ARTS2662

Korea at a Glance

Term Two // 2021

School of Humanities and Languages // UNSW Arts, Design & Architecture

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

In this course, you will focus on key themes in Korean culture from the pre-modern to the modern periods. It emphasises the relationship between cultural continuity and change and also highlights key areas of debate in Korean studies. The course is structured thematically and chronologically, with topics including Korea's selective adaptation of the 'Chinese model' of governance used in combination with Korean feudal political structures; the role of elite and folk religions such as Buddhism and Shamanism; the emergence of the literati culture, its emphasis on Neo-Confucian cultural orthodoxy and suppression of Buddhism during the Choseon dynasty (1392-1910); the importance of Christianity in social and cultural change in the 19th and 20th centuries and its role in modern Korean nationalism; the impact of Japanese colonialism (1910-1945), the Korean War and division of the peninsula; and contemporary cultural issues of importance such as the role of women, popular nationalism and complex contestations over defining Korea in light of the continued North-South division. The course concludes with a critical examination of evolving conceptions of Korean culture.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Understand major continuities and changes that have shaped Korean culture
2. Understand interactions between native and foreign ideas and their impact on Korean culture as well as representations of Korean culture
3. Critically evaluate Korean studies' scholarship and assess areas of debate within the scholarship

Teaching Strategies

Each week a specific topic will be the focus of the lecture. The lecture is organised around key readings on major topics in Korean cultural history. Each week a specific topic will be the focus of the lecture. The lecture is organised around the readings. Exams are based on the readings and require you to attain a necessary level of knowledge as required for cultural competence. The specific tutorial readings serve partly as an aid to help you get started with your research topics by identifying other sources available online through the UNSW Library. Tutorials will be led by the students themselves. This encourages you to take an active role in your learning, develop your skills in oral presentation, and work collaboratively on structuring a research question for your research project. Based on experience, this leads to vigorous discussion that causes you to engage with your readings and the topic. This also typically improves your confidence as well as the quality of your research project through the feedback and interaction of the class as whole.

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task			

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Reading List: A list of Readings, to be compiled by students, will be posted on Moodle. All of the

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
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Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see