Introduction to Korean Civilization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Times</td>
<td>Mon/Wed/Thu Type B (13:00–16:00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equivalent Year Level</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>Eugene Y. Park</td>
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<td>Office</td>
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<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:epa@sas.upenn.edu">epa@sas.upenn.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sessions</td>
<td>15 (45 class hours)</td>
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Instructor’s Profile

Name: Eugene Y. Park
Korea Foundation Associate Professor of History
Director, James Joo-Jin Kim Program in Korean Studies
University of Pennsylvania

Education
Ph.D., East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University, 1999
A.M., Regional Studies East Asia, Harvard University, 1993
B.A., History, University of California, Los Angeles, 1991

Expertise
Korean history

Most Recent Books
Course Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Description</th>
<th>This course surveys various sociopolitical orders, their characteristics, and major cultural developments from early times to the present in Korea and the vicinity, with an emphasis on pre-1900 history. 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. Students will also be introduced to various interpretive approaches in the historiography. No prior knowledge of Korean language or culture is presumed.</th>
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| Course Evaluation | • map quiz (5%)  
• midterm examination (30%)  
• final examination (30%)  
• presentation on the readings (25%)  
• lecture attendance (10%) |
| Course Materials | All reading selections from the following will be distributed by the instructor:  
Journal articles and others as listed in the course schedule. Required. |
| Class Policy | Every student is required to check email on a regular basis, as the instructor will be using email as the primary mode of communication outside the class time.  
Academic dishonesty is not tolerated. Cheating, forgery, dishonest conduct, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode this course’s intellectual, educational, and social roles. 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

Session 1 (Wed., June 26): Introduction

Session 2 (Thu., June 27): Dawn of Korean Civilization to 391 CE
- Lee, Peter H., and Wm. Theodore de Bary, eds. *Sources of Korean Tradition*, vol. 1, *From Early Times through the Sixteenth Century* (hereafter *SKT* 1):
  - “King Sansang: The Levirate Custom,” 30–32.

Session 3 (Mon., July 1): The Three Kingdoms, Buyeo, and Gaya, 391–676
- Map quiz at the beginning of the class
- *SKT* 1:
- Park, Eugene Y. *A Concise History of Korea*, chapter 2.

Session 4 (Wed., July 3): The Northern and Southern States, 676–918
- *SKT* 1:
  - “Chang Pogo,” 120.
  - “Ch’oe Ch’iwŏn,” 71–72.
- Park, Eugene Y. *A Concise History of Korea*, chapter 3.
Session 5 (Thu., July 4): Early Goryeo, 918–1146

- **SKT 1:**

Session 6 (Mon., July 8): Late Goryeo, 1146–1392

- **SKT 1:**
  - “Manjŏk’s Slave Rebellion,” 200.
  - “Chŏng Tojŏn: Philosophical Rebuttal of Buddhism and Taoism,” 254–256.
- Park, Eugene Y. *A Concise History of Korea*, chapter 5.

Session 7 (Wed., July 10): Midterm examination

Session 8 (Thu., July 11): Early Joseon, 1392–1567

- **SKT 1:**
  - “King Sejong: Preface to *Hunmin chŏngŭm,“ 295
  - “Ch’oe Malli: Opposition to the Korean Alphabet,” 296.
- 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* (hereafter **SKT 2**):
  - “Queen Sohye: Instructions for the Inner Quarters,” 46–49.

Session 9 (Mon., July 15): Mid-Joseon, 1567–1724

- **SKT 2:**
  - “Kim Yuk: Memorial on Western Calendrical Science,” pp. 118–120.
  - “Song Siyŏl: Instructions to My Daughter,” 49–52.
Session 10 (Wed., July 17): Late Joseon, 1724–1864

- SKT 2:
  - “An Chŏngbok: A Conversation on Catholicism,” 130–133.
- Park, Eugene Y. A Concise History of Korea, chapter 8.

Session 11 (Thu., July 18): Reform, Imperialism, and Nationalism, 1864–1910

- SKT 2:
  - “Yi Hangno: Sinify the Western Barbarians,” 140–142.
- Park, Eugene Y. A Concise History of Korea, chapter 9.

Session 12 (Mon., July 22): Japanese Occupation, 1910–1945

- SKT 2:
- Park, Eugene Y. A Concise History of Korea, chapter 10.


- SKT 2:
- Park, Eugene Y. A Concise History of Korea, chapters 11–12.

Session 14 (Thu., July 25): Contemporary Korea since 1980

- Park, Eugene Y. A Concise History of Korea, chapters 13–14, Epilogue.
• 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.


Session 15 (Fri., July 26): Final examination