

# PIA4407: UNDERSTANDING KOREAN SOCIETY THROUGH FILM

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## Effective Term

Semester B 2023/24

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Understanding Korean Society through Film

### Subject Code

PIA - Public and International Affairs

### Course Number

4407

### 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

AIS4407 Understanding Korean Society through Film

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

This course aims to enhance student understanding of Korean society by examining key social, historical and cultural events and issues portrayed in Korean cinema. The course provides a unique opportunity for students interested in Korean culture, history and cinema in general. The course also provides students with skills and knowledge to better understand and evaluate many important issues in contemporary societies in Asia and elsewhere. Such issues include the dynamic impact of industrialisation and economic transformation, and the various pressures of globalisation and multiculturalism. The course will appeal to students seeking a better understanding of the important experiences of a country that is now a leading cultural and technological exporter to the world.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	identify key social/historical/cultural events/issues of modern and contemporary Korean society represented in selected Korean films;	x	x	
2	analyse how these critical issues /events influence Korean people and Korean society	x	x	x
3	develop strong awareness for their own social issues as well as global issues in the contemporary societies	x	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	Lecture & Film Viewing	Key issues and background knowledge on Korean society are explained through lectures and reinforced through watching a relevant film	1, 2, 3
2	Reading Assignments	Reading assignments (book chapters, news articles, and academic papers) are provided prior to tutorials to enable students to understand background of each topic to be covered	1, 2, 3

3	Small Group Discussions	to facilitate effective learning, students will be assigned into a small group to discuss the topics with peers and present their findings in class	1, 2, 3	
4	Group Paper Writing and Presentation	to enable students to critically analyse the topics covered in class; to gain broader insights on Korean culture as well as their own culture through critical reflection	1, 2, 3	

**Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)**

ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)	
1	Quizzes	1, 2	60	3 quizzes, each quiz is 20%
2	Group Paper and Presentation	1, 2, 3	30	2500~3000 words
3	Attendance and Participation	1, 2, 3	10	3 times of late coming count as 1 time absence

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

100

**Examination (%)**

0

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Assessment Task**

1. Quizzes

**Criterion**

Ability to apply learned concepts and knowledge will be assessed through 3 quizzes

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

Excellent command of knowledge in selected topics in social issues of Korea

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Good command of knowledge in selected topics in social issues of Korea

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Fair command of knowledge in selected topics in social issues of Korea

**Marginal (D)**

Marginal command of knowledge in selected topics in social issues of Korea

**Failure (F)**

Fail to demonstrate knowledge in selected topics in social issues of Korea

**Assessment Task**

## 2. Group Paper and Presentation

**Criterion**

Students will submit a reflective paper that applies the topics and concepts covered in class

**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

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Student who is profiting from the university experience; lack of understanding of the issues

**Marginal (D)**

Sufficient 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, democratization, education fever, familism, feminism, globalisation, industrialization, Korean capitalism and social class, multiculturalism, war and national division youth culture, etc.

**Reading List****Compulsory Readings**

	Title
1	Cho, H.Y. ed. (2012). Contemporary South Korean Society. Abingdon, Oxon; New York: Routledge.
2	Gateward, F. ed. (2007) Seoul Searching: Culture and Identity in Contemporary Korean Cinema. Albany: SUNY Press.
3	Kim, E. M, Yang, O.K., Lee, H. & Cho, H.L. (2012) South Korea advances toward a multicultural society. Kyeonggi-do, Korea: Nanam.
4	Park, H. & Kim, K. (2014) Korean Education in Changing Economic and Demographic Contexts. Singapore: Springer

**Additional Readings**

	Title
1	Choi, J. (2010) The South Korean Film Renaissance. Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press
2	Kim, K. H. (2011) Virtual Hallyu: Korean Cinema of the Global Era. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press.
3	McHugh. K. & Abelmann, N. ed. (2005) South Korean Golden Age Melodrama: Gender, Genre, and National Cinema. Detroit: Wayne State University Press
4	Paquet, D. (2009) New Korean Cinema: Breaking the waves. New York: Wallflower Press
5	Arirang TV <a href="http://www.arirang.com/index.asp">http://www.arirang.com/index.asp</a>
6	Korean film. Org <a href="https://www.koreanfilm.org/">https://www.koreanfilm.org/</a>
7	Korean Movie Database <a href="http://www.kmdb.or.kr/eng/main">http://www.kmdb.or.kr/eng/main</a>

8	Hankyorhe (Newspaper) <a href="http://english.hani.co.kr/">http://english.hani.co.kr/</a>
9	The Kyung Hyang Shinmun (Newspaper) <a href="http://english.khan.co.kr/">http://english.khan.co.kr/</a>