



Introduction to Western Political Thought in East Asia

Course Code			
Class Times	Mon/Wed/Thu Type A(09:00-12:00)	Classroom	TBA
Equivalent Year Level	1/2/3/4	Course Credit	3

Instructor I	Sungwoo PARK	Sessions	1-15(45class yours)
Office	Bld.16 Rm.515	Email	swplato@snu.ac.kr

□ Instructor's Profile



Sungwoo Park
Professor, Ph. D.
Department of Political Science and International Relations

He has taught International Political Thought and Global Justice at SNU since 2013, while conducting his research at the crossroads of history of political thought and international relations. Recently he develops his interest in coalescing contrasting origins of political thought, namely ancient and modern as well as East and West. He

was a Visiting Scholar at the University of Chicago (August 2011-July 2012) and International Christian University in Japan (September 2018-June 2019).

Education

Ph.D., Political Science, University of Chicago
M.A., International Relations, Seoul National University
B.A., International Relations, Seoul National University

Expertise

History of Western Political Thought, International Political Thought,

Recent Works

"Platonic Political Philosophy and Athenian Empire" 21st Century Political Science Review, Vol. 28, No. 1 (in Korean).

"Platonic International Political Thought in Plato's Republic: Is it possible to extend Platonic justice to international realm?" 21st Century Political Science Review, Vol. 26, No. 1 (in Korean).

"Philosophical Foundation of the Concept of National Interest and Philosophical(Socratic) Pursuit of National Interest in Reading Plato's 'Alcibiades'" *The Korean Journal of International Studies*, Vol. 54, No. 3 (2014) (in Korean)



□ Course Information

Course Description	In the East Asian states, Western political thought has been the theoretical foundation of politics at least after the modernization period. All the political principles effective in East Asia such as modern state-building based on nationalism, socialist revolution, democratization, constitutionalism, liberalism, etc. originate from the history of Western political thought, although their applications vary according to the temporal and spatial circumstances of each state. This course will examine the origins of Western political thought as the theoretical foundation of East Asian politics and try to understand its variations in each state. In doing so, we will try to examine critically the Eurocentric or West-centric view that the East Asian politics is retarded in comparison with the politics of the developed countries in the West.
Course Evaluation	Attendance 20%, Class participation 20%, Midterm exam 30% Final exam 30% Attendance will be important for keeping up with class. Good attendance and active participation will be considered in the evaluation.
Course Materials	A course packet will be made available.
Etc.	This course is an introductory one. The class format is a combination of lecture and discussion. No background knowledge of Western political thought is required. Readings will be relatively small but students are required to read the assigned readings before coming to the class for the discussion.

□ Course Schedule

Session 1 - Topic: Introduction No reading assignment

Topic 1. What is Justice? : the Origin of Western Thought and Variations of Justice Discourse in East Asia

Session 2 The Most Original Question Justice in Western Thought
Plato, Republic, Book 1 (G.R.F. Ferrari, ed & Tom Griffith trans. Plato The Republic, Cambridge Text in the History of Political Thought, pp. 1~36).

Session 3 Machiavellian Answer to the Question of Justice
Machiavelli, Prince, Chs. 15~18. 23, 25, 26 (Harvey C. Mansfield trans. The Prince, pp. 61-71, 93-95, 98-105).

Topic 2. What is legitimate relationship between state and individuals: Western Origin of



Social Contract Theories and East Asian Variations

Session 4 Aristotle's Teleological Answer

Aristotle, Politics, Book 1 (Cambridge edition)

Session 5 Hobbes's Authoritarian Answer

Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan, Chs. 13, 14, 17, 18, 21, 26

Session 6 Locke's Liberal Answer

John Locke, The Second Treatise, Chs. 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 14

Session 7 Rousseau's Democratic Answer

J. J. Rousseau, Social Contract Bk1 Chs. 6-8, Bk2 Ch. 1-4.

Session 8 *Mid-term Exam*

Topic III. What is Law? : Western Origin of Rule of Law and East Asian Application

Session 9 Persistent Principle of Rule of Law in Western Thought

Plato, Crito (trans. John M. Cooper)

Session 10 Rule of Law in Contemporary East Asian Politics

Jongryn Mo and David W. Brady, eds. The Rule of Law in South Korea (2010), Introduction, pp.

Topic IV. What is liberal democracy? : Western Origin of liberal democracy and its modified definitions in East Asia

Session 11 Liberalism against Tyranny of Majority

John S. Mill, On Liberty (Hackett edition) Chs. 1, 2, 3

Plato, Republic, Book 10 (parts)

Session 12. Confucianism and Democracy in East Asia

Sungmoo Kim, Confucian Democracy in East Asia (Cambridge University Press, 2015), Ch. 4. Value Pluralism and Confucian Democratic Civil Society, pp. 101-27.

Topic V. How could we achieve (perpetual) peace?

Session 13 Kant's "Realist" Pacifism

I. Kant, "Perpetual Peace" in Pauline Kleingeld ed. Toward Perpetual Peace and Other Writings on Politics, Peace, and History, pp. 67-85

Session 14 Kant continues

I. Kant, "Perpetual Peace" in Pauline Kleingeld ed. Toward Perpetual Peace and Other Writings on Politics, Peace, and History, pp. 85-109.

Review For the Final Exam

Session 15 *Final Exam*