

# Syllabus (2024-Winter)

Course Title	North Korea: The Most Secretive Country	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

This course aims to enhance students' overall understanding of contemporary North Korea by exploring the country through various perspectives: the political structure, the economic system, foreign relations, society, and culture. North Korea, regardless of preconceived images as a rogue state or impossible state, has sustained its sovereign state status for over 70 years. What makes its overhaul and survival possible while other socialists collapse? This course will provide students with a close investigation of the existing system of contemporary North Korea and further understandings of the geopolitics in the Northeast region.

### 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

Buzo, Adrian, ed. 2021. *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary North Korea*. 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
<b>Day 1</b>	(12/26)	<b>Introduction of the Course: Contemporary North Korea</b> General Introductions: 1) why focus on contemporary North Korea, 2) expectations and responsibilities, 3) class design
<b>Day 2</b>	(12/27)	<b>Foundation and Development of North Korea</b> Topics: 1) political system, 2) political ideology, 3) deification of leaders
<b>Day 3</b>	(12/30)	<b>The MZ Generation in North Korea</b> Topics: 1) <i>Jangmadang</i> generation, 2) challenges and opportunities
<b>Day 4</b>	(12/31)	<b>Transformation of North Korean Economy</b> Topics: 1) economic planning system, 2) structural transformation
<b>Day 5</b>	(1/2)	<b>State Survival or Cooperation?</b> Topics: 1) globalization, 2) liberal economy, 3) state survival
<b>Day 6</b>	(1/3)	<b>North Korea's Nuclear Diplomacy</b> Topics: 1) North Korean foreign policy, 2) nuclear weapons
<b>Day 7</b>	(1/6)	<b>Sino-North Korean Relations</b> Topics: 1) authoritarian regimes, 2) the influence of China
<b>Day 8</b>	(1/7)	<b>Russia-North Korea Relations</b> Topics: 1) diplomatic ties, 2) the socialist block
<b>Day 9</b>	(1/8)	<b>Cultural Policy and Practice</b> Topics: 1) politicization of culture, 2) cultural products, 3) cultural actors
<b>Day 10</b>	(1/9)	<b>North Korea's Popular Culture</b> Topics: 1) the influence of South Korea's cultural wave, 2) capitalist culture
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"> <li>. Visual impairment: braille, enlarged reading materials</li> <li>. Hearing impairment: note-taking assistant</li> <li>. Physical impairment : access to classroom, note-taking assistant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extra days for submission, alternative assignments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Visual impairment: braille examination paper, examination with voice support, longer examination hours, note-taking assistant</li> <li>. Hearing impairment: written examination instead of oral examination</li> <li>. Physical impairment: longer examination hours, note-taking assistant</li> </ul>

-Actual support may vary depending on the course.

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