

Introduction to Korean Civilization  
EALC 003 (cross-listed as HIST 098)  
--Fall 2018--

This gateway course surveys various sociopolitical orders, their characteristics, and major cultural developments from early times to the present in Korea and the vicinity. Covered topics include: state formation and dissolution; the role of ideology and how it changes; religious beliefs and values; agriculture, commerce, and industry; changing family relations; responses to Western imperialism; and Korea's place in the modern world as well as future prospects. Students will also be introduced to various interpretive approaches in the historiography. The course fulfills the College's History & Tradition Sector and Cross Cultural Analysis requirements.

Instructor: Eugene Y. Park  
Williams Hall 642  
University of Pennsylvania

Office hours: Mondays 2–3:30 pm, Tuesdays 10–11:30 am, and by appointment

Lectures: Mondays and Wednesdays, 11–11:50 am, Graduate School of Education (EDUC) 200

Recitations: Fridays, 11–11:50 am, Williams Hall 218; or  
Fridays, noon–12:50 pm, Williams Hall 214

Teaching Fellow:

Requirements: map quiz (5%)  
in-class midterm examination (30%)  
paper on an assigned topic, 5–7 pages (20%)  
take-home final examination (30%)  
discussion participation (10%)  
attendance (5%)

Extra credit: earned by attending pre-announced Korea-related talks and submitting page-long (single-spaced) response papers.

Required Readings:

Choe, Yong-ho, Peter H. Lee, and Wm. Theodore de Bary, eds. *Sources of Korean Tradition*, vol. 2, *From the Sixteenth to the Twentieth Centuries*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2000.

Lee, Peter H., and Wm. Theodore de Bary, eds. *Sources of Korean Tradition*, vol. 1, *From Early Times through the Sixteenth Century*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1997.

Park, Eugene Y. *A Family of No Prominence: The Descendants of Pak Tōkhwa and the Birth of Modern Korea*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2014.

Academic journal articles and other readings are required and distributed by the instructor.

Absences, missed exams, and late submissions will be penalized, unless based on medical, family emergency-related, or religious reasons with documentation.

Some holidays are observed by enough students that the university has determined that examinations may not be administered nor may assigned work be required on those dates (paragraph 2, the university's Policy on Secular and Religious Holidays). For other holidays such as the Lunar ("Chinese") New Year's Day, students who notify the instructor in the first two weeks of the semester of their intention to observe them will be permitted to make up any missed work or examinations. These include but are not limited to those listed in paragraph 3 of the policy. The University Chaplain's letter lists dates for all holidays treated in paragraph 2, as well as many but not all of the other holidays that might fall under paragraph 3.

Academic dishonesty is not tolerated. Cheating, forgery, dishonest conduct, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the university's educational, research, and social roles. In line with university regulations, course instructor reserves the right to discipline any student found guilty of inappropriate conduct.

All students will be treated equally, and all marks are final, barring any calculation error. Absolutely no re-grading or re-reading, even when requested on the ground that the student wants to know what (s)he could have done better or needs a certain grade to graduate. After the pre-announced class time during which the student can review the graded material, the instructor will collect it in order to minimize the risk of graded course material circulating outside the class. A student absent during the in-class review will have one week to examine the graded material at another time in the instructor's presence.

## COURSE SCHEDULE:

### **Week 1 (8/29): Introduction**

### **Week 2 (9/5; no class on 9/3): Introduction (Continued)**

- Park, Eugene Y. "War and Peace in Premodern Korea: Institutional and Ideological Dimensions." *The Sigur Center Asia Papers 26, The Military and South Korean Society* (2006): 1–8.
- Palais, James B. "A Search for Korean Uniqueness." *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* 55, no. 2 (December 1995): 409–425.
- Wang, Chuan-Chao, and Hui Li. "Inferring Human History in East Asia from Y Chromosomes." *Investigative Genetics* 4, no. 11 (2013): 1–10.

### **Week 3 (9/10, 9/12): Early Times to ca. 300**

- Lee, Peter H., and Wm. Theodore de Bary, eds. *Sources of Korean Tradition*, vol. 1, *From Early Times through the Sixteenth Century*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1996 (hereafter *SKT 1*):
  - “Tangun,” 5–6.
  - “Accounts of the Eastern Barbarians,” 7–13.
  - “King Suro,” 14–17.
- Noh Tae-don. “Current Issues and Problems in the Study of Old Chosŏn.” *Seoul Journal of Korean Studies* 1 (1988): 127–136.
- Kirkland, J. Russell. “The ‘Horseriders’ in Korea: A Critical Evaluation of a Historical Theory.” *Korean Studies* 5 (1981): 109–128.

\*Map quiz at the beginning of the class, Wednesday, 9/12.

### **Week 4 (9/17, 9/19): The Classical Era, ca. 300–ca. 850**

- *SKT 1*:
  - “King Sansang: The Levirate Custom,” 30–32.
  - “Wŏngwang Goes to China for Study,” 44–46.
  - “The Life of Kim Yusin,” 59–61.
  - “Kangsu,” 67–69.
  - “Chang Pogo,” 120.
- Byington, Mark E. “Control or Conquer? Koguryŏ’s Relations with States and Peoples in Manchuria.” *The Journal of Northeast Asian History* 4, no. 1 (June 2007): 85–117.
- Farris, William Wayne. “Ancient Japan’s Korean Connection.” *Korean Studies* 20 (1996): 1–22.

### **Week 5 (9/24, 9/26): The Early Medieval Period, 850–1170**

- *SKT 1*:
  - “Ch’oe Ch’iwŏn,” 71–72.
  - “Ch’oe Sŭngno: On Current Affairs,” 161–167.
  - “Hsü Ching: The Life of the People,” 186–187.
- Duncan, John B. “The Formation of the Central Aristocracy in Early Koryŏ.” *Korean Studies* 12 (1988): 39–61.
- Breuker, Remco E. “Koryŏ as an Independent Realm: The Emperor’s Clothes?” *Korean Studies* 27 (2003): 48–84.

### **Week 6 (10/1, 10/3): The Early Medieval Period, 850–1170 (Continued)**

\*Midterm examination, Monday, 10/1.

No recitation: fall break (10/4–10/7).

### **Week 7 (10/8, 10/10): The Late Medieval Period, 1170–1392**

- Duncan, John B. “The Social Background to the Founding of the Chosŏn Dynasty: Change or Continuity?” *The Journal of Korean Studies* 6 (1988–89): 39–79.

- Yi Tae-Jin. “The Influence of Neo-Confucianism on 14th–16th Century Korean Population Growth.” *Korea Journal* 37, no. 2 (Summer 1997): 5–23.
- *SKT* 1:
  - “Manjök’s Slave Rebellion,” 200.
  - “Resistance to the Mongol Invasion,” 202–203.
  - “The Reforms of King Kongmin and Sin Ton,” 206–208.
  - “Chǒng Tojǒn: Philosophical Rebuttal of Buddhism and Taoism,” 254–256.

### **Week 8 (10/15, 10/17): Establishment of the Chosǒn Dynasty, 1392–1637**

- *SKT* 1:
  - “King Sejong: Preface to *Hunmin chǒngŭm*,” 295
  - “Ch’oe Malli: Opposition to the Korean Alphabet,” 296.
  - “Discussion on Life and Death, Ghosts and Spirits,” 346–347.
- Choe, Yong-ho, Peter H. Lee, and Wm. Theodore de Bary, eds. *Sources of Korean Tradition*, vol. 2, *From the Sixteenth to the Twentieth Centuries*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2000 (hereafter *SKT* 2):
  - “Queen Sohye: Instructions for the Inner Quarters,” 46–49.
- Park Mee Hae. “*Pan ch’inyǒng* Wedding Rites, Residential Rules, and the Status of Women in Sixteenth-Century Chosǒn: An Analysis Based on *Miam-ilgi*, the Diary of Yu Hŭi-ch’un.” *Korean Studies* 31 (2007): 39–62.
- Swope, Kenneth. “Crouching Tigers, Secret Weapons: Military Technology Employed During the Sino-Japanese-Korean War, 1592–1598.” *The Journal of Military History* 69, no. 1 (January 2005): 11–41.

### **Week 9 (10/22, 10/24): The Late Chosǒn Renovation, 1637–1800**

- *SKT* 2:
  - “Song Siyǒl: Instructions to My Daughter,” 49–52.
  - “Chǒng Yagyong: False Forms of Confucian Scholarship,” 23–26.
  - “An Chǒngbok: A Conversation on Catholicism,” 130–133.
  - “Lady Hyegyǒng: A Letter to My Nephew,” 52–54.
- Park, Eugene Y. *A Family of No Prominence*, “Prologue” and chapters 1 and 2, pp. 1–46.
- Baker, Don. “Seoul and Salem: Contrasts in How States Treated Female Performers of Licentious Rituals.” *The Journal of Korean Religions* 5, no. 2, *Religion, Ritual, and the State in Chosǒn Korea* (October 2014): 11–38.

### **Week 10 (10/29, 10/31): Challenges from Within and Without, 1800–1894**

- *SKT* 2:
  - “Yi Hangno: Sinify the Western Barbarians,” 140–142.
  - “Yu Kilchun: Levels of Enlightenment,” 248–253.
  - “Ch’oe Cheu: On Learning Truth,” 232–234.
  - “A Call to Arms Issued at Paeksan,” 263–264.
  - “Inaugural Message of *The Independent*,” 279–280.
- Park, Eugene Y. *A Family of No Prominence*, chapter 3, pp. 47–70.
- Chang, Gordon H. “Whose ‘Barbarism’? Whose ‘Treachery’? Race and Civilization in the Unknown United States-Korea War of 1871.” *The Journal of American History* 89, no. 4 (March 2003): 1331–1365.

### **Week 11 (11/5, 11/7): Rise and Fall of Imperial Korea, 1894–1910**

- SKT 2:
  - “Chu Sigyŏng: Essay on the Korean Language,” 280–281.
  - “Yi Sangjae and Others: Memorial on National Salvation,” 283–285.
- Park, Eugene Y. *A Family of No Prominence*, chapters 4 and 5, pp. 71–106.
- Tikhonov, Vladimir. “Masculinizing the Nation: Gender Ideologies in Traditional Korea and in the 1890s–1900s Korean Enlightenment Discourse.” *The Journal of Asian Studies* 66, no. 4 (November 2007): 1029–1065.

### **Week 12 (11/12, 11/14): Japanese Occupation, 1910–1945**

- SKT 2:
  - “Son Pyŏnghŭi and Others: Declaration of Independence,” 336–339.
  - “The Korean Congress in the U.S.: An Appeal to America,” 341–343.
  - “Mun Ilp’yŏng: New Challenges for a Nation with Old Culture,” 319–320.
  - “Yi Yunjae: Inaugural Editorial for *Han’gŭl*,” 321–322.
  - “Kim Kyosin: Inaugural Editorial in *Biblical Korea*,” 326–328.
- Park, Eugene Y. *A Family of No Prominence*, chapter 6, pp. 107–132.
- Devine, Richard. “Japanese Rule in Korea after the March First Uprising: Governor General Hasegawa’s Recommendations.” *Monumenta Nipponica* 52, no. 4 (Winter 1997): 523–540.

\*Paper due at the beginning of the class, Monday, 11/12.

### **Week 13 (11/19, 11/21): Rival New Regimes, the Korean War, and Postwar Politics, 1945–1988**

No recitation: Thanksgiving break (11/22–11/25).

### **Week 14 (11/26, 11/28): Postwar Economy, 1953–1988**

- Park, Eugene Y. *A Family of No Prominence*, “Epilogue,” pp. 133–137.
- Eberstadt, Nicholas. “Disparities in Socioeconomic Development in Divided Korea: Indications and Implications.” *Asian Survey* 40, no. 6 (November–December 2000): 867–893.
- Kang, David C. “Bad Loans to Good Friends: Money Politics and the Developmental State in Korea.” *International Organization* 56, no. 1 (Winter 2002): 177–207.

### **Week 15 (12/3, 12/5): The Divergence**

- Oh, Jennifer S. “Strong State and Strong Civil Society in Contemporary South Korea: Challenges to Democratic Governance.” *Asian Survey* 52, no. 3 (May/June 2012): 528–549.
- Katz, Katrin, and Victor Cha. “South Korea in 2011: Holding Ground as the Region’s Linchpin.” *Asian Survey* 52, no. 1 (January/February 2012): 52–64.
- Bennett, Bruce W., and Jennifer Lind. “The Collapse of North Korea: Military Missions and Requirements.” *International Security* 36, no. 2 (Fall 2011): 84–119.

### **Week 16 (12/10): The Divergence (Continued)**

No recitation.

\*Take-home final examination due, 5 pm, Monday, 12/17.