

Korean 113 KOREAN LITERATURE SURVEY, Spring 2014

Mondays 3-5:50pm at GIRV 2115

Office hour: Mondays 6-7pm and by appointment

Instructor: Youme Kim (Email: TBA)

Course Description

This course offers an introduction to representative Korean literary works from the Chosŏn dynasty to the present day, covering diverse genres, major works, and key authors. The class readings of translated short fiction and folk-tales aim to introduce the student to the major cultural themes and historical events that have shaped Korean society and arts today. The main readings are supplemented with historical narratives, films, television dramas, and music. Class topics may include, but are not limited to: written and spoken languages in Korean language and literature, class stratification in class stratification, the role of women in traditional Korea, the Japanese occupation (1905-1945), the aftermath of the Korean War and the politics of division, and Korean popular culture. The weekly three-hour class session will consist of lecture, viewing required materials, and student presentations and discussion. The course does not assume any prior background in Korean language, history, or culture.

Textbook:

Anthology of Korean Literature from Early Times to the Nineteenth Century, ed. Peter H. Lee (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1990) (AKL)

Modern Korean Fiction: An Anthology, eds. Bruce Fulton and Yongmin Kwan (NY: Columbia University Press 2005) (MKF)

- Additional readings will be posted at GauchoSpace.

Suggested Readings:

“The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch'un-hyang,” *Virtuous Women: Three Classic Korean Novels*, trans. Richard Rutt and Choung-un Kim (Seoul: Kwang Myong, 1983)

A History of Korean Literature, ed. Peter H. Lee (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2003)

Korea Old and New: A History, Carter J. Eckert et al. (Seoul: Ilchogak for Korea Institute, Harvard University, 1990)

The Memoirs of Lady Hyegyŏng, trans. Jahyun Kim Haboush (Berkley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1996)

- Additional Korean Literature in Translation: <http://www.ktlit.com>

Grading Policy & Course Requirements

Attendance and Class Participation: 20%

Students will first of all be expected to complete all readings, think carefully about topics, artworks, and writings introduced each week, to participate fully in class discussion, and to turn in assignments on time. Student must complete all the readings assigned before coming to each class, and should bring those readings to class with them.

Student Presentation: 20%

You are required to do a seven to ten minute oral presentation explaining the context and significance of a keyword. Please pose 2-3 questions for discussion as well. You may choose a topic from the keywords in the schedule and make a presentation about it using a PowerPoint. The presentation will be evaluated based on clarity, organization, accuracy, content, and delivery. Upload your PPT slides at Gaucho space 24-hours prior to your presentation. Bring your presentation, preferably on a USB flash drive, on the day of your presentation.

Midterm Paper: 20%

Students will submit a 3-5 page (hardcopy, double-spaced, 12 point font) final paper on an issue/issues about the assigned literary works. You can choose any common themes that run through the literary works, movies, or TV dramas we will examine in the class. You can visit the instructor during office hours or ask for extra office hours to discuss your topic. This paper will be evaluated on presentation, research, use of course materials, and the quality of your analysis.

Papers are due in class, Week 5, April 28. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Final Exam: 40%

Final exam will have True/False, IDs, and analytical essays. You will be graded on your understanding of Korean literature as well as the depth of your analysis and ability to answer the questions using clear language. There are no extensions for the final examination and any time conflicts must be reported at least 2 weeks in advance.

Attendance and Late Assignments

Attendance and active participation in each meeting is mandatory for all students and will be checked regularly. In the case of absence, only documented excuses (doctor's note, jury duty, and so on) will be accepted. Except in cases of documented medical emergencies, you will be penalized for any missed or late assignments. All assignments must be submitted in person (by you or someone else). I will generally not accept assignments by email.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism—the submission of presentation of work, in any form, that is not a student's own, without acknowledgement of the sources—is a serious offense and can result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension or dismissal. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing, you will be given ZERO for the assignment/test and the Dean will be immediately notified.

Class Schedule

Week 1 (March 31)

Introduction: Geography, History, Language, and Literature of Korea

1. Reading:

- "Foundation Myths," *Anthology of Korean Literature from Early Times to the Nineteenth Century (AKL)*, 3-16.
- "Biographies" (AKL), 22-33.
- "Ukmyon, the Slave Girl who Entered the Lotus Paradise," *Samguk Yusa* vol. 5: Tale of Devotion.

2. Viewing: Drama, *Chumong* (Episode 1)

Week 2 (April 7)

Social Class System and Literature of Chosŏn Korea

1. Reading:

- Richard Rutt and Kim Chong-un trans., "The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch'un-hyang," *Virtuous Women: Three Classic Korean Novels*, (Seoul: Kwang Myong, 1983), 250-333.
- "The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch'unhyang" (AKL), 22-33.
- Eckert, "The Creation of a Yangban Society," *Korea Old and New: A History* (Seoul: Ilchogak for Korea Institute Harvard University, 1990), 107-131.

2. Viewing: Movie, *Ch'unhyang* (2011)

Keywords: *yangban* (literati of Chosŏn), *kisaeng* (female entertainers), Sŏnggyungwan (National Confucian Academy), *Illustrated Conduct of Three Bonds*, Chosŏn's social class system

Week 3 (April 14)

Knowledge is Power: Inventing *Hangŭl*

1. Reading:

- Peter H. Lee ed., *Sourcebook of Korean Civilization*, v.1 (NY: Columbia UP).
- "The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch'un-hyang," 250-333.
- Eckert, "The Creation of a Yangban Society," 95-131.

2. Viewing: Drama, *Deep rooted tree* (Episode 20)

Keywords: *Hyangch'al*, *hyangga*, King Sejong, Chŏng Tojŏn (1342-1398), *sijo* poetry, civil service examination system

Week 4 (April 21)

Memoirs of Murder & The Golden Age of Chosŏn

1. Reading:

- Jahyun Kim Haboush, *Memoir of Lady Hyegyŏng*, 49-135.
- "Princess Hyegyŏng" (AKL), 238-244.

2. Viewing: Drama *Yi San* (Episode 1)

Keywords: King Yŏngjo, Prince Sado, King Chŏngjo, Lady Hyegyŏng, Factionalism

Week 5 (April 28): Midterm Paper due in class.

Women, Palace, and Love

1. Readings:

- Kim Manjung, “A Dream of Nine Clouds” (*AKL*) 162-176.
- Kim Sisŭp, “Student Yi Peers Over the Wall” (*AKL*), 79-91.
- “The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch'un-hyang,” 250-333.

2. Viewing: Drama, *The Moon Embracing the Sun* (Episode 20)

Jewel of the Palace (Episode 54)

Keywords: Kim Sisŭp, *kungnyŏ* (palace women), shamanism, *Jiandeng xinhua* (New stories told while trimming the wick, 1378), Kim Manjung

Week 6 (May 5)

Life of Ruled People & P’ansori

1. Reading:

- Hŏ Kyun, “The Tale of Hong Kiltong” (*AKL*), 119-147.
- “The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch'un-hyang,” 250-333.
- Kim Hŭnggyu, “P’ansori” and “Folk Drama,” in *A History of Korean Literature*, ed. Peter H. Lee (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003), 288-315.

2. Viewing: Movie, *The King and the Clown* (2005)

Keywords: Hŏ Kyun (1569-1618), *p’ansori*, Korean traditional performance, *sŏ’ŏl* (illegitimate sons), Manchu Invasions

Week 7 (May 12)

Portraits of Korean Elites, Women, Laborers, and Students in Colonial Korea

Reading:

- Hyŏn Chingŏn, “A Lucky Day” (1924), *MKF* 1-12.
- Kim Tongin, “Potatoes” (1925), *MKF* 13-20.
- Ch’ae Mansik, “My Innocent Uncle” (1938), *MKF* 95-112.
- “Modern Literature in East Asia: An overview,” in *The Columbia Companion to Modern East Asian Literature (Companion)*, 7-18.
- *Modern Korean Fiction: An Anthology*, “Introduction,” *MKF*

Keywords: March First Movement, Han Yong-un, Yi Kwangsu, Yun Tongju, Na Hyesŏk

Week 8 (May 19)

The Memory of Korean War and National Division

1. Reading:

- Eckert, "Liberation, Division, and War, 1945-1953," *Korea Old and New: A History*, 327-346.
- Pak Wansŏ "Mother's Hitching Post" (1980), *MKF* 291-328.
- Yi Pŏmsŏn (Lee Bonson), "A Misfired Shot" (1959) in Ktlit.com

2. Viewing: Movie, *The Frontline* (2012)

Keywords: Syngman Rhee, Kim Il-sung, The Korean War, United State Army Military Government in Korea (USAMGIK), Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)

Week 9 (May 26: Memorial Day/ Makeup session TBA)

Authoritarian Politics and March for Democracy

1. Reading:

- Kim Sŭngok, "Seoul: 1964, Winter" (1965), *MKF* 163-180.
- Ch'oe Yun, "The Gray Snowman" (1992), *MKF* 345-370.
- Cho Sehŭi, "A Little Ball Launched by a Dwarf" (1981) in Ktlit.com
- Eckert, "Authoritarianism and Protest," *Korea Old and New: A History*, 347-387.

2. Viewing: Movie, *A Housemaid* (1960)

Keywords: National Security Law, April Revolution, Park Chunghee, Chŏn T'aeil, June Democratization Movement

Week 10 (June 2)

Representation of the Past in Literary and Visual Texts

1. Reading:

- "The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch'un-hyang," 250-333.
- Kim Tongni, "The Shaman Painting," *MKF* 35-58.
- Yi Hyosŏk, "When the Buckwheat Blooms," *MKF* 85-94

2. Viewing: Drama, *Sassy Girl, Ch'unhyang* (Episode 1) Movie, *The Servant* (Pangjachŏn) (2010)

Keywords: *sijo* about and by women (ex. *Sijo* about Hwang Chini and by Hwang Chini), Korean historical TV dramas, Kim Tongni, Yi Hyosŏk

WEEK 11

Final Exam: Location and Time (TBA)