

# **Course Syllabus (Spring 2021)**

Comparative Study in Korean & Asian History (35715-01)

**TUE5**(14:00-15:15), **TH6**(15:30-16:45) / Online

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**Office Hours:** By email appointment

## **Course Description:**

This course is intended to explore the interconnected aspects of East Asian premodern history through crucial topics and issues. History of the East Asian countries – Korea, China and Japan – has been intertwined with one another politically, socially and culturally, and the close connection continues even today. From this perspective, this course will focus on international relations of East Asian states and cultural exchanges of the various ideologies, religions, knowledge, goods and people among them in the premodern period. Students are expected to understand what makes East Asia and how East Asian states have interacted with each other focusing on how Korea has found its way for survival and prosperity in the course of history.

To understand the historical background, an overview of the international relations and East Asian regional order in terms of its changes and collapse, and concrete examples of the cultural exchanges will be examined. In particular, students are encouraged to read various primary sources and participate in class discussion.

## **Course Format:**

Lecture (70%) & Discussion (30%)

Lecture will be the main component of this course, and discussion on class topics or reading materials is also required.

## **Course Management:**

Regarding COVID-19, this course will be conducted as online learning for the spring

semester. Class will be conducted as the **mixed format of a live lesson and pre-recorded lecture videos per week**. For every pre-recorded lecture video, there will be a **discussion section where students can engage with the material**. Class format will be finalized at the end of the registration period, and more detailed instruction will be posted on the cyber campus.

Classes in the 1st week of the semester will be provided as pre-recorded videos on the cyber campus.

### **Evaluation:**

[Absolute evaluation]

Midterm Exam	Final Exam	Assignment	Participation
25%	30%	25%	20%

### **1. Midterm & Final Exam**

The examination will consist of short answer and essay questions.

### **2. Assignment**

Students are expected to submit 5 to 7 page-long research paper. Cover, table of contents, and reference pages are not included in page count. **The 1<sup>st</sup> draft** is a proposal which includes research topic, purpose of the research, structure and reference sources, and should not exceed 2 pages. **Final paper** is **due June 3**. Late submission will not be accepted.

Recommended topics are Mongol Empire and East Asia, lives of East Asian women, Imjin War, and East Asia's encounter with the West, etc. These are broad topics that you can explore, but **the actual topics for your paper should be more specific and concrete**. For those who want to cover topics in the modern period, discussion with the instructor is required.

### **3. Participation**

Grading will be based on **attendance** and **student's contribution to the class** by offering critical analysis or questions with regard to the class or discussion topics.

Attendance will be checked strictly. A regular attendance is mandatory. Arrival of more than 15 minutes after set class time will be considered lateness. **One absence** will deduct **0.5 points** and **three lateness** will count as **ONE absence**. **For the pre-recorded lecture videos, watching all videos within the progress check period will count as attendance**. If you can't complete watching videos within that period, it will be considered as lateness.

Comments posted in the discussion section of every pre-recorded lecture video (provided that they are relevant to said video) will be counted as class participation.

### Course Material:

Required materials will be available on the cyber campus.

### Supplementary Material:

Patricia Ebrey et al., *East Asia: A Cultural, Social, and Political History*, Volume I: From Premodern to 1800, Wadsworth Publishing, 2008.

Peter H. Lee, Wm. Theodore de Bary, Yongho Ch'oe, Hugh H. W. Kang ed., *Sources of Korean Tradition*, Volume 1: From Early Times Through the 16th Century, New York: Columbia University Press, 1997-2000.

William Theodore de Bary et al., *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, Volume 1, New York: Columbia University Press, 2008.

### Course Schedule:

Week	Date	Topics & Class Materials, Assignments
Week 1	03/02	Course Introduction <b>(Lecture video will be uploaded on cyber campus)</b>
	03/04	Overview of Premodern East Asian History : What is East Asia & East Asian World Order? <b>(Lecture video will be uploaded on cyber campus)</b>
Week 2	03/09	The Spread of Knowledge & Religion in East Asia
	03/11	: Confucianism & Confucian Statecraft
Week 3	03/16	The Spread of Knowledge & Religion in East Asia
	03/18	: Buddhism & Buddhist Culture
Week 4	03/23	The Spread of Knowledge & Religion in East Asia : Law Code & Society
	03/25	Emergence of East Asia
Week 5	03/30	International Relations of East Asia in the 10 to 13 <sup>th</sup> century
	04/01	
Week 6	04/06	Rise of the Mongols & Mongol Empire
	04/08	East Asia under Mongol Rule : Mongol-Goryeo Relations focusing on Inter-marriage
Week 7	04/13	Mongol Empire & its Legacy in East Asia
	04/15	Review Session
Week 8	<b>04/20</b>	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
	04/22	Lives of East Asian Women : Women in Conquest Dynasties & Goryeo
Week 9	04/27	East Asia after the Mongol Empire
	04/29	
Week 10	<b>05/04</b>	<b>Presentation &amp; Individual feedback session on the 1<sup>st</sup> draft</b>

	<b>05/06</b>	
Week 11	05/11	Imjin War, East Asian War
	05/13	
Week 12	05/18	Aftermath of Imjin War
	05/20	Ming-Qing Transition (1) : Rise of the Manchus & Manchu Invasions
Week 13	05/25	Ming-Qing Transition (2) : Who is the “Legitimate Heir” of Civilization in East Asia?
	05/27	East Asian Women under Confucian Society (1)
Week 14	06/01	East Asian Women under Confucian Society (2)
	<b>06/03</b>	East Asia Encounters the West <b>[Final Research Paper due]</b>
Week 15	06/08	Review Session
	<b>06/10</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>

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