

INTRODUCTION TO KOREAN CIVILIZATION

History 098 (cross-listed as EALC 080)

--Spring 2015--

This gateway course surveys the history of Korea from early times to the present. We will study the establishment of various sociopolitical orders and their characteristics alongside major cultural developments. Covered topics include: state formation and dissolution; the role of ideology and how it changes; religious beliefs and values; agriculture, commerce, and industry; changing family relations; responses to Western imperialism; and Korea's increasing presence in the modern world as well as its future prospects. Students will also be introduced to various interpretive approaches in the historiography. No prior knowledge of Korea or Korean language is presumed. The course fulfills the College's History & Tradition Sector and Cross Cultural Analysis requirements. For the History major and minor, this course counts towards pre-1800 requirement.

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Teaching assistant: TBA

Lectures: Mondays and Wednesdays, 11–11:50 am, location TBA

Recitation sections: Thursdays, 4:30–5:20 pm, location TBA
Fridays, 11–11:50 am, location TBA
Fridays, 12–12:50 pm, location TBA

Requirements: Map quiz (5%)
Midterm examination (30%)
Paper on an assigned topic, 5–7 pages (20%)
Final examination (30%)
Discussion participation (10%)
Attendance (5%)

Readings:

Armstrong, Charles K. *The Koreas*. Second edition. New York: Routledge, 2014. Optional.

Choe, Yong-ho, Peter H. Lee, and Wm. Theodore de Bary, eds. *Sources of Korean Tradition*. Vol. 2: *From the Sixteenth to the Twentieth Centuries*. New York: Columbia University Press,

2000. Required.

Lee, Peter H., and Wm. Theodore de Bary, eds. *Sources of Korean Tradition*, Vol. 1: *From Early Times through the Sixteenth Century*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1996. Available at Rosengarten Reserve. Required.

Academic journal articles: distributed through Penn+Box <<https://upenn.app.box.com/login>>. Required.

Absences, missed exams, and late submissions will be penalized, unless based on medical, religious, or family emergency-related reasons with documentation.

Academic dishonesty is not tolerated. Cheating, forgery, dishonest conduct, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the university's educational, research, and social roles. In line with university regulations, course instructor reserves the right to discipline any student found guilty of inappropriate conduct.

All marks are final, barring any calculation error. Absolutely no re-grading or re-reading, even when requested on the ground that the student wants to know what (s)he could have done better or needs a certain grade to graduate. After the pre-announced class time during which the student can review the graded material, the instructor will collect it in order to minimize the risk of graded course material circulating outside the class. A student absent during the in-class review will have one week to examine the graded material at another time in the instructor's presence.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week 1 (1/14): Introduction

Week 2 (1/21; no class on 1/19): Origins of Korean Civilization

Han-Jun Jin, Chris Tyler-Smith, and Wook Kim, "The Peopling of Korea Revealed by Analyses of Mitochondrial DNA and Y-Chromosomal Markers," *PLoS ONE* 4.1 (2009): pp. 1–10, focus on overall reasoning and major findings.

Week 3 (1/26, 1/28): Early Times to ca. 300

Lee et al., eds., *Sources of Korean Tradition*, Vol. 1 (hereafter *SKT* 1):
"Accounts of the Eastern Barbarians," pp. 7–13.

Noh Tae-don, "Current Issues and Problems in the Study of Old Chosŏn," *Seoul Journal of Korean Studies* 1 (1988): 127–36.

J. Russell Kirkland, "The 'Horseriders' in Korea: A Critical Evaluation of a Historical Theory," *Korean Studies* 5 (1981): 109–28.

*Map quiz, Wednesday, 1/28.

Week 4 (2/2, 2/4): The Classical Era, ca. 300–ca. 850

SKT 1:

“Chajang Establishes the Monk’s Discipline,” pp. 46–48.

“Kangsu,” pp. 67–69.

William Wayne Farris, “Ancient Japan’s Korean Connection,” *Korean Studies* 20 (1996): 1–22.

Song Ki-Ho, “Several Questions in Historical Studies of Balhae,” *Korea Journal* 30.6 (June 1990): 4–20.

Week 5 (2/9, 2/11): The Early Medieval Period, 850–1170

SKT 1:

“Memorial on Relations with Sung,” pp. 175–76.

“Hsü Ching: The Life of the People,” pp. 186–87.

John B. Duncan, “The Formation of the Central Aristocracy in Early Koryŏ,” *Korean Studies* 12 (1988): 39–61.

Remco E. Breuker, “Koryŏ as an Independent Realm: The Emperor’s Clothes?” *Korean Studies* 27 (2003): 48–84.

Week 6 (2/16, 2/18): The Late Medieval Period, 1170–1392

*Midterm examination, Wednesday, 2/18.

Week 7 (2/23, 2/25): Establishment of the Chosŏn Dynasty, 1392–1637

SKT 1:

“King Sejong: Preface to *Hunmin chŏngŭm*,” p. 295

“Ch’oe Malli: Opposition to the Korean Alphabet,” p. 296.

John B. Duncan, “The Social Background to the Founding of the Chosŏn Dynasty: Change or Continuity?” *The Journal of Korean Studies* 6 (1988-89): 39–79.

Yi Tae-Jin, “The Influence of Neo-Confucianism on 14th-16th Century Korean Population Growth,” *Korea Journal* 37.2 (Summer 1997): 5–23.

Week 8 (3/2, 3/4): The Late Chosŏn Renovation, 1637–1800

Ch’oe et al., eds., *Sources of Korean Tradition*, Vol. 2 (hereafter SKT 2):

“Chŏng Yagyong: False Forms of Confucian Scholarship,” pp. 23–26.

“King Yŏngjo: Eliminating Factionalism,” pp. 30–33.

Ronald P. Toby, “Carnival of the Aliens: Korean Embassies in Edo-Period Art and Popular Culture,” *Monumenta Nipponica* 41.4 (Winter 1986): 415–56.

Soo-chang Oh, “Economic Growth in P’yŏngan Province and the Development of Pyongyang in the Late Chosŏn Period,” *Korean Studies* 30 (2006): 3–22.

Spring term break (3/7–3/15)

Week 9 (3/16, 3/18): Meeting Challenges from Within and Without, 1800–1897

Charles K. Armstrong, *The Koreas*, pp. 1–13. Optional.

SKT 2:

“Yi Hangno: Sinify the Western Barbarians,” pp. 140–42.

“Yu Kilchun: Levels of Enlightenment,” pp. 248–53.

Yi Tae-jin, “The Nature of Seoul’s Modern Urban Development During the 18th and

19th Centuries," *Korea Journal* 35.3 (Autumn 1995): 5–30.

Gordon H. Chang, "Whose 'Barbarism'? Whose 'Treachery'? Race and Civilization in the Unknown United States-Korea War of 1871," *Journal of American History* 89.4 (March 2003): 1331–65.

Week 10 (3/23, 3/25): The Korean Empire, 1897–1910

SKT 2:

"Chu Sigyŏng: Essay on the Korean Language," pp. 280–81.

"Yi Sangjae and Others: Memorial on National Salvation," pp. 283–85.

Susie Jie Young Kim, "What (Not) to Wear: Refashioning Civilization in Print Media in Turn-of-the-Century Korea," *Positions: East Asia Cultures Critique* 15.3 (Winter 2007): 609–36.

Vladimir Tikhonov, "Masculinizing the Nation: Gender Ideologies in Traditional Korea and in the 1890s–1900s Korean Enlightenment Discourse," *Journal of Asian Studies* 66.4 (November 2007): 1029–65.

Week 11 (3/30, 4/1): The Japanese Colonial Rule, 1910–1945

SKT 2: "Son Pyŏnghŭi and Others: Declaration of Independence," pp. 336–39.

"Mun Ilp'yŏng: New Challenges for a Nation with Old Culture," pp. 319–20.

Mitsuhiko Kimura, "The Economics of Japanese Imperialism in Korea, 1910–1939," *Economic History Review*, New Series, 48.3 (August 1995): 555–74.

Pyong Gap Min, "Korean 'Comfort Women': The Intersection of Colonial Power, Gender, and Class," *Gender and Society* 17.6 (December 2003): 938–57.

*Paper due at the beginning of the class, Wednesday, 4/1.

Week 12 (4/6, 4/8): Rival New Regimes, the Korean War, and the Postwar Economic Development, 1945–1988

Armstrong, *The Koreas*, pp. 14–61. Optional.

SKT 2:

"The Constitution of the Republic of Korea, 1948," pp. 382–84.

"DPRK's Old Socialist Constitution" (issued around 1950), Articles 1–38.

Charles K. Armstrong, "The Cultural Cold War in Korea, 1945–1950," *Journal of Asian Studies* 62.1 (February 2003): 71–99.

Nicholas Eberstadt, "Disparities in Socioeconomic Development in Divided Korea: Indications and Implications," *Asian Survey* 40.6 (November-December 2000): 867–93.

Week 13 (4/13, 4/15): Postwar Politics, 1953–1988

Armstrong, *The Koreas*, pp. 88–99. Optional.

SKT 2:

"Ham Sŏkhŏn: The Meaning of Suffering," pp. 412–16.

"Kim Il-sŏng: 'On Eliminating Dogmatism and Formalism and Establishing Juche [*Chuch'e*] in Ideological Work," pp. 420–25.

Lim Chae-Hong, "The National Security Law and Anticommunist Ideology in Korean Society," *Korea Journal* 46.3 (Autumn 2006): 80–102.

Mitchell B. Lerner, "A Dangerous Miscalculation: New Evidence from Communist-

Bloc Archives about North Korea and the Crisis of 1968," *Journal of Cold War Studies* 6.1 (Winter 2004): 3–21.

Week 14 (4/20, 4/22): Contemporary Korea since 1988

Armstrong, *The Koreas*, pp. 62–87, 99–110. Optional.

Hagen Koo, "The Changing Faces of Inequality in South Korea in the Age of Globalization," *Korean Studies* 31 (2007): 1–18.

Kyung Ae Park, "Women and Revolution in North Korea," in *Pacific Affairs* 65.4 (1992–93), pp. 527–45.

Week 15 (4/27, 4/29): The Future

Armstrong, *The Koreas*, pp. 111–14. Optional.

Hong Sun-ha, "Hiddink is Hŭi Tonggu: Korean Nationality and the Global 'Other' at the 2002 World Cup," *Seoul Journal of Korean Studies* 24.2 (December 2011): 321–45.

David C. Kang, "Hierarchy, Balancing, and Empirical Puzzles in Asian International Relations," *International Security* 28.3 (Winter 2003/2004): 165–80.

*Final examination, time, date, and location TBA.