

KOR 3415 SF1 Syllabus

Course Prefix: KOR

Course Number: 3415

Course Name: Exploring Modern Korea

Semester: Summer

Academic Year: 2026

Section: SF1

Credit Hours: 3 Credits

Instructor Information

Instructor: Lee Oh

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General Course Information

Description

This course examines Korean popular culture, specifically focusing on K-pop, film, and drama through the lenses of cultural and media perspectives. It explores cultural forms and analyzes their effects on Korean society and the world. It will focus on Korean emotions, family dynamics, history, cultural identity, globalization, the Korean Wave (Hallyu), and cultural exchanges.

Course Learning Outcomes

Global Cultural Fluency

- Explore Korean cultural values and social change through media: Engage with Korean media to explore the nation's cultural values, traditions, emotional sensibilities, and modern transformations.
- Analyze Korean media in a historical and social context: Analyze how Korean media from the 1960s to the present reflect, critique, and shape the social values, tensions, and transformations of each era.
- Compare cultures to cultivate empathy and global perspective: Compare Korean culture with one's own to identify both shared and divergent values, fostering intercultural empathy and global awareness.

Critical Interpretation of Media and Society

- Critically examine portrayals of Korean society in the media: Critically examine how the Korean media portrays key aspects of society, such as family dynamics, social hierarchies, and cultural identity.
- Investigate cultural and historical forces shaping popular media: Investigate the cultural, social, and historical contexts that shape the production and global reception of K-pop, film, and drama, while applying critical media literacy to analyze their content.
- Interpret media as both social reflection and global connector: Interpret Korean media as a reflection of domestic values and a platform for cross-cultural dialogue and understanding.

Media Research and Cultural Inquiry

- Interrogate Korean entertainment as a vehicle for social commentary: Interrogate how Korean entertainment, such as dramas, films, and variety shows, functions as a platform for social commentary, addressing cultural values, societal changes, and international perceptions of Korea.
- Examine the construction of cultural identity through Korean media: Examine how Korean media, including K-pop, film, and drama, both reflect and shape cultural identity in domestic and global contexts, especially within the Korean Wave (Hallyu).

Required Course Materials

Course Text: All class materials are uploaded on Canvas

All course materials will be available online 100%. Students will be given access to all class materials. Course texts, including workbooks and drill classes, will be posted online, and students can access them at any time. Students are expected to complete their homework on time. Homework can be hand-written but submitted electronically on Canvas.

Grading Policy

Description of Graded Components

Lecture	32%
Films	30%
Discussion	15%
Two Projects	23%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

Course Policies

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. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/> or <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>.

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

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404)894-2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>, 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.

Attendance and/or Participation

Although an online course offers greater flexibility, please remember that your timely participation and online engagement is key to your success in this course, as well as that of your classmates.

Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

Students who miss an assignment due to participation in approved Institute activities (such as field trips, professional conferences, and athletic events) will be allowed to make up the work missed during those periods. Approval of such activities will be granted by the Student Academic and Financial Affairs Committee of the Academic Senate, and statements of the approved absence may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar. HW grading: Late submission is accepted with a 20% deduction, but it must be done within 2 days (48 hours) for all types of homework.

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. See <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22/> for an articulation of some basic expectation 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.

Honor Code

The Academic Honor Code is a student initiative that became an official Institute policy in 1996. The objective of the Academic Honor Code is to increase academic integrity and strengthen trust in the Georgia Tech community. All students are required to sign an agreement acknowledging their awareness of the Academic Honor Code. They are strongly encouraged to seek a full understanding of their instructors' expectations regarding academic

honor. <http://catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18>Links to an external site.

Code of Conduct: <http://catalog.gatech.edu/rules/19>

Core IMPACTS

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic and philosophical works?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Competence