

ML 2500 Syllabus

Intro Cross-Cult Studies Modern Language RKR, 3 credits

Summer 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor: Yongtaek Kim

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General Course Information

Description

This course explores Korean culture through traditional music and immersive experiences at the Jindo National Gugak Center. Students engage in hands-on musical training, cultural activities, and community interaction to better understand Korea's history, society, and cross-cultural communication.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Describe key aspects of Korean traditional music and culture.
- Participate in basic performances using traditional Korean musical instruments.
- Explain how Korean history and culture shape society today.
- Communicate effectively in cross-cultural settings.
- Reflect on your experiences and learning throughout the course.

Required Course Materials

There is no required textbook for this course. All learning materials will be provided by the instructor or made available on Canvas.

Students will engage with a variety of materials, including:

- Instructor-provided readings and videos on Korean culture and traditional music
- On-site instruction and practice sessions at the Jindo National Gugak Center
- Cultural activities, performances, and local site visits

Grading Policy

Your final grade in this course will be based on the following components:

Assignments and Weighting

- **Class Participation – 50%**
Active engagement in all class activities, including music practice sessions, cultural experiences, and discussions.
- **Reflective Journal – 10%**
Regular entries documenting your observations, learning experiences, and personal reflections throughout the program.
- **Final Project (YouTube Shorts) – 40%**
A series of short videos (minimum 10) showcasing your daily experiences and learning.
 - **Content: 70%** (clarity, depth, and relevance)
 - **Delivery: 30%** (organization, creativity, and effectiveness)

Grading Scale

- **A: 90–100%**
- **B: 80–89%**
- **C: 70–79%**
- **D: 60–69%**
- **F: Below 60%**

Grade Calculation

Final grades are calculated based on the weighted average of all course components listed above. Students can track their progress throughout the course via Canvas, where grades and feedback will be regularly updated.

Class Participation (50%)

Students are expected to attend all scheduled sessions and actively participate in musical training, rehearsals, cultural activities, and discussions. Participation will be assessed based on engagement, effort, collaboration with peers, and respectful involvement in all activities.

Reflective Journal (10%)

Students will maintain a journal throughout the program, documenting their daily experiences, observations, and personal reflections. Entries should demonstrate thoughtful engagement with course activities and connections between personal experiences and cultural learning.

Final Project – YouTube Shorts (40%)

Students will create a series of at least 10 short videos (maximum 59 seconds each) that highlight their daily learning and experiences in the program. The project should clearly communicate key insights about Korean culture and the overall program experience.

- Content (70%): Clarity, depth, and relevance of ideas presented
- Delivery (30%): Organization, creativity, and overall effectiveness of communication

Course Policies

Attendance and/or Participation

Because this course is built around immersive, in-person experiences and hands-on musical training, **attendance and active participation are required and essential** to achieving the learning objectives. Much of the learning in this course occurs through group activities, rehearsals, and cultural engagement that cannot be fully replicated outside of class.

Students are expected to:

- Attend all scheduled sessions, including musical instruction, rehearsals, cultural activities, and site visits
- Actively engage in all course activities and contribute to a respectful and collaborative learning environment

Absences

Students who must miss a session due to illness, university-approved activities, or other documented reasons should notify the instructor as soon as possible. When feasible,

students will be expected to make up missed work through alternative assignments (e.g., additional reflection, documentation, or equivalent participation tasks).

Unexcused absences may significantly affect the participation portion of the final grade, as missed experiences cannot be fully recreated.

Impact on Learning Community

Given the collaborative nature of musical performance and group activities, absences may also affect the learning experience of other students. Consistent participation supports both individual learning and group success.

University Expectations

This course follows Georgia Tech policies regarding excused absences and student responsibilities. Students are encouraged to communicate proactively about any scheduling conflicts, including university-sponsored events (e.g., official activities, career fairs, or interviews), to minimize disruptions to their learning.

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review [Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Core IMPACTS

[Core IMPACTS](#) is the University System of Georgia's General Education curriculum. If you are teaching a course that counts towards Core IMPACTS, you should include a syllabus statement about the Core area and associated [career competencies](#). [This resource](#) developed by the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and Online Education at Georgia State University includes template syllabus statements for each of the Core IMPACTS areas that you may adapt for your course.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.