

Spring 2017, DIS, Korea University

## UNDERSTANDING EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATION

### **Modern Transformation**

DISS26200 Fri. 14:00-15:15 PM, 15:30-16:45 PM,  
International Studies Hall 114

Instructor: Ji Hee JUNG  
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Office Hour: By appointment

**\*\*This syllabus is subject to change with advance notice, based on the needs of the class\*\***

#### **Course Description:**

This course will introduce students to the political, social, and cultural transformation of East Asia. This year we will focus on the modern period. Rethinking the conventional framework that tends to deal with “East Asian Civilization” as a natural entity, this course (1) locates the very modern construction of the category and its changing meanings in the global contexts and (2) considers the modern transformation of East Asia from a transnational perspective. The course will first discuss the spread of the concept of “civilization” in East Asia and will look at the interactions of the people of East Asia with Western and Japanese imperialism. The second half will deal with internationalism and regionalism before and during the Asia Pacific War, and the decline and resurgence of regionalism in Cold War and Post-Cold War East Asia. The course combines lectures, discussions, films, and students’ presentations. Students are expected to engage with course materials and discussions imaginatively and critically.

#### **Course Objectives:**

- Learn the major problems and issues in the modern transformation of East Asia and the changing meanings of “East Asian Civilization” and East Asia.
- Build your own interpretations of texts and contexts.
- Engage with some of the key primary materials (English translations) as a way to establish a dialogue with the past.

#### **Readings:**

Required readings for the course will be available on Blackboard (<https://kulms.korea.ac.kr>). In this class, we will not use a textbook. The following book (available on reserve at the library), however, is strongly recommended for those who want to acquire basic knowledge of East Asia to prepare for or review the class.

Patricia Ebrey, et al. East Asia: A Cultural, Social, and Political History, Houghton Mifflin Company, **2nd edition**, 2009

(Patricia Ebrey, et al. Modern East Asia: From 1600: A Cultural, Social, and Political History, Houghton Mifflin Company, 2nd edition)

Ch. 18. China in Decline through the final chapter

#### **Prerequisites:**

The course has no prerequisite. No knowledge of East Asian languages is required to enroll in the course.

#### **Course Requirements and Assignments:**

Attendance and Class Participation 20%

Group Presentation	20%
In-Class Midterm Exam	25%
In-Class Final Exam	35%

- I expect everyone to participate in class discussion actively by presenting one's comments, raising questions, and interacting with other students. I may call on individuals if participation is not forthcoming voluntarily. It is imperative to read and reflect on assigned materials before arriving. Occasionally, you may be asked to write short comments related to readings or other class activities in class.
- Students will be divided into groups and each group is responsible for giving the class a 25-minute presentation. A guide will be distributed in class.
- Exams are based on lectures, readings, and class discussions. A guide will be distributed in class.

### **Grading Scale:**

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A+	95-100	A	90-94
B+	85-89	B	80-84
C+	75-79	C	70-74
D+	65-69	D	60-64
F	0-59		

### **Course Policies:**

#### **Attendance:**

- I expect students to come to all lectures. Be punctual and participate fully for the entire duration of the class. Students are responsible for learning what they missed in case of absence.
- I reserve the right to reduce your grade for habitual lateness or absence.
- Appropriate documentation is required for excused absences.

#### **Assignments:**

- Reading assignments and lecture topics are subject to change during the course of the semester. Students are responsible to keep up with the changes announced in class, through email, or on Blackboard.
- Missed exams usually cannot be made up without a university approved excuse or prior approval of the instructor.

#### **Academic Honesty:**

- All work submitted for academic evaluation must be the student's own. Any violations including cheating and plagiarism will be treated as serious offenses. Plagiarized assignments will receive an automatic zero and may result in a failing grade for the course.

#### **Class Communication:**

- All in-class and out-of-class communication must be in English.
- Most announcements will be made in class. But occasionally I may circulate announcements through email or Blackboard. You are responsible for checking your Korea University email and Blackboard regularly.
- You can contact me by email. I will try to reply to your email ASAP, generally within 24 hours (except on weekends).

#### **Class Technology:**

- Laptop computers may be used only for note taking. Other on-line activities including texting, email, and web browsing will have a negative effect on a student's class participation grade.

- Turn off your cell phone.
- No recording of class lectures and discussions is permitted.

### **Classroom Courtesy:**

- Be respectful of others and pay careful attention to the viewpoints and opinions of your classmates. You will learn just as much from your peers as you do from me.

### **Schedule of Topics and Readings:**

#### Week 1 (03/03) Introduction

### **Part I: “East Asian Civilization”**

#### Week 2 (03/10) What Is “East Asian Civilization”? (I)

Prasenjit Duara, “The Discourse of Civilization and Pan-Asianism,” *Journal of World History* 12(1), 2001, 99-130 (recommended)

#### Week 3 (03/17) What Is “East Asian Civilization”? (II)

“Introduction: The Rise of East Asia in Regional and World Historical Perspective,” *The Resurgence of East Asia : 500, 150 and 50 Year Perspectives*, edited by Giovanni Arrighi, Takeshi Hamashita, and Mark Selden

### **Part II: Encounters with the “Civilized West” and the Twilight of the Old Order**

#### Week 4 (03/24) From the Tributary System to the Treaty System

“The Lesson of Lin Zexu,” *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, Vol.2, 201-205  
Fukuzawa Yukichi, *The Autobiography of Fukuzawa Yukichi*, 124-140

#### Week 5 (03/31) Building Modern Nation States: Reforms and “Restoration”

“Reforms from Above, 1894-1895,” *Sources of Korean Tradition*, Vol.2, 272-276  
“Kang Youwei’s 1898 Memorial to Qing emperor Guanxu (1871-1908, r. 1875-1908),” *Asia for Educators*

#### Week 6 (04/07) “Throwing off Asia”: Shift in Regional Power

Fukuzawa Yukichi, “Good-bye Asia (Datsu-a), 1885,” *Japan: A Documentary History*, Vol. II, 351-353  
John Dower, Ch. 5: Symbolic China, “Throwing Off Asia II: Woodblock Prints of the Sino-Japanese War (1894-95),” MIT Visualizing Cultures

### **Part III Interwar Internationalism**

#### Week 7 (04/14) Self-Determinism and the Question of Culture

“March First Movement,” *Source Book of Korean Tradition*, Vo. II, 430-434  
Lu Xun, “Diary of a Madman,” *Diary of a Madman and Other Stories*, 29-41

#### Week 8 (04/21) Midterm Exam

#### Week 9 (04/28) Interwar Transnationalism and Coeval Modernities

Kaneko Fumiko, "The Road to Nihilism," *Reflections on the Way to the Gallows: Rebel Women in Prewar Japan*, 75-80 & 119-124

Jee Soon Hong, "Transcultural Politics of Department Stores: Colonialism and Mass Culture in East Asia, 1900–1945," *International Journal of Asian Studies*, 13(2), 2016, 123-150

In-Class Film: *Sweet Dream* (Mimong), 1936, directed by Yang Chu-nam (excerpts)

Week 10 (05/05) No Class (Children's Day)

Week 11 (05/12) Colonial Experiences under Japanese Rule

Chu Tien Jen, "Autumn Note," *The Unbroken Chain: An Anthology of Taiwan Fiction since 1926*, 24-32

Hildi Kang, Ch.9 "Passive Resistance," *Under the Black Umbrella: Voices from Colonial Korea, 1910-1945*, 99-106.

**Part IV Japan's Pan-Asianism and Its Discontents**

Week 12 (05/19) "Imperialism without Colonies" and Chinese Nationalism

Mao Zedong, "Report on an Investigation of the Hunan Peasant Movement," *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, Vol. 2, 404-411

Chiang Kai-shek, "Essentials of the New Life Movement (Speech, 1934)," *Asia for Educators*

Week 13 (05/26) The Asia Pacific War and Pan-Asianism

"Tōjō Greets the Greater East Asia Conference," in Joyce C. Lebra, ed., *Japan's Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere*, 88-93

In-Class Film: *Volunteer* (Chiwōnbyōng), 1941, directed by An Sōk-yong (excerpts)

**Part V Regionalism in Cold War and Post-Cold War East Asia**

Week 14 (06/02) System Competition in Cold War East Asia

Chang Kyung-Sup, "Compressed Modernity and Its Discontents: South Korean Society in Transition," *Economy and Society* 28(1), 1999, 30-55

"How China Proceed with the Task of Industrialization," "Report on the First Five-Year Plan for Development of the National Economy," *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, Vol. 2, 455-458

Week 15 (06/09) "Asian Values" and East Asian Regionalism in the Post-Cold War Context

Leigh Jenco, "Revisiting Asian Values," *Journal of the History of Ideas*, 74(2), 2013, 237-258

Week 16 (06/16) Final Exam