Spring 2021 Courses

Korea-focused Content Courses - Spring 2021

Religion and Culture in Korea - EAST 391/EALL 296/RLST 121

Instructor: Hwansoo Kim

Day/Time: Monday, 1:30pm–3:20pm

Description: Introduction to Shamanism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism, Christianity, and new religions in Korea from ancient times to the present. Examination of religious traditions in close relationships with social, economic, political, and cultural environments in Korean society. Examination of religious tensions, philosophical arguments, and ethical issues that indigenous and foreign religions in Korea have engaged throughout history to maximize their influence in Korean society. **No prerequisite is required for this course and first-year students are welcome.**

History of North Korea: Politics, Society, and Culture - EAST 502/HIST 890

Instructor: Ria Chae

Day/Time: Tuesday, 3:30pm-5:30pm

Description: This course explores the political, social, and cultural history of North Korea from the origins of the state during the Japanese colonial period to the regime transition in the early twenty-first century. The particular focus is on the factors driving the transformations of North Korea. Nicknamed "the hermit kingdom," the regime is often commonly perceived as isolated from the outside world. This course seeks to evaluate the importance of external influence and international context at the turning points in North Korean history, which include the establishment of DPRK, its militarization and beginning of nuclear development, Kim Il Sung's purge of factions and the succession to Kim Jong Il and Kim Jong Un, and other topics. Discussions also analyze the accompanying changes in North Korean society and art. In addition to academic sources, the course utilizes artworks, films, music, historical newspapers, and memoirs. Through the critical examination of the evolution of North Korea, this course situates the country in the region as well as among other authoritarian and communist states.

Korea-inclusive Content Courses - Spring 2021

Asian American Studies of Race, Colonialism, and Empire - AMST 486/ER&M 425

Instructor: Lisa Lowe

Day/Time: Monday & Wednesday, 2:30pm-3:45pm

Description: This interdisciplinary course examines three periods of Asian American history that are paradigmatic within Asian American Studies of race, colonialism, and empire: 19th century Chinese immigrant labor, the internment of Japanese and Japanese Americans during World War II, and Korean Americans in 1992 Los Angeles. Studying these three examples in their national and global contexts, we consider Chinese immigrant railroad workers in relation to both conditions for emigration from China, and to Native American responses to U.S. settlement and expansion into the western frontier; the dispossession and incarceration of Japanese Americans in relation to wartime racialization of Mexican Americans, Blacks, and the longer history of U.S. war in Asia; and finally, we seek to understand the positioning of Korean Americans as "middlemen" in post-Civil Rights multiracial Los Angeles in relation to Korean War, and U.S. development and investment in the industrialization of South Korea. We explore how Asian American histories of racialized labor and citizenship in the U.S. are better understood in comparative relation to the histories of other groups, and with consideration of the longer histories of U.S. interventions in Asian countries of origin.

Asia Now: Human Rights, Globalization, Cultural Conflicts - GLBL 376/GLBL 552

Instructor: Jing Tsu

Day/Time: Thursday, 3:30pm-5:20pm

Description: This course examines contemporary and global issues in Asia (east, southeast, northeast, south), in a historical and interdisciplinary context that includes international law, policy debates, cultural issues, security, military history, media, science and technology, and cyber warfare.

East Asian Religions and Ecology - REL917H

Instructor: John Grim and Mary Evelyn Tucker

Day/Time: Tuesday, 4:00pm–6:00pm

Description: This hybrid online course introduces the East Asian religious traditions of Confucianism, Daoism, and East Asian Buddhism in relation to the emerging field of religion and ecology. This overview course identifies developments in the traditions that highlight their ecological implications in the contemporary period. In particular, it relates religious concepts, textual analysis, ritual activities, and institutional formations to engaged, on-the-ground environmental projects. It investigates the symbolic and lived expressions in religious ethics and practices that can be defined as religious ecologies. Similarly, it identifies narratives in Confucianism, Daoism, and East Asian Buddhism that orient humans to the cosmos, namely,

religious cosmologies. This interrelationship of narratives and religious environmentalism provides pathways into the study of religion and ecology.

Gender and Sexuality in Asian Art - EAST 486/HSAR 486

Instructor: Quincy Ngan

Day/Time: Wednesday, 9:25am–11:15am

Description: This class uses art to investigate the stereotypes of, and expectations for, gender in China, Japan, and Korea, spanning from the modern to the contemporary. It explores relationships between masculinity, femininity, homosexuality, and androgyny, as well as the politics and economy of these identities in East Asia. Together, we analyze how artworks—painting, performance, manga, movies, fashion, illustration, and sculpture—have made manifest genders and helped to enact, modify, and conceal one's sexuality. It also probes how representations of social spaces and leisure activities reinforce or complicate gender stereotypes and expectations. This class is divided into four parts. The first explores methodological frameworks and theories for parsing gender and sexuality in East Asia. The second focuses on masculinity, studying the representations, burdens and desires of heroes, leaders, and male celebrities. The third focuses on femininity, exploring the production and consumption of images of beautiful women, along with the economy and politics of being attractive and seductive in East Asia. While the second and third parts examine the conventional dichotomy of the two sexes, the fourth balances this account by focusing on the imageries of homosexuality and transgender.

Globalization Space - ARCH 341/GLBL 253/ LAST 318/ URBN 341

Instructor: Keller Easterling

Day/Time: Monday & Wednesday, 10:30am–11:20am

Description: Infrastructure space as a primary medium of change in global polity. Networks of trade, energy, communication, transportation, spatial products, finance, management, and labor, as well as new strains of political opportunity that reside within their spatial disposition. Case studies include free zones and automated ports around the world, satellite urbanism in South Asia, high-speed rail in Japan and the Middle East, agripoles in southern Spain, fiber optic submarine cable in East Africa, spatial products of tourism in North Korea, and management platforms of the International Organization for Standardization.

Elementary Korean II - KREN 120

Instructor: Varies by section

Day/Time: Monday-Friday, 9:25am-10:15am (Section 01); Monday-Friday, 10:30am-11:20am

(Section 02); Monday-Friday, 11:35am-12:25pm (Section 03); Monday-Friday, 10:30am-

11:20am (Section 04)

Intermediate Korean II - KREN 140

Instructor: Hyunsung Lim

Day/Time: Monday–Friday, 9:25am–10:15am

Intermediate Korean for Advanced Learners II - KREN 142

Instructor: Angela Lee-Smith

Day/Time: Monday-Friday, 10:30am–11:20am

Advanced Korean II - KREN 151

Instructor: Angela Lee-Smith

Day/Time: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9:25am–10:15am

Description: This course is content and project-based to further develop integrated language skills-spoken and written, including grammar and vocabulary, as well as intercultural competence through Korean media. Through a variety of media, such as print media, publishing, digital media, cinema, broadcasting (radio, television, podcasting), and advertising, students explore and reflect on a wide range of topics and perspectives in Korean culture and society. The course learning activities include interactive, interpretive, and presentational communication; critical analysis; creative and authentic language applications in formal/informal contexts.

Advanced Korean III - KREN 154

Instructor: Seungja Choi

Day/Time: Tuesday & Thursday, 1:00pm–2:15pm

Description: An advanced language course designed to develop reading and writing skills using Web-based texts in a variety of genres. Students read texts independently and complete comprehension and vocabulary exercises through the Web. Discussions, tests, and intensive writing training in class.