit to a UNESCO World Heritage site. One off-campus event will require attending a concert that will most likely take place on a Saturday afternoon.

* Two events will require purchasing a ticket (Concert: 10,000-20,000 won. Changdeok Palace: 3,000-5,000 won.)

4. Course Objectives

The intent of this course is to comprehend the history and details of specific artifacts and performances. More importantly, we will investigate their historical and cultural significance and by extension, how they came to be chosen as World Cultural Heritages representing Korea, since such questions require us to probe politics, history, culture and societies – not only of Korea, but beyond its borders as well.

5. Evaluation Systems

Relative evaluation Absolute evaluation (for Ewha International Summer College students only) Others

Midterm Exam	Final Exam	Quizzes	Presentation	Projects	Assignments	Participation	Others
%	%	%	50%	%	30%	20%	%

*** Students will be required to give two presentations (either individually or in small groups, depending on class size)**

- Each week students will give a presentation regarding the week's World Heritage property/site. Presentations should be approximately 30 minutes in length. It should be engaging and interactive, cover the history, physical properties, use and significance of the property/site. Also, answer the questions: Why is this site of importance to Korea? And in particular, why is this site of significance to the world? (In other words, why was it designated as a world heritage property/site?)
- Nominate a new tangible or intangible property or site for designation as a Korean World Heritage. Presentation. This will not be a typical presentation. Rather, you must prepare a compelling presentation for the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Tangible/Intangible Cultural Heritage (in this case, your colleagues), to convince them of why your chosen property/site should be selected as a UNESCO World Heritage. There is specific information you must include in your presentation, which is contained in the Nomination Form that will distributed and discussed in class.

II. Course Materials and Additional Readings

1. Required Materials

All students must purchase the following books, which will be made available at the on-campus bookstore:

Required:

The Center for Information on Korean Culture. 2006. **"Exploring Korean History through World Heritage."** Seoul: Hollym.

Kim, Young Hoon. 2013. *"From Dolmen Tombs to Heaven's Gate."* Seoul: Jimoondang.

2. Supplementary Materials

Reading will be taken from the following monographs and articles (listed separately in course schedule below). All reading will be made available for purchase from Copy Plus. (Details provided during the first class period on July 1.)

Deuchler, Martina. 1992. *The Confucian Transformation of Korea: A Study of Society and Ideology.* Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Kim-Renaud, Yong-Key, ed. 2004. *Creative Women of Korea.* Armonk, NY: East Gate Book/M.E. Sharpe.

Kusan Sunim. 1985. *The Way of Korean Zen* Boston: Weatherhill.

Laing, Jennifer and Warwick Frost, ed. 2015. *Rituals and Traditional Events in the Modern World.* London: Routledge.

Pratt, Keith. 2006 *Everlasting Flower: A History of Korea.* London: Reaktion Books.

The Korean Buddhist Research Institute, ed. 1993. *The History and Culture of Buddhism in Korea.* Seoul: Dongguk University Press.

Pai, Hyung Il and Timothy Tangherlini. 1998. *Nationalism and the Construction of Korean Identity.* Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies, University of California, Korean Research Monograph 26, 1998.

Seth, Michael J. 2006. *A Concise History of Korea.* Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

Strong, John S. 1995. *The Experience of Buddhism Sources and Interpretations.* Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company.

III. Course Schedule

* Subject to change depending on class size.

* When there are three readings, they will be divided among students

Day	Date	Topics & Class Materials, Assignments
Day 1	(7/1)	Introduction UNESCO World Heritage Sites Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritages
Day 2	(7/2)	Dolmen Sites (고창 / 화순 / 강화 지식묘군) (1) Kim: 89-102 The Founding of Korea (2) Grayson, James H. 1997. "The Myth of Tan'gun: A Dramatic Structural Analysis of a Korean Foundation Myth." <i>Korea Journal</i> Spring: 35-52.
Day 3	(7/3)	Haeinsa (Temple) and the Tripitaka Koreana Woodblocks (해인사와 팔만 대장경) 1) Kim: 73-88 Religious Influence in Korea (2) Strong, John S. 1995. "The Story of the Buddha and Its Ramifications." In <i>The Experience of Buddhism</i> . Pp. 3-44. (3) Korean Buddhist Research Institute. 1993. "Buddhism from India to Korea." In <i>The History and Culture of Buddhism in Korea</i> . Pp. 21-34.
Day 4	(7/4)	Visit to Bongwon or other Buddhist Temple in Seoul
Day 5	(7/8)	Gyeongju Historical Sites (경주 역사유적 지구) (1) Kim: 103-120 "Koreanness": Emic and Etic Perspectives (Who Decides what it Means to be Korean?) (2) Palais, James B. 1995. "A Search for Korean Uniqueness." <i>Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies</i> 55(2):409-425.
Day 6	(7/9)	Hwaseong Fortress (화성) (1) Kim: 53-72 Lives of Women in the Joseon Era (Part I) (2) Yi, Sŏng-mi. 2004. "Sin Saimdang: The Foremost Woman Painter of the Chosŏn Dynasty." In <i>Creative Women of Korea</i> . Pp. 58-77. (3) Kevin O'Rourke: "Demythologizing Hwang Chini." In <i>Creative Women of Korea</i> . Pp. 96-121.
Day 7	(7/10)	Jongmyo Shrine (1) Kim: 9-30 Confucianism in Korea and Family Rites & Relations (2) Deuchler, Martina. 1992. "Introduction." In <i>The Confucian Transformation of Korea: A Study of Society and Ideology</i> . Pp. 3-27.

Day 8	(7/11)	Visit to Jongmyo Shrine
Day 9	(7/15)	<p><u>Gangneung Dano Festival</u> (강릉 단오제) (1) Exploring Korean History through World Heritages: 120-130; 132-142</p> <p>Cultural Heritage, Festivals, and Religion (2) Lee, Sunny and Aise Kim. 2015. "Re-creation of traditional ritual into festival: The Case of the Kangnung Danoje Festival in South Korea." In <i>Rituals and Traditional Events in the Modern World</i>.</p>
Day 10	(7/16)	<p><u>Pansori</u> (판소리) (1) Exploring Korean History through World Heritages: 120-130</p> <p>The Wonders of P'ansori! (2) Cho, Tong-il. 1986. "The General Nature of P'ansori" in <i>Korea Journal</i> 26(4):10-22. (3) Willoughby, Heather A. 2000. "The Sound of <i>Han: P'ansori</i>, Timbre, and a Korean Ethos of Pain and Suffering." <i>Yearbook for Traditional Music</i> 32:17-30.</p>
Day 11	(7/17)	<p>Attend a p'ansori concert. (Date and time to be announced later.) * Requires purchasing a ticket</p>
Day 12	(7/18)	<p><u>Changdeok Palace Complex</u> (창덕궁) (1) Kim: 31-52</p> <p>Lives of Women in the Joseon Era (Part II) (2) Kim Haboush, Ja Hyun. 2004. "Private Memory and Public History: The Memoirs of Lady Hyegyŏng and Testimonial Literature." In <i>Creative Women of Korea</i>. Pp. 122-141.</p>
Day 13	(7/22)	Korean Heritage Nomination Presentations
Day 14	(7/23)	<p>Visit to Changdeok Palace *Requires purchasing an entrance ticket</p>
Day 15	(7/24)	Korean Heritage Nomination Presentations
Makeup Classes 1	(mm/dd)	
Makeup Classes 2	(mm/dd)	

IV. Special Accommodations

* According to the University regulation section #57-3, students with disabilities can request for special accommodations related to attendance, lectures, assignments, or tests by contacting the course professor at the beginning of semester. Based on the nature of the students' request, students can receive support for such accommodations from the course professor or from the Support Center for Students with Disabilities (SCSD). Please refer to the below examples of the types of support available in the lectures, assignments, and evaluations.

Lecture	Assignments	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Visual impairment: braille, enlarged reading materials . Hearing impairment: note-taking assistant . Physical impairment : access to classroom, note-taking assistant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra days for submission, alternative assignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Visual impairment: braille examination paper, examination with voice support, longer examination hours, note-taking assistant . Hearing impairment: written examination instead of oral examination . Physical impairment: longer examination hours, note-taking assistant

- Actual support may vary depending on the course.

* The contents of this syllabus are not final—they may be updated.