**Korean Culture 1: Fall 2023**

**Instructor:** Dr. Jeongsoo Pyo

**Office: El-009A**

**Office Hours:** TWF 9:00-12:00/T 4:00-5:00 **E-mail**:jeongsoo.pyo@bsu.edu

**Course description:**

# This course is designed to introduce the contemporary culture of Korea. It seeks to help students develop a dynamic and comprehensive understanding of Korean culture by exploring various topics, using audio-visual resources (K-dramas, movies, and documentary clips), and taking an intercultural communication approach. Korean society has undergone a rapid societal and cultural change and its unique and vibrant cultural aspects have caught the spotlight in the most recent decade with the Korean Wave. This course will explore how Korea has changed over time and what cultural norms and social values have played a role in its transformation. This course includes lectures, student presentations, discussions of readings, and K-dramas and movies.

# Objectives: students will be able to

# explore their assumptions of Korea and Korean culture.

# understand Korean culture based on society, history, and politics in a comprehensive way.

# identify the cultural norms behind language, social behavior, and Korean media.

# get a sense of intercultural communication competence in various cross-cultural contexts.

# develop multiliteracies, aesthetics, and intellectual experiences through diverse topics and technology in human society.

# Required texts

# Tudor, Daniel (2012) Korea: The Impossible Country, Tuttle Publishing. ISBN: 9780804846394

# All other materials will be available on Canvas.

# Course requirements

# Group presentation 20%

# Response paper 20%

# Midterm test 20 %

# Final term essay 30%

# Attendance and participation 10%

# Group presentation: A group of two students will choose topics from 10 units and prepare a 45-minute presentation, explaining basic concepts or notions and key points about the topics and lead a discussion with two questions about the issues presented in the readings and class materials. Multimodal ways such as dramas and movies, role plays, debates, etc. are welcome to be incorporated in the presentation.

# Response paper: After finishing each unit, students will be asked to write 10 informal, 3-4 pages (12-point Times New Roman font and double-spaced). The paper should address their reactions and interpretations of class materials including lectures, readings, films and dramas, presentations, or discussions. Students can discuss what they found intriguing about what they did in class and their thoughts/reflections/opinions about the topics they choose to write about.

# Midterm test: A study guide and detailed information will be provided before the exam.

# Final essay: Choose one of the dramas or movies on the syllabus and analyze the aspects of Korean culture. This will be an integrated paper based on what students have learned during one semester. This paper will be a formal academic paper with citations, analyzing the cultural aspects (5-6 double-spaced pages, 12-point Times New Roman font). For example, the paper can focus on an issue or a character in the movie or drama you chose; analyzes the interactions of people or approach a topic such as how educational norms in Korean are shown in the movie and drama. Students can choose their topics as long as their topics are related to Korean culture they will learn through this course.

* Participation and attendance: Class participation and attendance are crucial for constructing our interactive classroom and knowledge. Absence will be counted at 10 minutes after the hour, a tardy at 5 minutes after the hour.

**Homework:** All the readings will be required before the class. Some assignments may be necessary as preparation for the next class.

**Grading Scale:**

93 – 100+% = A 77 – 79% = C+

90 – 92% = A- 73 – 76% = C

87 – 89% = B+ 70 – 72% = C-

83 – 86% = B 50 – 69% = D\*

80 – 82% = B-

**Unexcused Absence Policy*:*** It is the policy of the Indiana Academy that any absence from class is unexcused, except for illness, death in the family, college or school-related activities, and extenuating circumstances. When a student is absent from a class, the instructor reports the student absence to the Faculty Attendance Coordinator in the Office of Academy Affairs. Unless the absence is excused by a school official, it is considered unexcused. The decision as to whether an absence is excused is NOT determined by the instructor.Although all absences, both excused and unexcused, are tracked within the Office of Academic Affairs, instructors of each class are free to use discretion with a student’s first three unexcused absences. Four or more unexcused absences in any class a student takes will lead to academic and residential consequences to be determined by the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Residential Life that may include detention, residential groundings, parent/principal conference, among others.

**Penalty Policy for Unexcused Absences:**A student may make up all work that is missed during the ***first three unexcused absences.*** No make-up tests or quizzes will be given for students who miss four or more classes due to an unexcused absence**.** Make-up work must be completed within two school days of the absence.Students who miss four or more classes due to an unexcused absence may submit homework for half credit though no homework will be accepted beyond two school days of the missed class period.

**Make-up Policy for Excused Absences*:*** All tests, quizzes, and homework may be made up from an excused absence. Tests and quizzes must be taken within 5 school days after the excused absence unless there are extenuating circumstances. The same applies to missed homework. Students should expect to take a different version of the test or quiz than the one given to the class during the original test date.

**A word on plagiarism.**  Plagiarism is passing off someone else’s ideas and information as your own. Never copy a paragraph, a section of information, or an entire essay and paste it into your paper. Also, the use of electronic translators constitutes an act of plagiarism. Copying someone else’s work is a crime. It is stealing intellectual information. To be on the safe side, always put ideas into your own words and cite the source where you find it. In addition, never allow someone else to write a paper for you, and never turn in someone else’s paper as your own. The penalties are severe.

**Importance of diversity and inclusion**:Ball State University aspires to be a university that attracts and retains a diverse faculty, staff, and student body. We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome by valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse as expressed in our Beneficence Pledge and through university resources found at <http://cms.bsu.edu/campuslife/multiculturalcenter>

**Course Syllabus**

**Overview of course**

Week 1 (08/14-15)

**Course Introduction**

**Culture and intercultural communication**

\*Samovar, L.A. and Porter, R.E.(2001) Ch.1 The challenges of intercultural communication: interaction in a diverse world (pp.2-19) In *Communication between two cultures*, Wadsworth.

**Brief Synopsis Korean history**

Tudor, Introduction(pp.10-12)

**Unit 1 Religions in Korea**

Week 1-2 (08/16-25)

* **Shamanism**: Tudor, Ch. 1 Shamanism(pp.24-33) G#1 presentation

https://youtu.be/LVDW9C6n9FQ ([Korean Culture 100] 80 굿, Gut, a meeting between gods and humans)

* **Buddhism**: Tudor, Ch. 2 Buddhism (pp. 34-41) G#

https://youtu.be/Btcqs-\_xb-k (Window on Korean Culture - 19 Korean Buddhism)

\*Yum, J.O.(1987). Korean philosophy and communication (pp.83-86) In *Communication theory: Eastern and Western perspectives* D. Lawrence Kincaid Academic Press, INC.

* **Confucianism**: Tudor, Ch. 3 Confucianism(pp.42-53) G#

https://youtu.be/\_bqlbSuUcDY (Window on Korean Culture-3 Confucianism)

\*Yum, J.O.(1987). Korean philosophy and communication (pp.71-80). In *Communication theory: Eastern and Western perspectives* D. Lawrence Kincaid Academic Press, INC.

Netflix drama: Mr. Sunshine (미스터 션샤인2018)

* **Christianism**: Tudor, Ch. 4 Christianity(pp.54-65) G#

# https://youtu.be/fA\_siAoOHXI (Korean Martyrs Video)

08/28 Unit 1 response paper due

**Unit 2 Korean communication ways**

Week 3-4 (08/28-09/08) G#

* \*Samovar, L.A. and Porter, R.E.(2001), Ch.3 Dominant American cultural patterns/ Hofstede’s value dimensions (pp.65-73); Halls’ high-context and low-context orientation(pp.79-82) In *Communication between two cultures*, Wadsworth.
* \*Park, Myung-Seok (1997) Different attitudes toward age(pp.87-97); Discoursal differences(pp.23-28) Interpersonal interactions(pp. 98-111) In *Communication Styles in Two different Cultures: Korean and American*, Hanshin Publishing.

09/11 Unit 2 response paper due

# Unit 3 Women issues

# Week 5(09/11-09/15) G#

* \*Park, Myung-Seok (1997) Family life and women issue (pp.59-64); Preference for sons(pp.83-85); In *Communication Styles in Two Different Cultures: Korean and American*, Hanshin Publishing.
* Tudor, Ch. 28 Women’s Place in the Office

# https://youtu.be/6KpIXxF0abA (Gender War In South Korea: Why The Backlash Against Feminism? | Insight | Full Episode)

Netflix drama: Incomplete Life (미생)

09/18 Unit 3 response paper due

**Unit 4 Economics in Korea**

Week 6-7 (09/18-09/26) G#

* https://youtu.be/IQARiOFLBCo (Secrets behind Korea’s economic success\_2015 revised edition)
* Tudor, Ch. 5 Capitalism with a Korean Face(pp.66-77)

Viki Korean drama: Reborn Rich

10/02 Unit 4 response paper due

**Unit 5 Cultural Codes of Korea**

Week 7-8(09/27-10/04) G#

* Tudor, Ch. 7 Jeong-The Invisible Hug (pp.92-100); ch.8 Competition(pp.101-111); ch.9 Chemyon or Face (pp.112-119); ch.10 Han and Heung(pp.120-127); ch.12 Neophilia (pp.138-144)

Unit 5 Response paper due 10/11

**Midterm Test (10/06)**

**Unit 6 Korean Politics and North Korea**

Week 9-10 (10/11-10/20) G#

* Tudor, ch.14 Politics and the Media(pp.155-168); ch.13 North Korea: Friend, Foe, or

Foreigner? (pp. 146-154)

* https://youtu.be/jUbuykLagps (The Dynamic Development of Korean Democracy)

Movie: JSA (2000, by Park, Chan-Wook)

A Taxi Driver (2017, by Jang Hoon)-Amazon Prime video free

Unit 6 response paper due 10/23

**Unit 7 Understanding Korean Mindsets**

Week 11-12 (10/23—11/03)G#

* Tudor, ch. 24 Defensive Nationalism(pp.258-268); ch.18 English Mania(pp. 201-208); ch.15 Onward, Industrial Soldiers (pp. 169-180)

# https://youtu.be/JojX7rEx1LI (Conquering a crisis: The IMF's Role in Helping Korea Overcome the Asian Crisis)

# Tubi Movie: Ode to My Father (2014, by Yoon, Jekyoon )

Netflix drama: Incomplete life (미생)

# Unit 7 Response paper due 11/06

# Unit 8 Korean food, drinking, and housing

# Week 13-14 (11/06-11/14-17) G#

# Tudor, ch.20 Four Seasons at the table; ch.23 Work All Day, Stay Out All Night; ch.19 Living Space: From Hanok to Apartment Houses and Back again

# https://youtu.be/oN0rEJxvQZQ (Hansik of The Day, Ep.13, Ordinary daily life \_ Full Episode, Arirang TV)

# https://youtu.be/f9eOUtm-vLs (Taste of Wisdom Ep04 Korean's soul food, kimchi)

# https://youtu.be/irpKTxUkuS8 (Arirang Special] Rice Effect \_ Full Episode)

# https://youtu.be/r5yuurtRiJw

# (Houses that Breathe, Hanok [The Wonders of Korea 2 / 2016.10.21] (KBS World))

# https://youtu.be/lxtUKVzVBlU

# (Korean Liquor Exploration Ep1] Pork belly & Soju | Back when alcohol cost 10 cents)

# Unit 8 Response paper due 11/27

# Unit 9 The rise of individualism and cultural hybridization

# Week 16 (11/27-12/01) G#

# \*Sangmee Bak(2006). “ McDonald’s in Seoul”. In *Golden Arches East: McDonals in East Asia* (2nd edition), James L. Watson. Stanford: Stanford University Press. pp.136-160.

# Korean Herald (2016). “Why More Koreans Eating Alone”. Retrieved from <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20160529000252>

# Unit 9 Response paper due 12/04

# Unit 10 Social issues of Korea

# Week 17 (12/04-12/08) G#

# Urbanization/ globalization/issues of Korean younger generation

# Urbanization

# https://youtu.be/nOjzJ\_B5htI (history of urban development in South Korea)

# \*Nelson, Laura(2007) “ The Many Challenges of Urbanization in Korea,” In the Korea Herald(ed.) *Insight into Korea*, The Korea Herald: Herald Media, pp.229-240.

# Globalization

# \*Song, sooho&Kim, Dohee(2022) The Effects of Globalization on Korea. *Korea observer* 53(1), pp.137-161

# Issues of Korean younger generation

# https://youtu.be/M1zoyyj0jMg (Hell Joseon: The Price of Happiness In South Korea | Deciphering South Korea - Ep 3 | Documentary)

# \*Seth, Michael J. (2022). Korean Education Needs Fundamental Reform. In the Korea Herald (ed.) *Insight into Korea*, The Korean Herald: Herald Media,pp. 214-221

# Unit 10 Response paper due 12/11

# Final Paper Presentation

# Week 18 (12/11-12/15)

# Final paper due 12/11