



Koreans in the Americas

Course Code			
Class Times	Mon/Wed/Thu B(13:00~16:00)	Classroom	Bldg
Equivalent Year Level	1	Course Credit	3
Instructor	Paul Sneed	Sessions	1-14
Office	3-419	Email	paulsneed@snu.ac.kr
Class Assistant	Myeong Bin Kim	Email	azngoul@snu.ac.kr

□ Instructor's Profile



Paul Sneed is an Associate Professor of Brazilian Literary and Cultural Studies and Latin American Studies at Seoul National University in the Department of Hispanic Literature and Language and the Center for Latin American Studies (Ph.D. University of Wisconsin, B.A. University of Virginia). Born and raised near Washington, DC, in the United States, he spent several years studying in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and conducting ethnographic research on the power of drug traffickers in Brazilian gangster rap. During the 1990s and early 2000s, he helped start and run a small international NGO in Rio's favela of Rocinha and directed various community-driven documentaries there. More recently, he lived in the Amazonian capital of Belém, before coming to Korea in 2014. Today his interests in research and activism are focused in that region and in promoting greater dialogue between Korea and Brazil, especially regarding the Amazon.

Education

Ph.D. in Brazilian Literary and Cultural Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison
B.A. in Political and Social Thought, University of Virginia

Expertise

Brazil Studies, Latin American Studies, Ethnomusicology, Non-Profits, Amazon Studies

Most Recent Works

Machine Gun Voices: Bandits, Favelas and Utopia in Brazilian Funk. (Forthcoming, SNU Press, 2018)

"The Context of Korean-Brazilian Educational Cooperation" Ninth Conference on East-West Intercultural Relations, Seoul National University, Korea, May 2017.

"Chico Science + 20: Coexistencialismo versus Canibalismo no Mangubeat." *Latin American Music Review* 37, no. 1 (2016): 92-114.



□ Course Information

Course Description	<p>This class is an introductory-level exploration of Korean immigration, trade and culture throughout the Americas—from Canada to Tierra del Fuego, Argentina (the Americas, in this context, refers to North, Central and South America and the Caribbean). Through in-class lectures and videos, along with a select number of introductory readings, class members will engage in conversations and debates on subjects ranging from the comparative histories of Koreans across the region to commerce and aspects of everyday life and culture. Students will have opportunities to pursue their unique interests in presentations and final projects carried out in small groups on such topics as K-pop, sports, television, film, the arts, beauty standards, religion, Korean Studies, North Korea in international relations, small businesses and Korean global companies, etc.</p>
Course Evaluation	<p>Homework & class participation 20% Group Presentation 20% Midterm exam 30% Final Group Project 30%</p> <p>Attendance will be important for keeping up with class. Good attendance and active participation will be reflected in grade.</p>
Student Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- At an introductory level, able to give examples of, describe and explain significant trends, movements and events in the history of Korean immigration to the Americas.-Capable of articulating at an introductory level the significance of Korean cultural expressions in the context of the contemporary society in the Americas.-Able to compare the ideological underpinnings of the societies of the Americas with those of Korean society today.- Capable of identifying the trends of Korean global companies in the context of the Americas and describe the challenges they face in cultural and historical terms.
Class Policy	<p>Students can expect daily in-class discussions with partners and small groups, visits by guest lecturers and a trip to an off-campus Latin American food experience. Students with difficulties in English are encouraged to reach out to instructor for help. There is no grading curve for this class.</p>



Course Materials	Besides in-class lectures and video materials, select short readings will be provided online in advance. Additionally, some brief excerpts will be assigned from <i>Korea Unmasked: In Search of the Country, the Society and the People</i> , by famed cartoonist Won-bok Rhie.
Presentations	Students will work individually, in pairs or in groups of three to make a presentation (approximately 15-25 minutes long) on a relevant topic approved by the instructor.
Final Project	For the final project, students will work in teams of two or three to draw up a plan for a Koreans in the Americas Road Trip (hypothetical or otherwise). The plan will consist of four parts: 1) Vision; 2) Route; 3) Planning and 4) Report. In planning the trip, students will choose at least five destinations in three or more countries in the Americas and over a minimum distance of 6,000k (similar to the distance traveled in <i>Diarios de Motocicleta</i> , which serves as a model for the students' road trip). Students can plan the trip for from four weeks to four months anywhere in the Americas. Students are encouraged to be creative and to think this through to the point in which they could plan the trip and get the money for it, should they actually ever decide to make it happen (or something similar).

□ Course Schedule

The Americas-Background

Session 1 (Jun. 27, Wed) – Overview, Introductions and Pre-Columbian Americas

In-class video, *Cracking the Mayan Code* (Lebrun, 2008) NOVA PBS documentary

Session 2 (Jun. 28, Thu) – Colonial Americas

In-class video, *Many Rivers to Cross-The African Americans* (Episode 1: *The Black Atlantic*) from documentary series by Henry Louis Gate Jr.)

Session 3 (Jul. 2, Mon) – The Americas Today.

In-class video, *Black in Latin America: Brazil: A Racial Democracy?* (from documentary series by Henry Louis Gates Jr.)

Session 4 (Jul. 4, Wed) –Final Project Assigned: Koreans in the Americas Road Trip

Homework video, *The True Story of Che Guevara - The Documentary*

In-class feature film, *The Motorcycle Diaries* (Salles, 2004)



Korean Immigration and the Americas

Session 5 (Jul. 5, Thu) – Asia and the Americas

Reading, Dosch, Jörn. “Introduction: The Three-Phase Encounter of Two Continents.”

In-class video lecture, “An Overview of Korea” (Prof. David Kang, USC Korean Studies Institute)

Session 6 (Jul. 09, Mon) – Korean History

In-class video, *A Brief History of Korea* (Cyber University Korean Culture Series)

Session 7 (Jul. 11, Wed) – Mid-term Exam

Session 8 (Jul. 12, Thu) – Early Korean Immigration

In-class video lecture, “The 5 Most Important Things to know about Korean Religions” (Don Baker, University of British Columbia)

Session 9 (Jul. 16, Mon) – Korean War Era Immigration

Reading, Chang, Jason Oliver. “Toward a Hemispheric Asian American History.”

In-class video lecture, “North Korea beyond the Headlines PART 1: Introducing North Korea” (David Kang, USC)

Session 10 (Jul. 18, Wed) – Korean Communities Today

In-class video lecture, “Korean Americans: Past and Present” (Susie Woo, USC Korean Studies Institute)

In-class online art by Korean Grandfather, Vovô Chan, an immigrant to Brazil who creates artwork for grandchildren in US and Korea.

Visiting Guest Speaker (TBA)

Culture and Daily Life

Session 11 (Jul. 19, Thu) – Hallyu in the Americas

Reading, Epstein, Stephen. “From South Korea to the Southern Hemisphere: K-pop below the Equator.”

In-class video-lecture, “What is K-pop?” (Prof. Suk-Young Kim, UC Santa Barbara)

Session 12 (Jul. 23, Mon) – Daily Life in Beauty, Fashion, Sports and the Arts

Homework video lecture, “LA Dodger legend Park Chan-Ho”

In-class online videos *Beyond Beauty with Grace Neutral* (Brazil and Korea episodes, each 30 min.)

Session 13 (Jul. 25, Wed) – The Americas in Korea

Reading, Choi, Jungbong. “Loyalty Transmission and Cultural Enlisting of K-Pop in Latin America.”

In-class video lecture, “The US Alliance System in Asia with a focus on Korea” (Victor Cha, Georgetown University)

Visiting Guest Speaker (TBA)



Session 14 (Jul. 26, Thu) – Global Korean Business Across the Americas

In-class video lecture, “North Korea beyond the Headlines PART2: Dealing with North Korea's Military Challenge” (David Kang, USC)

Visiting Guest Speaker (TBA)

Session 15 (Jul. 27, Fri) – Latin American Food Experience (off-campus)

Final Group Projects Due

Bibliography

Chang, Jason Oliver. “Toward a Hemispheric Asian American History.” In *The Oxford Handbook of Asian American History*, edited by David K. Yoo and Eiichiro Azuma, 31-49. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016.

Choi, Jungbong. “Loyalty Transmission and Cultural Enlisting of K-pop in Latin America.” In *K-pop: The International Rise of the Korean Music Industry*, edited by Jungbong Choi and Roald Maliangkay, 98-115. New York: Routledge, 2015.

Dosch, Jörn. “Introduction: The Three-Phase Encounter of Two Continents.” In *Asia and Latin America: Political, Economic, and Multilateral Relations*. Edited by Jörn Dosch and Olaf Jacob, 1-12. London; New York: Routledge, 2010.

Epstein, Stephen. “From South Korea to the Southern Hemisphere: K-pop below the Equator.” *Journal of World Popular Music* 3, no. 2 (2016): 197-223.

Rhie, Won-bok. *Korea Unmasked: In Search of the Country, the Society and the People*. Translated by Louis Choi. Seoul: Gimm Young International, 2002.