
Time: Wednesday 14:30-17:30 / Venue: TR+109
Instructor: Asst Prof Park Hyung Wook
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Office Hours: Thursday 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Course Description:

This course aims at enhancing and deepening your understanding of modern Korean history through your case studies of topics concerning health, food, and sports. These three subjects have often been ignored in the mainstream narrative of Korean history, but have been highlighted recently with the growth of medical history and microhistory, as well as a closer relationship among history, sociology, and ethnography. These scholarly developments have enriched our historiographical purview, as they can show minute details of everyday life of ordinary Koreans alongside the larger power shifts in broader social formulations. Hence, you will be able to appreciate the complexities and contradictions in the process of nation-building and crafting modernity in Korea, especially its southern half during the twentieth century. This course thus broadens your view of East Asian history and society.

Evaluation:

1. Midterm essay: translation and newspaper analysis (30%, due by 9 March)
2. Final essay (35%, due by 27 April)
3. Pre-Seminar Questions (15%)
4. Discussion Reports (15%)
5. Attendance and Participation (5%)

Course Schedule and Prescribed Readings:

1. (17 January) Introduction

2. (24 January) **Theoretical Issues**

3. (31 January) **“Premodernity” in Medicine and Public Health in Korea**

4. (7 February) **Health, Food, and Sports during the Colonial Challenge**
Cwiertka, *Cuisine, Colonialism, and Cold War*, pp. 58-78.

5. (14 February) **Gendered Bodies in the Colony**

6. (21 February) **Health, Sexuality, and Gender in the Park Chung Hee Era**

7. (28 February) **Food and the Making of Modernity**

8. (14 March) **Korean Medicine and the Confused Boundaries**

9. (Make-up class) **World Cup and the Politics of Representation**
Hyunjung Lee and Younghan Cho, “Performing Nation-ness in South Korea during the 2002 Korea-Japan World Cup,” Korea Journal 49 (2009), pp. 93-120.


10. (28 March) Hwang Scandal and the Questions on National Bodies

11. (4 April) Food, Health, and the Mad Cow Militancy

12. (11 April) Modifying Face and Tinkering Identity
John P. DiMoia, Reconstructing Bodies, pp. 117-212.

13. (18 April) Medicine and Gender Politics in Twenty-First Century
Assignments:

Midterm essay: translation and newspaper analysis (30%, due by 9 March)

The professor will give you a page of Korean-language newspaper (Dong-A Ilbo or Chosun Ilbo) related to class themes. The page you receive has a number of journalistic articles and advertisements (often with images), which will tell you much about the social contexts of a historical issue. Translate these articles and advertisements as far as you can and discuss what happened on that day. You are expected to depict the day in a historical and social context by analyzing the articles and advertisements. In translating the articles, you are allowed to use any translation software, including the “Google Translate,” but your PC should be equipped with the Korean language support package. In most public PCs in the NTU campus, you can install this package in a few minutes. For those who are unsure about this task (including the keyboard setting of the Korean packet and the structure of the language), the professor will deliver a more detailed explanation during February. Your essay should cite at least one article in the syllabus, and must be uploaded into the course portal within i-NTULearn in the format of an MS Word file rather than PDF. The recommended word number is 1,200.

Final essay (35%, due by 27 April)

You will write your final essay on a topic on Korean history regarding health, food, and sports. You can use any approach or sources as far as you cite three articles (including those in the prescribed and optional reading list) in the syllabus. In addition, at least one primary source can be used including the newspaper that you used during your midterm assignment. Other primary sources include movies, dramas, surveys, magazine articles, and interview scripts. Your essay must be uploaded into the course portal within i-NTULearn in the format of an MS Word file rather than PDF. The recommended word number is 2,000.

Pre-Seminar Questions (15%)

After finishing the required readings for each week, every student must submit a question for discussion during the seminar. The question is to be uploaded in the course portal in i-NTULearn before each Tuesday evening. These questions will be graded according to their relevance, novelty, and ingenuity.

Discussion Reports (15%)
After the seminar, each group—which students can create by themselves but cannot be changed after the add/drop period—should submit a short report of discussion to the course portal of i-NTULearn after the end of the class. This report reflects the outcome of the class members’ conversation about the discussion question assigned to them. The professor’s evaluation will be added as a comment, about which students can ask further questions. In each report, there must be a list of participating members.

**Attendance and Participation (5%)**

Each student’s activity and attendance is monitored in every seminar and will be used in the final evaluation. Please try to attend every class and be sure to be proactive during the discussion.

**Late Submission:**

There will be a penalty to a paper submitted after the deadline. The extent of penalty will be decided depending on the general distribution of students’ marks in the entire class. But late submission can be excused according to the professor’s understanding of the student’s circumstances.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is a serious academic misconduct and may endanger a student’s career in a highly severe way. It is done intentionally or unintentionally by using another person’s ideas and writings without any proper citation and/or quotation marks. Paraphrasing is an act of rewriting other people’s ideas or arguments using your own words. While this is an acceptable practice in most cases, it can be an issue if you do not indicate that the ideas have come from another person’s work. If you are not sure about how you should do regarding these issues, please do cite the referred sources in footnotes/endnotes and use the quotation marks around the terms you did not invent. Even if a student cited a source, direct quotation without quotation marks may be a problem, too. If any plagiarized sentence or paragraph is detected, the grade will be reduced to zero and the student’s name will be reported to the school.

**Policy on Missing Classes:**

In general, students are encouraged to attend all seminars. However, they may miss a few, if there is a good reason, such as illness, required university activity, or family emergency. In such cases, students can claim for the credit of class attendance, only if they submit a summary of the week’s readings along with the documentary evidence on the reasons of absence.
Optional Readings:

You may read any of the following papers in writing your midterm or final essays. The papers in this list can be found in the course portal of i-NTULearn. The books are found in the NTU libraries.

**Korean History in General:**


**Theoretical Issues:**


**Traditional Medicine:**


**Health and Medicine during the Japanese Colonial Rule:**


Korean Food and Making of Modernity:

Birth Control and Population Problems:

Problems in Park Chung Hee Era:

The World Cup:

The Hwang Scandal:

**Mad Cow Disease:**

**Plastic Surgery:**

**Modern Biomedicine:**