



## Korea University International Summer Campus (KU ISC) 2018

*Embark on a unique summer*

June 26, 2018 ~ August 2, 2018

### ISC264 East Asia: Tradition and Today

#### I . Instructor

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#### II. Textbook

Required Textbook : Course Reader  
Recommended :  
Additional Readings

#### III. Course Description and Objectives

##### Course Description

To many people, the contemporary world does not offer a too bright perspective of the future. Polarization in both political and economic arena in various regions of the world comes to have serious impacts on our lives more than ever. How did we get here? People ask. Reflecting upon this question leads us to think about once again the fundamentals of our society and our lives. What is a good society? What is a good life? How do different views appear and how we resolve conflicting ideas? What is individual citizen's responsibility to his or her community and how do different societies address these issues? Does East Asia have different views on these issues in comparison to the West? This course explores East Asian responses to these questions and issues.

During the first two weeks, we examine the traditional social and political thoughts in East Asia. With that background, we will examine some of major changes that took place in modern East Asia, and the relationship between East Asia and the West in that context, and also the competing and conflicting relationship among the three East Asian nations. We examine some of major events that shook the East Asian community and discuss how East Asian community reacted to the events and how the community spirit inspires us to understand human existence and society.

Reading assignments for each session is relatively short, given that this is an intensive summer course. However, each reading should offer us grounds for discussions and help us understand the issues we discuss in class. The completion of the reading assignments before the class and active class participation is essential for the successful completion of the course.

### Course Objectives:

1. Students will gain a general literacy in East Asia and be able to identify major East Asian traditions of thought and modern social, historical, and cultural aspects.
2. Students will learn about how individuals, social groups, historical periods, and their major problems in East Asia intersect with the power relationships of the time and how this intersection shapes the self-understanding of individuals and of East Asian society, along with their values and political decision making.
3. Students will ask significant questions about East Asian history, culture, society, and politics. They will learn about contemporary issues in East Asia, their ramifications in East Asian societies, and their position in the global community.
4. Students will learn to effectively communicate complex concepts and arguments about East Asia, both orally and in writing, through readings, in-class discussions, weekly assignments, and group presentations.
5. By exchanging ideas with students from other parts of the world, students will learn about different perspectives and how people in different positions understand the same issues differently.
6. Through multi-cultural exchange, students will enhance their capacity to position themselves in the global world.

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### IV. Grading

Attendance	:	15 %	
And Participation	:		
Midterm Exam	:	30 %	
Final Exam	:	30 %	
Group	:	10 %	
Presentation	:		
Weekly	:	15 %	(5 [one question per week] x 3 points/ question = 15 %)
Assignments	:		

### Course Requirements:

1. Regular attendance.
2. Active class participation.
3. Group Presentation.
4. Weekly assignment: Create a discussion question or take your position on the topics of the reading and submit one paragraph explanation of your position. Submit on Blackboard. You need only one submission per week for the first five weeks.
5. Midterm and Final exams (For both midterm and final exams, a **study guide will be provided in advance.**)

## V. Class Outline

Date	Topics and Readings		Remarks
June 26 (Tue)	Orientation Day		
	<b>I. Society and its Citizens: What is a good society?</b>		
June 27 (Wed)	<b>Introduction</b> East Asia: how do we define it? What characteristics do East Asian countries share and how do countries in East Asia differ from one another? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: in class reading: from <i>Intimacy and Integrity</i></li> </ul>		
June 28 (Thu)	<b>Confucianism: What are the essential elements to create a good society?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: <i>The Analects</i> (selections)</li> </ul>		
June 29 (Fri)	<b>Confucianism: Where does the authority of the ruler come from? How do we define justice?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: "Human Nature" selections from <i>Mencius</i> and the <i>Great Learning</i></li> </ul>		
	<b>II. Action, Non-action, and Social Control</b>		
July 2 (Mon)	<b>Daoism: Are social rules beneficial for the creation of good society?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity: Take your position on this question and defend your position in one paragraph.</li> <li>Readings: "Natural Way of Lao Tzu" (<i>Daode jing</i>)</li> </ul>		
July 3 (Tue)	<b>Daoism: How do we define equality and freedom?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: "Free and Easy Wandering," "Discussion on Making All Things Equal" (Selections from <i>Zhuangzi</i>)</li> </ul>		
July 4 (Wed)	<b>Buddhism: How do we know who we are? How do we acquire self-knowledge?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: Dōgen, "Genjōkōan (Manifesting Suchness)"; "Uji (Being-Time)"</li> </ul>		
July 5 (Thu)	<b>Buddhism: Is self-understanding necessary for a creation of a good society?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: "The Mind is the Buddha" (Chinul's "Secrets on Cultivating the Mind")</li> </ul>		
	<b>III. East meets the West</b>		
July 9 (Mon)	<b>Midterm</b>		

July 10 (Tue)	<b>Japan and Modern Nation</b> Origins of Modernity: Why and how did Japan become the first “modern” nation in East Asia? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: <i>From the Ruins</i> (“The Inevitable but Inimitable Rise of Japan”); Fukuzawa Yukichi “Good-bye Asia”; Nakae Chōmin, selections from <i>Discourse of Three Drunkards on Government</i></li> </ul>		
July 11 (Wed)	<b>China Reacts</b> How was the influence of the West and Western culture accepted in China? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: “The First Impulses of Reform” (<i>From the Ruins</i>), “The Boxer Rising.” “Comparing the Power of China and Western Nation” (<i>East Asia</i>, p.328-329)</li> </ul>		
July 12 (Thu)	<b>Korea in the Turbulent Water</b> How did Korea react to the influx of the West and also of other East Asian powers? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: <i>East Asia</i>, Chapter 21</li> </ul>		
	<b>IV. Formation of Modern East Asia: Nationalism, Colonialism, and Marxism</b>		
July 16 (Mon)	<b>China and Cosmopolitanism</b> Is it possible that nations become one as a world community? What are the benefits of a cosmopolitan worldview and what is its danger? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Readings: Sun Yat-sen: “Cosmopolitanism”</li> </ul>		
July 17 (Tue)	<b>The Chinese Civil War &amp; the Rise of the Cult of Mao</b> What are the impact of Mao’s cultural revolution to contemporary China? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: <i>East Asia</i>, Chap. 25 &amp; 27</li> </ul>		
July 18 (Wed)	<b>Colonial Korea</b> What are the concrete impact of Colonialism on the lives of Korean people? Is colonial modernity an acceptable concept? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: <i>East Asia</i>, Chap. 23</li> </ul>		
July 19 (Thu)	<b>Religion, Society and Politics: Shinto and Yasukuni Shrine</b> What is Shinto? What was the role of Shinto during the pacific war and in Japanese imperialism? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Readings: selections from <i>The Simple Guide to Shinto</i></li> <li>Activities: Read from the media history of Japanese politicians’ visits to Yasukuni shrine and prepare your response to the issue.</li> </ul>		

	<b>V. Gender, Politics, and New East Asia</b>		
July 23 (Mon)	<b>New Women in Japan and Korea</b> What are the New Women? What were the mediums through which they express their identity and freedom? How did their society react to their demand for gender equality? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Hiratsuka Raichō, <i>In the beginning woman was the sun</i>; Kim Iryōp; “On New Year’s Day of the Twenty-Fifth Year after Joining the Monastery”</li> <li>• Discuss the life of the new women and compare them with the lives of Korean or East Asian women today</li> </ul>		
July 24 (Tue)	<b>War, Gender and Politics: Comfort Women</b> Who are Comfort Women? How does the phenomenon of Comfort women demonstrate the complex matrix of gender, politics and social norms? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: selections from <i>Comfort Woman</i></li> </ul>		
July 25 (Wed)	<b>Hallyu and Soft Power</b> How should we understand the phenomenon of the Korean Wave? Is it manufacturing creativity or is it a critique of capitalist society? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Josephy Nye, “Public Diplomacy and Soft Power”</li> </ul>		
July 26 (Thu)	<b>Internet, Democratization, and Youth in East Asia</b> Who are the East Asian youth today? How are they different from their parents’ generation? How does the internet and social media create the social and political awareness of East Asian youth? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Selections from <i>Igniting the Internet: Youth and Activism in Postauthoritarian South Korea</i></li> </ul>		
	<b>VI. Envisioning the Future</b>		
July 30 (Mon)	<b>Confucian Democracy</b> Is Confucianism compatible with democracy? What are the benefits of this form of democracy and what are the liabilities? Would Confucian democracy help East Asia in the global context? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Selections from <i>Confucian Democracy in East Asia</i></li> </ul>		
July 31 (Tue)	Final Exam		
Aug 1 (Wed)	Group presentation		
Aug 2 (Thu)	Graduation		