KOR 3410 Korea Old & New

**Description**

The course, being taught entirely in English, is designed to enhance the appreciation of Korea by comparing and contrasting aspects of the past and present. The course schedule is based on weekly topics that survey the “old” (pre-twentieth centuries) each Tuesday and the “new” (twentieth through twenty-first centuries) each Thursday. Topics for the weeks include politics, music (K-pop), the family, popular culture, war and many others. There is no set textbook for the course and instead students will be required to read a set of Korean novels, watch Korean films and dramas, and listen to music that will help them understand Korea through a number of different and overlapping lenses.

## Pre- &/or Co-Requisites

No prerequisites are required to take this course.

## Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will ‐‐

* be familiar with pre-modern and modern Korea;
* develop advanced analytical skills;
* have a better understanding of the Korean Peninsula and developments through well-known readings;
* be familiar with specific terms, dates and people that impact(-ed) past and current events;
* Learning outcomes also include the following goals and objectives:

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| ML Learning Outcome 1: Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a specific target country or region. | KOR 3823: Students will be able to comprehend an array of Korean cultural and social issues through presentations and assigned reading materials. |
| ML Learning Outcome 2: Demonstrate the ability to analyze an issue from target-culture perspective(s). | **KOR 3823**: Students will be prepared to analyze Korea-related information contained in newspapers, books, articles, news and entertainment. |
| ML Learning Outcome 3: Demonstrate critical reflection on cultural complexity and context. | **KOR 3823**: Students will be prepared to understand and explain a variety of Korea-related subjects from multiple viewpoints using competing theories. |

**Course Requirements & Grading**

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| Assignment | Date(s) | Weight (Percentage, points, etc.) |
| Quizzes | January 22nd, February 5th, February 19th, March 12th, April 2nd | 5% x 5 = 25%  Each quiz counts for 5% of the final grade. In total, 25% of Final Grade. Extra credit is given on some quizzes, but no student can score above 100% on any quiz. |
| Written Report and Presentation (Video) | Posters due February 7th / Written Paper due March 14th/ Presentations or videos on April 16th and 18th | 20% of total grade (Topic of your choice) - 5% for the poster (reasons for topic choice and 250 words) - 7% for 1,000-word paper on topic (review books and articles) - 8% for a final 8-10-minute presentation |
| Attendance | January 8th – April 23rd | After the third absence, one (1) percentage point from the final grade will be deducted each time you miss class. In addition, coming late three (3) times will count as one absence. |
| Participation | January 8th – April 23rd | 20% of Final Grade. |
| Midterm Exam | February 28th, 1:30-2:45PM | 15% of Final Grade |
| Final Exam | May 2nd, 2:40-5:30PM | 20% of Final Grade |

**Extra Credit Opportunities**

Extra credit opportunities may be presented during the semester at the instructor’s discretion. Students will be notified of opportunities during class and via e-mail.

**Description of Graded Components**

There are four graded components and one non-graded component to the course.

1. Quizzes form the first graded component and collectively count for 25% of the total grade. The quizzes will include multiple choice and short essay/answer questions that cover the content covered during the previous weeks’ classes. The quizzes should serve as an academic barometer for the students to prepare them for the midterm and final exams. Quizzes will be given on Tuesdays on the dates indicated above.
2. The individual poster, written report and presentation (video optional) form the second graded component and collectively count for 20% of the total grade. Students should first choose a broad topic based on a subject that most interests them in Korean Studies. You may change your topic during the semester. However, it is advised that you choose a topic and keep to that topic throughout the semester as each stage will reinforce and help the next project. Once a topic has been selected by a student, that student will have the rights to that subject and no other student can chose exactly the same subject material. Options for students may include, but are not limited to, the following:
   1. Comparing pre-modern and modern homes in Korea;
   2. Analysis and/or comparison of (a) Korean Movie(s);
   3. K-Pop Boyband and Girl-band fashion;
   4. Women in North Korean politics;
   5. Tradition in modern South Korea.
3. Participation forms an important part of the course and forms 20% of the final grade. Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss their readings, present their own thoughts and explain their ideas to their instructor and fellow students. Students will be graded on their preparation, contributions to class discussions, behavior and respect of others’ opinions. It advised that students not only read and watch the assigned homework, but also take steps to expand their understanding and contributions to class by reading Korea-related articles. These include, but are not limited to:
   1. Search-engine based news services (Google, Apple, Yahoo!, Flipboard, etc.);
   2. Newspapers (such as the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Associated Press, Choson Ilbo, Hankyoreh, etc.)
   3. Articles and papers on Korea-related subjects from the GT Library website;
   4. Video services (YouTube, Vimeo, etc.)
4. The Midterm and Final Exams are the only comprehensive exams for the class and count for 35% of the final grade (15% and 20% respectively). The Midterm and Final can consist of true/false, multiple choice, short answer, image identification, timeline, map and essay questions. The contents of the Midterm and Final will reflect the course content materials studied up to the test date from the lectures and reading materials. Students will also be given the opportunity to ask questions concerning the Midterm and Final examinations to the instructor the week before the exams.
5. Attendance is the only non-graded component of the course. However, failure to attend class on a regular basis or arrive late to class will result in the student losing points from their final grade (see above). Students are expected to attend regularly, arrive on time and maintain their presence in class for the duration of the class.

**Grading Scale**

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following GT grading scale:

A 90-100%

B 80-89%

C 70-79%

D 60-69%

F 0-59%

**Course Materials**

**Course Texts**

1. ***The Story of Hong Gildong*** (Penguin Classics). Translated by Minsoo Kwang. Penguin: 2016
2. ***The Accusation: Forbidden Stories from Inside North Korea***. By Bandi and translated by Deborah Smith. Grove Press: 2018
3. ***Please Look After Mom***. By Kyung Sook Shin and translated by Chi-young Kim. Vintage Contemporaries Edition: 2012
4. **Webtoons** (Naver). <https://www.webtoons.com/en/> (English): <https://comic.naver.com/index.nhn> (Korean)

You may purchase these three books new or used at a number of retailors both in brick-and-mortar stores (Barnes and Noble, etc.) or online (Amazon, etc.) either new or used. The only “book” that does not need to be purchased is the Webtoons online comics which are entirely online and free to the public. You may use the links above to read either the English or Korean versions and the teacher will select the Webtoons readings in March/April.

## Additional Materials/Resources (Book Report and Presentation Options)

You may use the program of your choice to create, write and record your reports, but I recommend the following as they are free for students to use and can be accessed on computer, tablet and smartphone.

The Poster Project consists of creating a poster with the greatest visual impact with should include a 250-word summary of your project. For the poster project I recommend using **Adobe Spark Post**. You can easily create a poster, add content and experiment with any idea wherever you are located. However, you may use whichever program you wish including Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, or other programs.

The second stage of the project consists of writing a 1,000-word paper that combines the images used in the poster project (or other collected images or recordings). For the 1,000-word paper, I recommend using **Adobe Spark Page**. I have limited the paper to a 1,000 words so that you may focus not only on the content but also on collecting images, videos, audio recordings, etc. to add extra depth to your project. The collection on images and video can also be useful when creating the presentation. However, you may use whatever program you wish including Tumblr, WordPress, Word or any other content-supporting program.

For the 8-10 minutes presentation, you are given the option to either present the topic in class as a presentation (with or without slides) or to record your video and present the video in class. A video with most smartphones will suffice but ensure that you practice before recording the final take. Ensure your voice is clear, that the subject of the video is adequately illuminated, and that the argument and images flow together well. If you require a camera, the library also lends out DSLRs with tripods and microphones. However, I recommend that you use **Adobe Spark Video** to create your video presentation, but you may use whatever program you wish including iMovie or Movie Maker Filmmaker.

## Course Website and Other Classroom Management Tools

The instructor will use Canvas to distribute additional readings, update the syllabus and communicate with students.

**Course Expectations & Guidelines**

I expect every student to give respect to their fellow students and the instructor by abstaining from any disruptive behavior including use of electronic devices, taking calls and texting during class. We will treat each other with respect by listening to questions and ideas, never interrupting another person when they are speaking, and never disparage anything another person has to say. For laptop/notebook users, I expect that you do not surf the internet, work on homework, or otherwise doodle on your computer during class, other than taking notes. No recording (audio or video) is allowed in class.

## Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/ or <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

## Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404)894-2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>, as soon as possible, to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

## Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

Students who are absent because of participation in approved Institute activities (such as field trips, professional conferences, and athletic events) will be permitted to make up the work missed during their absences. Approval of such activities will be granted by the Student Academic and Financial Affairs Committee of the Academic Senate, and statements of the approved absence may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar. Course instructors are responsible for establishing reasonable deadlines and/or make-up materials for the missed work, and for clearly communicating this information to the relevant student(s), when absences for Institute activities are approved. <http://catalog.gatech.edu/rules/4/>

Late work should be turned in by no later than one week after the due date. 10% will be deducted per day until the assignment is submitted.

No late work will be accepted after one week. There is no corrections and feedback given for late work. If you don’t take quizzes and mid-term and final exams on time, you will be given 75% of total scores if you make them up on the same day, 50% by the next class. No make-up opportunity will be given after the next class unless sufficient reason and evidence is provided.

## Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. See <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22/> for an articulation of some basic expectation that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

## Statement of Inclusion

At Tech, we embrace and leverage diversity in all its manifestations. We are proud that we are one of the most diverse universities in the world, with students who represent every state in the nation and more than 100 countries. In the years ahead, our goal is to continue to build a campus culture of collegiality, close collaboration, global perspective, intercultural sensitivity, respect, and thoughtful interaction among a diverse community of students, employees, and alumni. We realize that, in order to achieve our vision for Georgia Tech as a leader in influencing the major technological, social, and policy decisions in the twenty-first century, we must recruit and retain faculty, staff, and students from a wide array of backgrounds, perspectives, interests, and talents. In doing so, we will create a community that exemplifies the best in all of us---our intellectual pursuits, our diversity of thought, and our personal integrity. Our mission to achieve inclusive excellence means unleashing the full potential of Tech's human capacity to create a better, sustainable future for us all. You are invited to join us on the journey of creating and sustaining a future that builds upon the talents of all members of our community in addressing the major challenges of this and future generations.

**Course Schedule**

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| Date (Week) | Class Topic | In-Class Goals | Homework Due | Check |
| Tuesday (1):  January 8 | Overview of Course, Expectations and Outcomes | Review syllabus, goals for course and course books | **(none)** |  |
| Thursday:  January 10 | Korean History Overview | Survey the Korean Peninsula and introduce pre-modern and modern Korean states and societies | **Purchase or order the 3 assigned books (see Course Materials Page 3)** |  |
| Tuesday (2):  January 15 | Education, Information and Philosophy: Old | Understand pre-modern education and the importance of the *Classics* | **Read *Hong Gildong* pages ix-xxiii** |  |
| Thursday: January 17 | Education, Information and Philosophy: New | Review how Western and Eastern education and philosophies merged and its effects | **Read *Hong Gildong* pages 1-24** |  |
| Tuesday (3)  January 22 | Music: Old | Listen to past ceremonial and festive sounds from Chosŏn | **Read *Hong Gildong* pages 24-50  QUIZ 1** |  |
| Thursday  January 24 | Music: New | Listen to present era of Korean music, including K-Pop | **Read *Hong Gildong* pages 50-77** |  |
| Tuesday (4)  January 29 | Aesthetics: Old | Understand the philosophy behind architecture, dress and beauty in old Korea | **Read *The Accusation* pages 1-35** |  |
| Thursday  January 31 | Aesthetics: New | Understand the trends behind architecture, dress and beauty in the modern day | **Read *The Accusation* pages 35-60** |  |
| Tuesday (5)  February 5 | Family, Sexuality and Society: Old | Understand Family structure, women’s rights, slavery and immigration in old Korea | **Read *The Accusation* pages 61-88 QUIZ 2** |  |
| Thursday  February 7 | Family, Sexuality and Society: New | Understand Family structure, women’s rights, slavery and immigration in modern Korea | **Read *The Accusation* pages 89-12 POSTERS DUE** |  |
| Tuesday (6)  February 12 | Government and Law: Old | Understand the government structure of Korea during the monarchy | **Read *The Accusation* pages 121-150** |  |
| Thursday  February 14 | Government and Law: New | Understand the government structure of Korea during occupation, dictatorship and democracy | **Read *The Accusation* pages 151-180** |  |
| Tuesday (7)  February 19 | Entertainment: Old | Understand the literature, food, and hobbies of old Korea | **Read *The Accusation* pages 181-228 QUIZ 3** |  |
| Thursday  February 21 | Entertainment: New | Understand the literature, dramas, foods and hobbies of modern Korea | **Read *The Accusation* pages 229-246** |  |
| Tuesday (8)  February 26 | **Prepare for the Midterm** | Bring questions for the midterm review | **Bring questions to discuss for Midterm Examination** |  |
| Thursday  February 28 | **Midterm Examination** | Prepare for the Midterm Examination | **Prepare for Midterm Examination** |  |
| Tuesday (9)  March 5 | Art: Old | Understand the creation and philosophy behind paintings, statues and calligraphy in old Korea | **Read *Please Look After Mom* pages 1-35** |  |
| Thursday  March 7 | Art: New | Understand the creation and philosophy behind modern art in new Korea | **Read *Please Look After Mom* pages 35-65** |  |
| Tuesday(10)  March 12 | Science and Technology: Old | Understand the scientific philosophies of Korea and the arrival of Western science. | **Read *Please Look After Mom* pages 65-95 QUIZ 4** |  |
| Thursday  March 14 | Science and Technology: New | Understand the growth and importance of modern science and technology from 1950 to the present. | **Read *Please Look After Mom* pages 95-121 1,000 WORD PAPER DUE** |  |
| Tuesday(11)  March 19 | Spring Break | **No Class** | **No Homework Due** |  |
| Thursday  March 21 | Spring Break | **No Class** | **No Homework Due** |  |
| Tuesday(12)  March 26 | Business and Economics: Old | Understand the growth and importance of regional trade, silver, pottery, and ginseng | **Read *Please Look After Mom* pages 121-145** |  |
| Thursday  March 28 | Business and Economics: New | Understand the Chaebols, the military and free trade in protected markets | **Read *Please Look After Mom* pages 146-176** |  |
| Tuesday(13)  April 2 | Religions: Old | **QUIZ 5**  Survey the arrival and development of global religions in Korea | **Read *Please Look After Mom* pages 177-200** |  |
| Thursday  April 4 | Religions: New | Understand Korean religious development and future trends | **Read *Please Look After Mom* pages 177-200** |  |
| Tuesday(14)  April 9 | War and Diplomacy: Old | Understand international affairs from Old Chosŏn to the Opium Wars (200 BCE to 1875 ACE) | **Read Webtoons (TBD)** |  |
| Thursday  April 11 | War and Diplomacy: New | Understand international affairs from the Treaty of Kanghwa to North Korea (1876-Presnet) | **Read Webtoons (TBD)** |  |
| Tuesday(15)  April 16 | Presentations | The student(s) present on a final topic of their choice for 8-10 minutes | **Prepare Final Presentations** |  |
| Thursday  April 18 | Presentations | The student(s) present on a final topic of their choice for 8-10 minutes | **Prepare Final Presentations** |  |
| Tuesday(16)  April 23 | Final Class | **Mock Final Exam** | **Read past notes and bring questions** |  |
| Thursday(17)  May 2 | Final Exam | 2:40PM – 5:30 PM |  |  |