

Instructor : Yeonho Lee(yhlee@yonsei.ac.kr), Helen JS Lee(helenlee@yonsei.ac.kr),  
Jungmin Seo (jmseo@yonsei.ac.kr)

**Spring 2014**  
**POLS333 Advanced Topics in Global Politics: Korean Politics**

The purpose of this course is to provide students overall understanding of the politics in the Korean peninsula (North and South Korea) since the 1945 liberation. As the crisis of North Korean nuclear weapons development is getting deeper, a proper knowledge of the historical and political contexts in this region is gaining importance. At the same time, Korean cultural/soft power has become very influential recently. The Korean peninsula has had geographic importance for politics in Northeast Asia for over a thousand years. Located between Japan and China, Korean domestic politics and international politics have never been clearly separate. Hence, the course will be attentive to the subtle interactions between internal political dynamics and shifting international power structures.

Grading:

Midterm	: 30 %
Final	: 40 %
1 film review (3-4 pgs)	: 10 %
Class Participation	: 20%

**Schedule**

**Week 1 Introduction: Korean Development & Democracy (Jan. 14 & 16)**

**Week 2 A Brief Survey of Korean Political History I (Jan. 21 & 23)**

From Pre-Modern East Asian State to Divided Two States

\*readings: Heo & Roehrig, chap. 1.

**Week 3 A Brief Survey of Korean Political History II (Jan. 28 & Feb. 4)**

From Korean War to Contemporary Korea

\*readings: Heo & Roehrig, chap. 2 - chap. 4

**Week 4 Korean Democracy I (Feb. 6 & 11)**

State and Civil Society / State and People

\*readings: Kim / Koo

**Week 5 Korean Democracy II (Feb. 13 & 18)**

Democratic Consolidation / Democracy after Democracy

\*readings: Republic of Korea / Katharine H. S. Moon

**Week 6 Cinematic Representations of Korean Society (Feb. 20 & 25)**

\*readings: Introduction, *Korean Cinema of the Global Era*

**Week 7 Korean Melodramas: Gender, Class and Family (Feb. 27 & Mar. 4)**

\*readings: Ch 2 (pp. 43-64) *South Korean Golden Age Melodrama: Gender, Genre and National Cinema*

**Week 8            The Korean Soft Power: K-POP (Mar. 6 & 11)**

\*readings: John Lie, "What is the K in K-pop: South Korean Popular Music, the Culture, Industry and National Identity"\* Jstor article

**Week 9            Mid-Term Exam. (Mar. 13 & 18)**

**Week 10           Idol Culture, Stardom and Fandom (Mar. 20 & 25)**

\*readings : Ch 2 (pp. 35-72)*Korean Masculinities and Transcultural Consumption*

**Week 11           Korea and Park Chung-Hee (Mar. 27 & Apr. 1)**

\*readings: Woo, chap. 4-5

**Week 12           Korean Political Economy before the Asian Financial Crisis (Apr. 3&8)**

readings: Heo & Roehrig - p.28~40, 41-50, chap. 4 (+ Robison & Beeson - ch.7).

**Week 13           Korean Political Economy after the Asian Financial Crisis (Apr. 10 & 15)**

\*readings: Heo & Roehrig – 51-65, 65-77; Ryu and Lee (+Lee and Lim)

**Week 14-15       Q&A/Final Exam. (Apr. 17 & 22)**

**Reading Lists**

- Heo, Uk and Terence Roehrig, *South Korea Since 1980* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010).
- Jung, Sun, *Korean Masculinities and Transcultural Consumption* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2011).
- Kim, Kyung Hyun, *Virtual Hallryu: Korean Cinema of the Global Era* (Durham and London: Duke University Press, 2011).
- Lee, Yeonho and Yoo-Jin Lim, "The rise of the Labor Party in South Korea : causes and limits," *The Pacific Review*, 19-3(2006).
- Lee, Yeonho, "Participatory Democracy and Chaebol Regulation in Korea: State-Market Relations under the MDP Governments, 1997-2003," *Asian Survey* 45-2 (2005).
- Robison, Richard, Mark Beeson, Kanishka Jayasuriya and Hyuk-Rae Kim(eds.), *Politics and Markets in the Wake of the Asian Crisis* (London: Routledge, 2000).
- McHugh, Kathleen and Abelmann, Nancy, *South Korean Golden Age Melodrama: Gender, Genre and National Cinema* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2005).
- Ryu, Kyounga and Yeonho Lee, "A Dilemma of a Pro-Business State?," *Journal of Social Science* 24-3 (2013).
- Woo, Jung-En, *Race to the Swift* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1991).
- Sunhyuk Kim, "South Korea: Confrontational Legacy and Democratic Contributions" in Muthiah Alagappa ed. *Civil Society and Political Change in Asia* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2004)
- Hagen Koo, "Introduction: Beyond State-Market Relations" & "Strong State and Contentious Society," in Hagen Koo ed., *State and Society in Contemporary Korea* (Ithaca: Cornell University Prss, 1993)
- Republic of Korea (10.2000-10.2002), "Prologue to the English Edition: Beyond Forgetfulness and Lies" & PartI: The Organization and Administration of the Presidential Truth Commission on Suspicious Deaths," *A Hard Journey to Justice* (Seoul: Truth Commission, 2001)
- Katharine H. S. Moon, "Resurrecting Prostitutes and Overturning Treaties: Gender Politics in the "Anti-American" Movement in South Korea," *Journal of Asian Studies*, 66-1 (February 2007)

**\*. This course is supported by KF Global e-School program**