

Syllabus (2024-Winter)

Course Title	Special Topics in Contemporary Korean Culture	Course No.	
Credit	2 credits	Hours	30 Hours
Class Time Classroom	Mon to Fri Classroom TBA		
Instructor	Name: Hwajung Kim	Department: Graduate School of International Studies	
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Office Hours Office Location	by appointment (International Education Building #1104)		

I. Course Overview

1. Course Description

As Hallyu (Korean Wave) is an unprecedented phenomenon relating to the global popularity of non-Western cultural products, the topic of contemporary issues in Korean culture is emerging as a subject for research students to understand why and how non-Western culture can succeed in the 21st century vis-à-vis the predominant global cultural influence of the US since the 20th century, while the gap between Western and non-Western culture has widened in recent years. By looking at various cultural dimensions, the course aims to enhance students' overall understanding of contemporary Korea.

2. Prerequisites

None

3. Course Format

Lecture	Discussion/Presentation	Assignments	Activities	Other
70%	15%	10%	5%	-

4. Course Objectives

Same as course description

5. Evaluation Systems

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

Midterm	Final	Quizzes	Presentation	Projects	Assignments	Participation	Others
30%	30%	-	10%	-	10%	20%	-

II. Course Materials and Additional Readings

1. Required Materials

Kim, Youna, ed. 2017. *Routledge Handbook of Korean Culture and Society*. New York: Routledge.

2. Supplementary Materials

To be uploaded to Cyber Campus

3. Optional Additional Readings

To be uploaded to Cyber Campus

III. Course Schedule

Day	Date	Topics & Class Materials, Assignments
Day 1	(12/26)	Introduction of the Course: Contemporary Issues in Korean Culture General Introductions: 1) why focus on contemporary issues in Korean culture, 2) expectations and responsibilities, 3) class design, 4) student obligations
Day 2	(12/27)	Socio-Economic Changes in South Korea Topics: 1) demographics (population, labor force composition), 2) employment trends, 3) migration and foreign employment, , 4) poverty situation, 5) human development
Day 3	(12/30)	The Characteristics of South Korea's Transformation Topics: 1) globalization, 2) the development of middle class, 3) democratic transition in Korea (globalization, transnational communication)
Day 4	(12/31)	South Korean Youth and Family Topics: 1) the role of youth in transformation, 2) changes in the family of orientation
Day 5	(1/2)	The Emergence of Digital Korea Topics: 1) understanding digitalization, 2) transnationalism, 3) hybridity
Day 6	(1/3)	Cultural Identity of Contemporary Korea Topics: 1) culture and identity formation, 2) what defines contemporary Korea
Day 7	(1/6)	South Korea's Cultural Policy and Diplomacy Topics: 1) national policies, 2) foreign affairs, 3) economic development of K-culture content industry (K-pop, dramas, films, e-sports, webtoons, etc.)
Day 8	(1/7)	K-Movie: Parasite Watch movie (trailers) and discuss
Day 9	(1/8)	K-Pop: BTS and its Transnational Cultural Power Watch BTS performance and discuss
Day 10	(1/9)	K-Drama: K-Dramas Meet Netflix Watch one of the distinctive K-dramas on Netflix
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.