

**Anth/SOC 313: Modern Korean Culture and Society
Fall 2015**

This course will explore Modern Korean culture and Society in South Korea since 1945. The course will examine key dimensions of Korean society ranging from division, the legacies of the Korean war, national economic development, gender dynamics, social movements, the silent history of U.S. military camptowns and Korean adoption, to the most recent social and cultural phenomena of *hallyu* and multiculturalism under the aegis of *Global Korea*. Through a critique of the status quo along class, gender, and racial dynamics of contemporary Korean society, this course aims to develop a more nuanced understanding of modern Korean society and its location in the neoliberal capitalist world by illuminating various aspects of South Korea's historical, economic, political, and cultural developments in modern times.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of key political and social transformations in Korea since the 1945
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the economic, political and cultural consequences of the Korean War and peninsula's geopolitical position
3. Demonstrate an understanding of contemporary cultural and social transformations in Korea

Division and State-Led Economic Development

Week 1–3

WEEK 1 Bruce Cumings (2010). Excerpts from *The Korean War*
 *Suzy Kim (2013) Excerpts from *Everyday Life in the North*
Korean Revolution, 1945 – 1950

WEEK 2 Alice Amsden (1989). *Asia's Next Giant: South Korea and Late*
Industrialisation and The Rise of the Rest

WEEK 3 Jesook Song (2009). Preface
South Koreans in the Debt Crisis (2009)

Kwang-yeong Shin (2011) Globalization and Social Inequality in South Korea from *New Millennium South Korea: Neoliberal Capitalism and Transnational Movements* (Routledge Advances in Korean Studies)

Gender and Development

Week 4

Introduction [1–8] & Nationalism and Construction of Gender in Korea by Chungmoo Choi [9 – 31] from *Dangerous Women: Gender and Korean Nationalism* (Eds. Elaine Kim and Chungmoo Choi). New York: Routledge, 1998

The Gender Politics of Nation Building and Citizenship in South Korea [1–15] in Moon Seung Sook's *Militarized Modernity and Gendered Citizenship in South Korea*

The Historical Roots and The Rise of Militarized Modernity [17–43]
In Moon Seung Sook: *Militarized Modernity and Gendered Citizenship in South Korea*

Week 5

Mobilized to be Martial and Productive: Men's Subjection to the Nation and the Masculine Subjectivity of Family Provider [44–67] in Moon Seung Sook: *Militarized Modernity and Gendered Citizenship in South Korea*

Marginalized in Production and Mobilized to Be Domestic: Women's Incorporation into the Nation [68–94] in Moon Seung Sook: *Militarized Modernity and Gendered Citizenship in South Korea*

Week 6

Sojin Park. Educational Manager: Mothers as Neoliberal Maternal Subjects (101–114) from *New Millennium South Korea: Neoliberal Capitalism and Transnational Movements* (Routledge Advances in Korean Studies)

Chapter 2. "Family Breakdown" and Invisible Homeless Women (49–71)
Song, Jesook, *South Koreans in the Debt Crisis* (2009)

Democratization Movements, Grassroots Organizing and Civil Society

Week 7 Kwangju Massacre (documentary)

Hagen Koo. Engendering Civil Society: The Role of the Labor Movement from Korean Society. From *Civil Society, Democracy and the State* (Ed. By Charles Armstrong). NY: Routledge

Week 8 Namhee Lee (2007) *The Making of Minjung: The Democracy and The Politics of Representation in South Korea Social Movement in South Korea*

- Introduction : Minjung, History and Historical Subjectivity (1–20)

- The Construction of Minjung (21–69)
- Anti-Communism and North Korea (70–108)

The silenced people and stories of South Korean Development

Week 9

Grace Cho *Haunting the Korean Diaspora: Shame, Secrecy and the Forgotten War* (University of Minnesota Press, 2018)

Introduction. (p.1 – p. 25)

Chapter 1. Fleshing out the Ghost (p. 27 – 49)

Week 10

Eleana Kim Understanding Transnational Korean Adoption from *Adopted Territory: Transnational Adoptee and The Politics of Belonging*

Deann Borshay Liem *In the Matter of Cha Jung Hee* (2010) Mu Film

Week 11

Hosu Kim Television Mothers: Lost and Found in Search and Reunion Narrative. *Cultural Studies* ⇔ *Critical Methodologies* Vol 12, Issue 5.

Tammy Chu *Resilience* (2009) (Documentary Film)

Multiculturalism and Global Korea

Week 12 Andrew Eungi Kim (2009) Global Migration and South Korea: Foreign Workers, Foreign Brides and the Making of a Multicultural Society. *Ethnic and Racial Studies* Vol 32 Issue 1. 2009

Week 13 Marriage Migrant : Hyunok Lee (2012), Political Economy of Cross-Border Marriage: Economic Development and Social Reproduction. *Feminist Economics*

Week 14 Rachel Miyung Joo *Transnational Sport: Gender, Media, and Global Korea* (2012) : Introduction: Manufacturing Koreanness through Transnational Sport (p 1 – 31)

Week 15 Kim Kyung Hyun Introduction. Hallyu's Virtuality [p. 1 – 21] + [23 – 54] *Virtual Hallyu: Korean Cinema of the Global Era* (2011, Duke University Press),

**The City University of New York
College of Staten Island**

Instructor: Hosu Kim, Ph.D.

Kim Jung Bong *Transnational Cinemas, Unsettling the National in Korean Cinema* for
the *Journal of Korean Studies* (2011)