

YORK UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF LIBERAL ARTS AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES Department of Politics

<u>Course:</u> GLBL 3581 6.0 South Korea: The Politics of Youth and Old Age (Study Abroad)

Term: Summer 2023

Time and location: May 8-12, 2023, each day from 11:30am-2:20pm, 857 Kaneff Tower (8th Floor)

May 15-June 2, 2023, in Seoul, South Korea

<u>eClass:</u> <u>https://eclass.yorku.ca/course/view.php?id=81146</u>

<u>Instructor:</u> Thomas R. Klassen

https://www.thomasklassen.net/2023-summer-study-abroad-in-south-korea.html

http://www.linkedin.com/in/thomasklassen

http://tklassen.blog.yorku.ca/

Office: 137 McLaughlin College

<u>E-mail:</u> <u>tklassen@yorku.ca</u>

Phone: 416-736-2100, ext. 88828

Office hours: The instructor is available before and after each class to meet with students

individually. Meetings at other times can also be arranged.

Not open to students who have completed less than 60 credits.

This course is cross listed with AP/POLS 3580.

Course Description

The course focuses on the politics of youth and old age in contemporary South Korea. This is a study abroad course with one week of classes at the Keele Campus, followed by three weeks in Seoul, South Korea. The course studies the political debates and cultural shifts - including intergenerational conflicts - that arise from a rapidly ageing population.

In the first week of the course students learn about the politics of modern Korea. The literature on compressed modernity and the developmental welfare state, as related to South Korea will anchor this part of the course. This part of the course concludes with a review of how demographic trends (Korea is the world's most rapidly aging nation) and hose these have shaped politics, and the welfare state.

For the second to fourth weeks the students travel to Seoul, the capital of South Korea with half the nation's population. There they will each day visit a different site (including the ones listed below):

1) National Museum of Korean Contemporary History, 2) Seoul Museum of History, 3) National Museum of Korea, 4) Seodaemun Prison Museum, 5) War Memorial Museum of Korea, 6) National Assembly. Most site visits will be preceded or followed by a short lecture to relate the visit to the course material.

The students will spend time at Yonsei University and Chung-Ang University in Seoul to attend lectures on Korean history and social policy. There will also be a guided tour to the DMZ (the border between North and South Korea) that is located 75 kilometers north of Seoul. A variety of other experiential learning opportunities will be arranged for students in Seoul, including a briefing at the Canadian Embassy in Seoul.

Course Learning Outcomes

- 1. Summarize Korean politics on a theoretical and practical level, and investigate political and policy problems (such as population ageing) and issues (such as compressed modernity).
- 2. Communicate ideas, problems, solutions, and perspectives related to politics and social policy with accuracy and effectiveness both in oral and written communications. In particular, doing so to an audience that has a different culture and background (and native language) from the students.
- 3. Interpret and distinguish the lives of young people in Korea in relation to the key topics of this course (including demography, education, compulsory military service and related) from being immersed in life in Seoul.
- 4. Use cross-cultural analysis to examine culture and self and how personal and national values develop.
- 5. Write a reflective final assignment that draws on their journal entries and incorporates insights gained from interaction with Korean students, experts, and others.
- 6. Reflect on their sense of self and their understanding of others.

Evaluation

```
Test – 20% (May 12)
Research paper proposal – 5% (May 26)
Written responses to field visits – 15% (various dates)
Participation (class discussion, being prepared and on time, supporting colleagues) – 15%
Final research paper – 35% (June 24)
Reflection – 10% (June 30)
```

Test

The test will cover material from the first week of the course and the required major text.



Research Paper Proposal

The proposal may be conceived as a map that provides direction for the research and writing of the research essay. The more detailed and developed the map, the less difficult it should be to write the final research essay.

You may select any topic of interest related to the politics of youth and ageing in Korea, although logically it must be closely linked to the topics covered in the course and to your previous policy diaries, chapter reviews, and required readings for this course. Indeed, the readings for our course will provide you with suggestions or ideas, as well as sources. Aim to have a focussed topic (problem, issue, controversy, debate or dilemma). In your proposal you should also indicate why what you have selected to explore is interesting and important.

The proposal will require library and web-based research and you must include a short bibliography that includes the works consulted so far.

There is no specific format that will be most appropriate for the proposal. The length of the proposal should be no less than three pages, in addition to the bibliography. Please send a draft of the proposal to the instructor for feedback.

Written responses to field visits

Please see the schedule of activities later in the syllabus for details.

Research essay

The research essay must be professional in all aspects. As such, it must have a cover page, title, table of contents, five or six sections (such as an introduction, etc.), bibliography and, if you wish, appendices. You are encouraged to use a few visual aids – graphs, charts, photos, diagrams, and tables – that must be clearly labelled and referenced. The essay should be a holistic work that demonstrates considerable research and reflection, as well as strong writing skills.

Be sure to utilize the database that you will develop while in Korea in writing the essay. This includes: photos, brochures, observations you made, discussions you had with people in Korea, notes from lectures and meetings, and more.

The essay must be at least 16 pages in length using double-spacing and 12 point font. Grades will be deducted for grammatical errors. You must have the paper read (edited) by others before submitting it. At least 50% of your citations must be from academic sources (books and articles). Please attach your proposal to the essay.

More details about the expectations for this paper will be provided during the course.



Reflective paper

The writing of the reflective paper should begin when you arrive in Korea (or before) and be the last writing for the course. The objective of the paper is to analyze your progress in understanding Korean politics and culture, and the role that field research played in furthering your knowledge of Korea.

The paper should answer these three questions: 1) what you learned about the politics of youth and old age while in Korea; 2) what you learned about Korea or Koreans while in Korea; 3) what you learned about yourself while in Korea.

You can write in the first person ("I ...") and you can be as creative as you like. For example, use a diary format, include photos, etc. The only requirement is sparkling, concise and clear language without grammatical errors.

Grading, Assignment Submission, and Lateness Penalties

Grading: Percentage grades will be provided for each assignment. The final letter grade will be determined as illustrated:

Grade	Per Cent Range	Description
A+	90-100	Exceptional
Α	80-89	Excellent
B+	75-79	Very Good
В	70-74	Good
C+	65-69	Competent
С	60-64	Fairly Competent
D+	55-59	Passing
D	50-54	Marginally Passing
Е	(marginally below 50%)	Marginally Failing
F	(below 50%)	Failing

Required Readings

Pardo, Ramon Pacheco. 2022. <u>Shrimp to whale: South Korea from the forgotten war to K-Pop</u>. London: Hurst Publishers. [available <u>online</u> from the York Library]. The Scott Library has one hard copy of the book which is on 24 hour loan starting May 1, 2023.

SOUTH KOREA FROM THE FORGOTTEN WAR TO K-POP

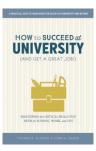
SHRIMP

TO

RAMON

PACHECO PARDO

Klassen, Thomas R. and John A. Dwyer. 2015. <u>How to succeed at university (and get a great job!): Mastering the critical skills you need for school, work and life.</u>
Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press. available as a free download.



Recommended reading

Tudor, Daniel. 2018 (revised edition). *Korea: The impossible country*. North Clarendon, Vt.: Tuttle Publishers. **DS 916.27 T84 2012 and here.**

Klassen, Thomas R. and Christine Menges. 2020. <u>The essential guide to studying</u> <u>abroad: From success in the classroom to a fulfilling career.</u> Abington, Oxon: Routledge. Available at the Scott Reference desk and <u>online</u> from the York Library.

DANIEL TUDOR ROTAL STUDOR ROTAL STUDORS KOREA THE IMPOSSIBLE COUNTRY SOUTH GOLDEN ANALYSIS OF THE ALMEST THE MISS OF THE COUNTRY SOUTH GOLDEN ANALYSIS OF THE COUNTRY SOUTH GOLD ANALYSIS OF THE CO

Key reference texts at the York Libraries

Chang, Kyung-Sup. 2010. *South Korea under compressed modernity: Familial political economy in transition*. London: Routledge. [Scott Library]

Ahn, Byong-Man. 2003. **Elites and political power in South Korea**. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar. [Scott Library]

Armstrong, Charles K., ed. 2006. *Korean society: Civil society, democracy, and the state*. London: Routledge. [available as e-book from York Libraries]

Choi, Jang-jip. 2012. *Democracy after democratization: The Korean experience*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University/Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center. [Scott Library]

Diamond, Larry and Byung-Kook Kim, eds. 2000. **Consolidating democracy in South Korea.** London: Lynne Rienner Publishers. [Scott Library]

Elwood, Paul H. and Jeremy B. Albertus, eds. 2008. *Korea: Economic, political and social issues*. New York: Nova Science Publishers. [Scott Library]

Higo, Masa and Thomas R. Klassen, eds. 2015. *Retirement in Japan and South Korea The past, the present and the future of mandatory retirement*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. Scott Library]



Kang, Woosung, and Edward Leary. *Korean culture dictionary: From kimchi to K-Pop and K-Drama clichés: Everything about Korea explained!* Denver, Colorado: New Ampersand Publishing, 2021. [Scott Library]

Kil, Soong Hoom and Chung-in Moon, eds. 2001. *Understanding Korean politics: An introduction*. Albany: State University of New York Press. [Scott Library]

Kim, Samuel, ed. (2003). *Korea's democratization*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Ch. 1. [available as an e-book from York Libraries]

Kim, Chae-han, ed. 2021. *The new dynamics of democracy in South Korea*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge/Taylor & Francis Grou.p [available online from the Scott Library]

Kim, Gooyong. 2019. From factory girls to K-Pop idol girls: Cultural politics of developmentalism, patriarchy, and neoliberalism in South Korea's popular music industry. Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books. [Scott Library]

Kim, Rosalie, and Youna Kim. 2022. *Hallyu!: The Korean Wave*. London: V & A Publishing. Scott Library]

Klassen, Thomas R. and Yunjeong Yang, eds. 2014. *Korea's retirement predicament: The ageing tiger*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. [Scott Library]

Milani, Marco, Antonio Firori, and Matteo Dian. 2019. *The Korean paradox: Domestic political divide and foreign policy in South Korea*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. [Scott Library]

Mobrand, Erik Johan. 2019. *Top-down Democracy in South Korea*. Seattle: University of Washington Press. [Scott Library]

Prendergast, David. 2005. From elder to ancestor: Old age, death and inheritance in modern Korea. Folkestone, Kent: Global Oriental. [Scott Library]

Seth, Michael J. 2002. *Education fever: Society, politics, and the pursuit of schooling in South Korea*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press. [Scott Library]

Schwekendiek, Daniel J. 2017. South Korea: A socioeconomic overview from the past to present. London: Routledge. [available online from the Scott Library]

Woo, Jaejoon. 2022. *Confronting South Korea's next crisis: Rigidities, polarization, and fear of Japanification*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022. [available online from the Scott Library]

Yang, Chae-jin. 2017. *The political economy of the small welfare state in South Korea.* New York, NY: Cambridge University Press. [Scott Library]



Daily newspapers

The Korea Herald: http://www.koreaherald.com/
The Dong-A Ilbo: http://english.donga.com/

The Korea Times: http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/index.asp
Korea JongAng Daily: http://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/
The Hankyoreh: http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/

As well, Korea Exposé: http://www.koreaexpose.com/

Finally, Arirang Broadcasting (international, English-broadcasting television network based in Seoul)

Selected recent mass media readings

No. of first-time brides in 40s outstrips those in 20s http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20230320000590

Where does Korea stand on same-sex marriage? http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20230320000689

Korea's fertility rate hits 0.78, a new low and still lowest in OECD https://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/2023/02/22/national/socialAffairs/korea-birthrate-fertility-rate/20230222173547737.html

Korea's total population falls for the first time in 2021 https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/07/281 333519.html

Korea's student population is dwindling, especially kindergarteners https://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/2022/08/30/national/socialAffairs/korea-student-population-population/20220830190622010.html

On Modernity: Korea and the West https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/09/113 336643.html

The highs and lows of Korea's ppalli ppalli culture https://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/2022/10/03/business/tech/Korea-ppalli-ppalli-fastpaced/20221003180809683.html

Contemporary Korean literature: https://booksandbao.com/korean-novels-in-translation/



Relevant York University policies

Academic Honesty

The breach of the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty is a serious matter. To quote the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty:

"The Policy on Academic Honesty is a reaffirmation and clarification for members of the University of the general obligation to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty. It outlines the general responsibility of faculty to foster acceptable standards of academic conduct and of the student to be mindful of and abide by such standards."

Please see: https://www.yorku.ca/unit/vpacad/academic-integrity/

Students might wish to review the interactive on-line tutorial on academic integrity at: https://spark.library.yorku.ca/academic-integrity-what-is-academic-integrity/

Students with Special Needs

York University is committed to making reasonable accommodations and adaptations in order to make equitable the educational experience of students with special needs and to promote their full integration into the campus community. Please alert the Course Director during the first class should you require special accommodations.

SCHEDULE

May 8-12 schedule (Keele Campus)

Monday, May 8 – lecture – required readings: chapters 1-2 of *Shrimp to whale: South Korea from the forgotten war to K-Pop*

Please watch: The Dark Side of South Korea's Incredible Economic Success

Lecture: Introduction to contemporary South Korean politics

Tuesday, May 9 – lecture and guests (see below) – required readings: chapters 3-4

11:30 – <u>Jamie Rudberg</u> via Zoom (former student in this course will share his experience and answer questions)

Lecture: Korea: Identity, history and politics



Wednesday, May 10 – lecture and librarian (see below) – required readings: chapters 5-6

11:30-12:30 – Daniel Payne, Librarian from <u>York Library</u> will provide a one-hour workshop on research skills

Lecture: Age and the life course

Thursday, May 11 – lecture – required readings: Epilogue and end matter

Lecture: Social movements in contemporary South Korea

Lecture: Perspectives on North Korea

Friday, May 12 – lecture and test

Lecture: Conducting field research

May 15-June 2 schedule (Seoul, South Korea)

Monday, May 15 - Visit to central Seoul (Seoul City Hall, Gwanghwamun Square, Kyobo Bookstore, Gyeongbokgung Palace, Insa-dong; and Jogyesa Temple) and then the <u>National Museum of Korean Contemporary History</u>

Why are we going there? To learn more about the history of modern South Korea (from 1894 to the present.

What to look for? How is Korea/South Korea's history portrayed. What choices have been made? What seems to be emphasized? What seems to be missing?

What to do after? Send me a paragraph about what you think is the most important defining event of modern Korea. Why so?

Tuesday, May 16 –

9:15 – 11:00 – Yonsei University (Room # 102, Bldg # 507) attend *Global Governance Issues*, a graduate course taught by <u>Heon Joo Jung</u>, Professor of Public Administration; Associate Dean, College of Social Sciences; Director, Social Science Research Institute, College of Social Sciences; Director, Center for Security Strategy, Aerospace Strategy & Technology Institute

11:00-12:00 - Tour of <u>Yonsei University Sinchon (main) Campus</u> [Jiwon Woo is our guide – <u>woojiwon99@gmail.com</u>] and we will meet her in front of the Student Union building (see map on



last page of syllabus). Following the Yonsei tour we have the option to visit Bongwonsa Temple and/or Hongdae.

Wednesday, May 17

9:30am – Tour of Ewha Woman's University Museum – 10:00-10:30 guided tour of the Ewha Archives [Soojin Park may meet us at the main gate, or we will proceed on our own]

11:30am - <u>Seoul Museum of History</u> – followed by individual time to explore/learn in downtown Seoul

Why are we going there? To learn more about the history of the city of Seoul, from its early beginnings to the present day.

What to look for? The rapid urbanization since 1960.

What to do after? Send me a paragraph on what struck you as most different between Toronto and Seoul. Why so?

Thursday, May 18 – 12:00-1:15 – meet students and attend guest lecture at <u>Chung-Ang University</u> followed by campus tour. We will be joining a course on Korean social policy in the <u>School of Social</u> Welfare taught be <u>Professor Sophia Seung-yoon Lee</u>.

Guest lecture: "Introduction to Canada and Canadian social policy"

From 4:30 to 5:45pm we will be joining a course at Chung-Ang University titled *Welfare for the Aged* taught by Professor Yeonjung Lee in the School of Social Welfare.

Guest lecture: "Intergenerational equity and fairness in ageing Asia"

5:45 – 6:30 – private meeting for students with Professor Yeonjung Lee to discuss research interests

Friday, May 19 – 12:00 noon – lunch at <u>Korea House Restaurant</u> 10, Toegye-ro 36gil, Jung-gu, Seoul, 04626 (courtesy of the Korea National Tourism Organization) – followed by visit to <u>Namsangol Hanok Village</u>.

Monday, May 22 – Visit to Professor Nara Park's class at Yonsei University (room 218, second floor of the East wing of Yonhui hall) at 3:000pm, followed by visit to Bongwonsa Temple near the university.



Tuesday, May 23 – 12:00-1:15 – attend student social policy seminar/brown bag lunch at Chung-Ang University with students from Professor Sophia Lee's social policy class – lunch will be provided.

From 4:30 to 5:45pm – attend student seminar/discussion in a course the titled "Welfare for the Aged" taught by Professor Yeonjung Lee

Wednesday, May 24 - 11:00 - Visit to the <u>National Museum of Korea</u> followed by a visit to Gyeongbokgung Palace

Why are we going there? To learn more about the history of Korea civilization and what makes it distinct.

What to look for? The scope of the exhibits and how they are similar and/or different from exhibits you might see in other national museums in other nations.

What to do after? Send me a paragraph on what struck you as most unique in the museum. Why so?

Thursday, May 25 – 10:00am – briefing at the Embassy of Canada to the Republic of Korea, in Seoul

Presenters from the Embassy include:

- Rouslan Kats, Political Counsellor https://www.linkedin.com/in/rouslan-kats-8a41a32/
- Richard Delisle, First Secretary, Political Affairs
- Sam Gendreau-Belanger, Second Secretary, Political & Economic Affairs

Embassy staff will give a general summary of Embassy's political section activities and priorities, explain the duties of a Canadian diplomat, delve into the bilateral relationship between Canada and Korea, and highlight some of the major issues on the Korean peninsula and regionally, among other topics. There will be plenty of time for Q&A.

Please arrive 10mn in advance. All participants will need to bring a piece of ID and go through light security procedures.

[contact: Sam Gendreau-Belanger - Samuel.GendreauBelanger@international.gc.ca]

Following the embassy briefing we will be having lunch, and be joined by Melanie Oh, Executive Coordinator, Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Korea; and Sonny Cho, Senior Fellow at Global Public Affairs, and President & CEO of the Canada Korea Business Council.

Later in the afternoon we will visit the Korea Tourism Organization Seoul Center, "HiKR Ground" (K-Pop and media art exhibit).



Friday, May 26 – 11:00-13:00 – Korean cooking class (courtesy of the Korea National Tourism Organization) at the <u>YUM2LAB</u> Kitchen Studio - 2nd floor, 27 Seonyu-ro 51-gil, Yeongdeungpo-gu. We will be learning how to prepare bibimbap, and then eat what we prepared!

Monday, May 29 – 11:30 – Visit to the War Memorial Korea.

Why are we going there? To learn about the history of the Korean peninsula, with a focus on the many wars that have taken place.

What to look for and think about? How modern Korea has been shaped by past military conflicts. Understanding role of the military in the lives of Koreans.

What to do after? Send me a paragraph on what you think will be future conflicts on the Korean peninsula. What countries might be involved? Why so?

Following the War Memorial we explore Itaewon, Seoul's most cosmopolitan neighbourhood.

Tuesday, May 30 - Gyeongui Line Forest Park Trail to Hongdae walking tour starting at the Digital Media City Metro Station

- Explore streams running to the Han River
- Observe a typical neighbourhood in Seoul and its inhabitants
- Moranae Market (a glimpse in the Seoul of yesteryear)
- Walk to Hongdae and explore the neighbourhood
- Optional walk back to the Ever8

Why are we going there? To see neighbourhoods away from the core of the city. To learn about the daily lives of Koreans.

What to look for? Changes/gentrification of the neighbourhoods we are exploring. Types of people and activities. Differences between Seoul and Toronto.

What to do after? Send me a paragraph about what was most interesting to you. Why so?

Wednesday, May 31 – Full day guided visit to the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) including to the Joint Security Area and Panmunjom. See details at: https://www.vviptravel.com/tours/dmz-jsa-tour

The tour starts at 6:30am.

Thursday, June 1 – independent exploration and learning



Friday, June 2 –

Visit to the <u>Seodaemun Prison History Hall</u>, and then <u>Yeongcheon Market</u>.

CHUNG-ANG UNIVERSITY MAP



101 (Young-shin Hall)	304 (Performing Arts and Media Bldg)
102 (College of Pharmacy/R&D Center)	305 (Faculty Office Building / Gymnasium)
103 (Red Cross College of Nursing/Pfeiffer Hall)	307 (Global House (Dormitory))



104 (College of Natural Sciences)	308 – 309 (Blue Mir Hall (Dormitory))
105 (College of Medicine 1)	310 (Centennial Hall)
106 (College of Medicine 2)	A (CAU Hospital : Chung-Ang Hall)
107 (Student Union Hall)	A-1 (CAU Hospital: Da-jeong Hall)
201 (Main Administration Bldg)	A-2 (CAU Hospital: Parking Tower)
202 (Computer & Information Center)	B (Future House (Dormitory))
203 (College of Humanities/College of	C – D (Affiliated Middle School)
Education)	
204 (Central Library)	E (Institute of Performing Arts)
207 (College of Engineering 1/Bobst Hall)	F (Affiliated Kindergarten)
208 (College of Engineering 2)	G (Blue Dragon Pond)
209 (Business Incubator Center)	H (Giant Basketball Court)
301 (Art Center)	I (Chung-Ang Stairway)
302 (Graduate School Building)	J (Chung-Ang Square)
303 (Law School Bldg)	K (Monument of Justice and Blood)

101 (Young-shin Hall) -

Constructed in 1938, Building 101 (or Yeongsin Hall) is the first stone building named after founder Seungdang Lim Yeong-sin. Yeongsin Hall has the longest history among the buildings in CAU, and its antique look is a work of art that gives an impression of elegance. The building was used as the university HQ until August 1968.

YONSEI UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP

