

EWHA WOMANS UNIVERSITY
North Korean Studies on Society and Culture

Summer 2016

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Recently, North Korea is becoming a most favorite movie villain in Hollywood. But few know how ordinary people are making their everyday life in the communist country

This course introduces students to some of the prominent issues associated with ordinary people's everyday life in North Korea such as the Kim family's leadership, so called Juche Ideology in ordinary people's life, PDS (public distribution system), minority issues in North Korea, Education System, and its Escapees issues. No prior knowledge in the field of North Korean studies or political science is required, though any of it would help students grasp better the contents of the materials covered in the course.

The requirements of the course are: a final exam, a team presentation, a review comment on the documentary film and participation in the class discussion. Each presentation team is expected to identify the key questions that the students in each team freely choose, to show how the reference materials answer those questions, and to outline the presenters' own view on the questions as well as the references. The presentation schedule will be discussed when the class begins.

The guideline for drawing the final course grade is as follows: **30% for a final exam, 50% for a team presentation, 10% for a review comment on the documentary film and 10% for class participation.** But I reserve the right to make adjustments to the grade weightings if necessary.

영어수업이라서 수강 신청을 망설이는 학생을 위한 안내

여름계절학기에 이 교과목을 수강하려 했는데 영어강의라서 망설이는 분이 있으신가요? 망설이지 말고 일단 수강 신청해 보는 건 어떨까요? 교과목 특성상 영어만 사용하는 학생보다 한국어와 영어를 읽고 쓰는 능력을 가진 여러분이 더 유리한 측면이 분명히 있습니다.

이번 기회에 자신의 내부에 숨어 있는 영어로 말하고 글을 쓰는 능력을 적극적으로 개발해 보시는 건 어떤가요? 내 경험에는 여러분 스스로 자신을 평가하는 것보다 더 뛰어난 능력을 가지고 있는 경우가 많습니다. 그리고 여러분을 적극적으로 지원하고 응원할

의사를 충분히 갖춘 채 담당교수가 기다리고 있습니다. 수강 신청 이전에 메일이나 전화, 면담 약속을 통해서 담당교수와 의논을 하기 원하는 분은 언제라도 연락해 주세요.

Primary literatures for the course are:

- C. Kenneth Quinones & Joseph Tragert, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Understanding North Korea* (Indianapolis: Alpha, 2003).
Kongdan Oh & Ralph C. Hassig, *North Korea through the Looking Glass* (Washington, D.C.: Brookings, 2000)
Tatiana Gabroussenko, *Soldiers on the Cultural Front: Developments in the Early History on North Korean Literature and Literary Policy* (University of Hawai'i Press, 2010)
Suk-Young Kim, *Illusive Utopia: Theater, Film, and Everyday Performance in North Korea* (University of Michigan, 2010)

Other sources for your information are:

통일부 Ministry of Unification <http://eng.unikorea.go.kr/main.do>
통일연구원 Korea Institute for National Unification <http://www.kinu.or.kr/eng/index.jsp>
극동문제연구소 The Institute for Far Eastern Studies
http://ifes.kyungnam.ac.kr/eng/ifes_main.aspx
세종연구소 The Sejong Institute <http://www.sejong.org/english/>

Arirang News / www.arirang.co.kr -> Bizline -> Zoom in North Korea
Database Center for North Korean Human Rights / www.northkoreanrefugees.com
DPRK 360 / www.dprk360.com
FRONTLINE / www.pbs.org
NK DB / www.nkdb.org
NK News: Database of North Korean Propaganda / www.nk-news.net
NK NEWS.ORG / www.nknews.org
North Korea Travel / www.northkoreatravel.com
Radio for Asia / www.rfa.org
The Daily NK / www.dailynk.com
Voice of America / www.voanews.com

Photos by Eric Lafforgue on internet
Photos from DPRK360
Videos from www.youtube.com

Class Schedule:

The following schedule is a tentative guideline to help you plan your course work. When the class begins, the revised schedule will be provided. During the class period, the class will be held from every Monday through Thursday.

The planned schedule may be modified with the students' preferences as the course proceeds. The reading material will be provided when the course begins.

Day 1: Course Description and Class Organization

- **The Presentation Team will be organized on the Day 5.** You need to search your “comrades” while each one of your classmates introduce oneself.

Day 2: Questions and Answers on North Korea

- Everyone in this class has to make one's own question(s) on North Korea and present them. I will try to answer to those questions. In case if anyone of you would not be satisfied with my answer(s), then we will have a talk together to try to find another answer(s).

Day 3: the Birth of North Korea

Day 4: People's Everyday Life in North Korea

Day 5: 1st Team Activity

- You need to search your “comrades” for the team you will belong to. I will prepare some snacks and drinks for you while you are searching your “comrades.”
- Each student must belong to a team.
- Try to make your team as much colorful as you can. Monotonous team is not encouraged at all.
- Each team must have its own “translator.”
- **By the end of Day 7 class,** each team will hand in a short paper which contains the topic(s) of the team activity in this class and explain why and how the topics are selected.

Day 6: Field Trip for Your Data Collection

- 통일부, 북한자료센터 <http://unibook.unikorea.go.kr/>
- Ministry of Unification, Information Center on North Korea

Day 7: 2nd Team Activity + Small Talk with a Person from North Korea

- Each team will make a short presentation for introducing what you are going to do with your team topic and how to make an excellent presentation.
- **A person from North Korea will be invited for our class.** Please ask whatever you want to ask with your courtesy.

Day 8: Stories of Escapees to, not from, North Korea

- **A documentary film “Crossing the Line [푸른 눈의 평양시민]”**

Day 9: Issue of Escapees from North Korea

Day 10: 3rd Team Activity

- Each Team will identify the data-collecting and analyzing method(s).

Day 11: Woman’s Issues in North Korea

- **Your review comment on “Crossing the Line” is due by Day 11th.**
- The length of your comment should be between 1,000 words and 1,500 words.

Day 12: Minorities Issues in North Korea

Day 13: Final Team Presentation (1)

Day 14: Final Team Presentation (2)

Day 15: Final Exam

Day 16: Would you have a Small Party?