

PIA2958: INTRODUCTION TO KOREAN SOCIETY

Effective Term

Semester B 2022/23

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Introduction to Korean Society

Subject Code

PIA - Public and International Affairs

Course Number

2958

Academic Unit

Public and International Affairs (PIA)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

AIS2958 Introduction to Korean Society

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course will familiarise students with key issues in modern Korean society as a way of understanding Korean society and its people. Major social changes which constitute the modern day Korea will be explored through lectures and

discussions about, but not limited to, history, policy, education, family, employment, gender equality, and labour. Students will be able to identify key issues in contemporary Korean society with analytic and critical views and compare them with their own society.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Review the formation and development of modern Korean society.	25	x	
2	Identify the key aspects and social trends of modern Korean society.	25	x	x
3	Recognise the national identities and characteristics that have shaped the behaviour of the present day Koreans.	25	x	x
4	Compare and contrast some of the key aspects of Korean society with those of other East Asian countries.	25	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

TLAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)	
1	CILO 1	A broad overview of the formation and development of modern Korean society are explained through lectures;	1	1.5 hours
2	CILO 2	Reading assignments (books, online articles, and academic papers) are provided to enable students to discuss major social values and trends in class;	2	2 hours (extra)

3	CILO 3	Key concepts on national identities and characteristics of Korea are explained in the lectures with a variety of interactive learning materials (DVD, online resources) to enhance students motivation for learning; Small group discussion are organised in class to enable students to discuss the topics from lectures and reading assignments;	3	0.5 hour
4	CILO 4	Group presentations and other group learning activities are organised to enable students to analyse and compare the key features of Korean society with those of other East Asian societies	4	1 hour

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1 Quiz/Discussions Ability to apply learned concepts and knowledge will be assessed through in-class work	1, 2, 3, 4	20	
2 Individual Paper Students will submit a 5-7 page individual project paper that applies the topics and concepts covered in class.	2, 3	40	
3 Group Project (could be the same topic with individual paper) are organised to assess students ability to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the topic	2, 4	40	

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

1. Quiz/ Discussion

Criterion

Concept/Knowledge

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Critical capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

Marginal (D)

Basic familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

Failure (F)

Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

Assessment Task

2. Individual Paper

Criterion

Written Report

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

Marginal (D)

Minimum familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

Failure (F)

Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

Assessment Task

3. Group Project

Criterion

Presentation

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

Marginal (D)

Minimum familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

Failure (F)

Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

Collectivism, Education fever, Religion, Gender, Family, Korean war and national division, Student movement and democracy, Globalisation, Multiculturalism, Aging society, Digital communication (IT culture), Popular Culture.

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

	Title
1	Eckert, C., Lee, K., Lew, Y., Robinson, M. & Wagner, E. (1990). Korea Old and New: A History. Korea Institute, Harvard University; Ilchokak.
2	Choi, J. S, Hahn I. H., Kim, M. H., Kim, Y. H. & Lee, K. S. (2011). Understanding Contemporary Korean culture. Seoul: Jimoondang.
3	Pai, H. I. & Tangherlini, T. R. eds. Nationalism and the Construction of Korean Identity. Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies, University of California, 1998.

Additional Readings

	Title
1	Cho, H. Y. ed. (2012). Contemporary South Korean Society. Abingdon, Oxon; New York: Routledge.
2	Hwang, K. M. (2010). A History of Korea. Hampshire; New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
3	Kim, E. M, Yang, O.K., Lee, H. & Cho, H. L. (2012). South Korea advances toward a multicultural society. Gyoha-eup Kyeonggi-do, Korea: Nanam.
4	Korean Family Studies Association, ed. (2011). Korean families: continuity and change. Seoul: Seoul National University Press.
5	Lee, N, H. (2007). The Making of Minjung: Democracy and the Politics of Representation in South Korea. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press.

6	Oh, M & Larson, J. F. (2011). Digital development in Korea: building an information society. Abingdon, Oxon; New York: Routledge.
7	Park, H. J & Kim, K, eds. (2014). Korean Education in Changing Economic and Demographic Contexts. Singapore: Springer
8	Shin, H. S (2005). A brief history of Korea; translated by Lee Jean Young. Seoul, Korea: Ewha Womans University Press.
9	Abelmann, N. (1996). Echoes of the Past, Epics of Dissent: A South Korean Social Movement. University of California Press.
10	Online Resource: Digital Library of Korean Studies http://lib.aks.ac.kr/DLiWebeng/
11	Online Resource: Korea Net - Gateway to Korea http://www.korea.net