

Dear students,

There will be some changes and new course offerings for the **Korean Studies elective courses in the 2023-2024 academic year**. Please see the below schedule and plan your courses ahead.

[2023-2024 1st Semester]

KORE2024 Korean Studies 1

- **Course title:** Introduction to Korean cinema
- **Instructor:** Dr. So Hye Kim (Korea Foundation Visiting Lecturer)
- **Time:** Thursday 4:40 pm – 6:20 pm
- **Prerequisite:** KORE1021
- **Course Description:** This course offers an overview of Korean film history, examined through the prism of collective societal imagination. Since its inception, cinema has played a pivotal role in shaping collective experiences within the public sphere. Examining how Korean films have continued envisioning the modern transformations of society, this course gives special attention to films which engage intensively with the relevant themes of colonization, national division, industrialization, democratization, and globalization. The course follows a chronological progression, beginning with the colonial period and leading up to the contemporary era. Alongside this, the course addresses the specific contextual shifts through which earlier films are reintroduced, reassessed, and historicized.

KORE2035 Society and thoughts in Korea

- **Instructor:** Dr. Seong Sik Heo
- **Time:** Wednesday 12:30 pm – 2:20 pm
- **Prerequisite:** KORE1021
- **Course Description:** This course will explore how Christianity was introduced into the Korean society and contributed to the formation of the modern Korean society as one of the most influential religions among the Korean people. Korean Christianity, including both Catholic and Protestant, has been shaped to become very unique in its faith and practice. Christianity in Korea has come to have its unique appearance as it has passed through many difficult periods of modern and contemporary history. In order to understand the impact of Korean Christianity on Korean society during these historical upheavals, this course will examine the following topics: Christianity as radical political ideology, rebellion or martyrdom, ancestor worship, Shinto shrine worship, conversion stories (Confucian, shamanistic, Buddhistic), Great Revival in 1907, anti-communism, Americanized religion, explosion of church growth, civil rights movement and so forth. And students will be asked to understand how religions, particularly Christianity have influenced on the formation of the Korean society up to now.

[2023-2024 2nd Semester]

KORE2026 Topics in Korean culture and society

- **Course Title:** Women's Voices in Contemporary South Korean Culture
- **Instructor:** Dr. So Hye Kim (Korea Foundation Visiting Lecturer)
- **Time:** Thursday 4:30 pm - 6:20 pm
- **Prerequisites:** KORE1021

- **Course Description:** This course delves into the myriad voices of women expressed through diverse cultural forms in modern and contemporary South Korea. Offering a survey of Korean culture through a female perspective, it seeks to amplify voices that are often silenced or subdued, shedding light on the historical and cultural transformation within South Korean society. To facilitate a richer understanding, the course draws upon an extensive selection of resources, including feature films, documentaries, literature, sound recordings, theater recordings, and YouTube videos. These materials not only serve as valuable tools in providing students with insight into the diverse female voices in contemporary Korean society, but they also foster a critical examination of Korean culture. Through this exploration, students will gain a nuanced understanding of the role and representation of women in Korea's societal and cultural contexts.

KORE 2044—The Korean War: Origins, aftermath, reconstruction, and remembrance

- **Instructor:** Dr. Paul Cha(pcha@hku.hk)
- **Time:** Monday 12:30 pm -2:20 pm
- **Prerequisite:** KORE1021
- **Course Description:** The Korean War is one of the most significant conflicts of the 20th century. It was the first major international outbreak of fighting after World War II. It was the first conflict where the “Cold War” turned “hot.” And, the aftermath of this conflict is still felt in the present day. Utilizing an interdisciplinary approach, in this course we will examine how the Korean War has had a profound impact in shaping life not only on the peninsula but also beyond. Questions we will examine include: Was this an international or domestic war? How did it shape the Cold War and international relations in East Asia? How did Koreans rebuild their societies after the war? How has this war been remembered both in Korea and abroad? What political, social, or cultural functions do these acts of remembering play?

KORE 3042—Advanced seminar in Korean Studies {* Food, Body and Life Politics in Global Korea}

- **Instructor:** Dr. Paul Cha(pcha@hku.hk)
- **Time:** Tuesday 3:30 pm - 4:20 pm + Special Guest Lectures
 - Note 1: Regular Class Time
 - Class will not meet every week
 - Students will meet with instructor to work on individual projects/papers
 - Note 2: Special Guest Lecture
 - Professor Hyaе-weol Choi will guest lecture
 - Specialist of gender and women’s studies
 - Current Vice-President of the Association of Asian Studies
 - Next President of the Association of Asian Studies
 - <https://clas.uiowa.edu/religion/people/hyaеweol-choi>
(Personal Bio)
 - March 22, 25, 27 (Two-Hours)
 - Time TBA in conversation with enrolled students
- **Prerequisite:** KORE1021
- **Course Description:** This course centers on food as an expedient site of inquiry for exploring gender dynamics in global Korea. While food tends to be thought of as a mundane thing that is unworthy of serious academic analysis, it has inherent links to ethics, politics, class structure, the global economy, and ecology. In

rethinking the connections between food and gender politics, we bypass the formal domains of law, governance, and party affiliation and look instead at the ordinary, everyday practices of eating and cooking, as a contested site of life politics where issues of gender, class, the global political economy and the environment intersect.

The course will specifically focus on three aspects of food practices to investigate old and new gender dynamics: 1) home cooking, 2) street food, and 3) community-based alternative food movements. In addition to critical readings of academic literature and visual materials, students will engage in a mini-ethnographic project. The focus for the project is wide open, and students are encouraged to identify a theme that excites their curiosity. Some potential topics are:

- Changing conceptions of masculinity/femininity in home cooking
- Immigrant communities and the effects of migration on food practices
- The “female” face of street foods