

Religions of Asia (Spring 2021)

Course Title	Religions of Asia	Course No.	35719
Department / Major	School of Humanities / Christian Studies	Credit/Hours	3/3
Class Time/ Classroom	Tue 03:30-04:45 p.m. Thu 12:30-01:45 p.m. / Posco 555 X Zoom		
Instructor	Name: Myung-Sahm Suh	Christian Studies	
	Email: mssuh@ewha.ac.kr	Tel: 02-3277-4161	
Office Hours / Office Location	TBA / Inmun-gwan 407		

I. Course Overview

1. Course Description

This course addresses topics and themes that are relevant to understanding the nexus between religion, politics, and society in modern Asia. Students will not only learn about the (broadly conceived) religious phenomena in Asian contexts but also familiarize themselves with the academic studies of religion. In doing so, they will develop critical understandings of issues of our world such as politicization of religion, modern state-building, religiously inspired violence, and the Christian missionary legacy in the postcolonial context.

2. Prerequisites

None

3. Course Format

Lecture	Discussion	Field Study	Other
60%	30%	5%	5%

4. Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- (a) Identify key topics and themes related to Asian religions
- (b) Become familiar with academic studies of religion
- (c) Develop an ability to engage in critical reading and analysis of texts

5. Evaluation System

Midterm Paper	Final Paper	Attendance	Participation
40%	40%	10%	10%

Class Policy

- Please do not record lectures and discussions without prior consent.
- Be civil and open-minded when encountering opinions different from your own. Be prepared to engage in free exchange of ideas without being hostile to the instructor or other students.

II. Course Materials & Additional Readings (*All readings will be available via Cyber Campus)

Cannell, Fenella. *Power & Intimacy in the Christian Philippines*. Cambridge Univ. Press, 1999.
 Chen, Kuan-Hsing. *Asia as Method: Toward Deimperialization*. Duke University Press, 2010.
 Josephson, Jason Ananda. *The Invention of Religion in Japan*. University of Chicago Press, 2012.

Kwon, Heonik. *Ghosts of War in Vietnam*. Cambridge University Press, 2008.
 Nussbaum, Martha. *The Clash Within: Democracy, Religious Violence, and India's Future*. Harvard University Press, 2009.

III. Course Schedule (* **The following schedule is subject to change depending on the progress of the class**)

Week	Date	Topics & Class Assignments
Week 01	03/02	Course Intro
	03/04	Asia & Asian Studies-I Chen, <i>Asia as Method</i>
Week 02	03/09	Asia & Asian Studies-II Chen, <i>Asia as Method</i>
	03/11	Asia & Asian Studies-III Chen, <i>Asia as Method</i>
Week 03	03/16	Asia & Asian Studies-IV Chen, <i>Asia as Method</i>
	03/18	Asia & Asian Studies-V Chen, <i>Asia as Method</i>
Week 04	03/23	Religion & Colonialism in Asia-I Josephson, <i>The Invention of Religion in Japan</i>
	03/25	Religion & Colonialism in Asia -II Josephson, <i>The Invention of Religion in Japan</i>
Week 05	03/30	Religion & Colonialism in Asia -III Josephson, <i>The Invention of Religion in Japan</i>
	04/01	Religion & Colonialism in Asia -IV Josephson, <i>The Invention of Religion in Japan</i>
Week 06	04/06	Religion & Colonialism in Asia -V Josephson, <i>The Invention of Religion in Japan</i>
	04/08	War & Ghosts-I Kwon, <i>Ghosts of War in Vietnam</i>
Week 07	04/13	War & Ghosts-II Kwon, <i>Ghosts of War in Vietnam</i>
	04/15	War & Ghosts-III Kwon, <i>Ghosts of War in Vietnam</i>
Week 08	04/20	Q&A Session
	04/22	Midterm Break
Week 09	04/27	War & Ghosts-IV Kwon, <i>Ghosts of War in Vietnam</i>
	04/29	War & Ghosts-V Kwon, <i>Ghosts of War in Vietnam</i>
Week 10	05/04	Christianity in the Postcolonial Context-I Cannell, Power & Intimacy
	05/06	Christianity in the Postcolonial Context-II Cannell, Power & Intimacy
Week 11	05/11	Christianity in the Postcolonial Context-III Cannell, Power & Intimacy
	05/13	Christianity in the Postcolonial Context-IV Cannell, Power & Intimacy
Week 12	05/18	Christianity in the Postcolonial Context-V Cannell, Power & Intimacy
	05/20	Religion & Violence-I Nussbaum, <i>The Clash Within</i>

Week 13	05/25	Religion & Violence-II Nussbaum, <i>The Clash Within</i>
	05/27	Religion & Violence-III Nussbaum, <i>The Clash Within</i>
Week 14	06/01	Religion & Violence-IV Nussbaum, <i>The Clash Within</i>
	06/03	Religion & Violence-V Nussbaum, <i>The Clash Within</i>
Week 15	06/08	Q&A Session
	06/10	* Final Paper Due (Please submit papers in hard copy)

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 . 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 revised & updated as needed.**