

**HIEA 153 – Social and Cultural History of Twentieth-Century Korea:
Domination and Defiance through Text and Film (Fall 2014)**

Cognitive Science Building (CSB) 4

Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30-10:50 AM

Instructor: Todd A. Henry, PhD

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Office: Humanities and Social Sciences (H&SS), Room 3008

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, or by appointment

Reader: TBD

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Course Description



For many Koreans, the twentieth century was experienced as an especially turbulent path to becoming “modern.” This journey included the cross-cutting experiences of imperialism/ colonialism, ethno-nationalism, hetero-patriarchy, national division, and authoritarian

development under the Cold War system. HIEA 153 investigates these cultural and social structures, many of which continue well into the twenty first century. We will also explore individual and collective engagements with these systems of power to demonstrate contentious interactions between individuals and society. To examine the inter-related topics of domination and defiance during Korea’s twentieth century, HIEA 153 compares academic accounts of the past to filmic representations. In this discussion-oriented class, students will practice the skills of active/engaged learning by posing informed questions about historical narratives and by seeking persuasive answers from their peers. Written assignments will advance these learning goals, allowing students to explore their own thinking and lines of analysis.

Readings and Films

Written texts can be accessed on TED. Films will be digitized and streamed online. They can be viewed through course reserves (<http://reserves.ucsd.edu/eres/coursepage.aspx?cid=22336&page=docs>) with the password TH153 (note: password is not case sensitive, but you must be connected to “UCSD Protected” or by VPN). If you have problems accessing any course materials, please notify the instructor as soon as possible.

Class Expectations

This course revolves around the analytical comparison of textual and filmic narratives as they relate to society and culture in twentieth-century Korea. About half of class preparation involves the mandatory viewing of eight films (on average, 80 minutes each) during the quarter. On four of these films, you will write analyses not to exceed 750 words (for details, see “Writing Film Analyses”). To encourage improvement through revision, two of your four required responses are eligible for re-grading after a rewrite. Once during the quarter, you will also be expected to meet in person (*not* over email, skype, etc.) with a small group of classmates to devise three to four discussion questions which, after instructor moderation, will be used as the basis of class discussions [These questions, which stand in lieu of a film analysis, should be sent along with participant names to the instructor via email (tahenry@ucsd.edu) by 8 PM on the day before film discussions]. To prepare for film responses and discussions, one day a week will be devoted to a background lecture, for which you will be expected to read and reflect upon approximately 30 pages of written text(s). You must bring all assigned online readings to class – preferably, as marked printouts, or as PDFs on your laptop or a tablet/pad on which you can easily view them (note: no cell phone reading or use of electronic devices for non-class related tasks). Be ready to make active use of these texts in class discussions, as part of your grade is comprised of timely attendance and active participation. Major evaluations of your historical knowledge and writing skills will be assessed through a midterm essay and a take-home final, assignments that build on shorter film analyses and discussion questions.

Requirements/Grading

Regular attendance and class participation (5% and 10%, respectively)	15%
Four film analyses (6% each; 750 words maximum); two possible rewrites	24%
One group discussion assignment (3-4 questions to be emailed day <u>before</u> film discussions)	6%
Midterm essay (5-6 double-spaced pages; Due <i>via email</i> by 9:30 AM on Nov. 11)	20%
Take home final (8-9 double-spaced pages; Due <i>in class</i> on Dec. 18)	35%

****Up to three extra credit analyses of Korean Studies lectures**** (to be added to your classroom grade)

- 1) Han Sang Kim, “My Car Modernity: What the U.S. Army brought to South Korean Cinematic Imagination about Modernization” (Thursday, Oct. 16, 4:30-6 PM, HSS 4025)
- 2) Jesook Song, “Living on Your Own: Single Women, Rental Housing, and Post-Revolutionary Affect in Contemporary South Korea” (Thursday, Oct. 30, 5-6:30 PM, HSS 4025)
- 3) “Remembering Queer Korea: An International Symposium, Film Festival, and Exhibition” (Thursday, Nov. 13 to Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014): Details to follow

Unless otherwise authorized (i.e., for midterm essay and discussion questions), all assignments are to be *printed out* and *submitted in class*. **Plagiarism** is a serious offense and will be treated as such. Students found guilty of plagiarism will receive a failing grade for the assignment at hand. As the History Department’s statement on plagiarism explains, the “most obvious form of plagiarism is the verbatim copying of words, sentences, paragraphs or entire sections or chapter without quotation and proper attribution... You must use quotation marks even if you only borrow several words in sequence from a source.” All students should read the History Department’s statement on plagiarism:

<http://history.ucsd.edu/ugrad/academic-integrity.html>. If you are unclear about any aspect, you should ask the instructor for clarification *before* completing assignments.

Week 0: Introduction

1. Introduction (Oct. 2)

PART I: MODERN/COLONIAL FORCES AND THEIR SUBJECTS

Week 1: Empires, Nations, and their Representation

2. History and Film, Domination and Defiance (Oct. 7)

*Susan S. Shin, "Tonghak Thought: The Roots of Revolution," *Korea Journal* 19 (1979): 11-20

*Yong-ha Shin, "Conjunction of Tonghak and the Peasant War of 1894," *Korea Journal* 34 (1994): 59-75

Submit practice film analysis (500 words maximum) *in class*

3. Nation-Building and Imperialism in Turn of the Century Korea (Oct. 9)

*Andre Schmid, "The Universalizing Winds of Civilization" (23-54) in *Korea between Empires, 1895-1919*

*Se-mi Oh, "Letters to the Editor: Women, Newspapers, and the Public Sphere in Turn-of-the-Century Korea" (157-167) in Jahyun Kim Haboush (ed.), *Epistolary Korea: Letters in the Communicative Space of the Chosŏn, 1392-1910*

Week 2: Hetero-Patriarchy and Bourgeois Subjects

4. Discussion of *YMCA Baseball Team* (Oct. 14)

+View *YMCA Baseball Team* (2002; 104m)

5. Korea's "New Women" and "Modern Girls" (Oct. 16)

*"New Woman, Old Woman" (26-47) and "The 'Modern Girl' Question" (72-80) in Hyaeweol Choi (ed.), *New Women in Colonial Korea: A Sourcebook*

Week 3: Class, Ethnic, and Sexual Exploitations

6. Discussion of *Sweet Dream* (Oct. 21)

+View *Sweet Dream* (1936; 46m)

7. The “Comfort Women” System (Oct. 23)

*Chunghhee Sarah Soh, “Korean Survivors’ Testimonial Narratives” (79-106) in *The Comfort Women: Sexual Violence and Postcolonial Memory in Korea and Japan*

Week 4: Imperial Subjectification and its Gendering

8. Discussion of *The Murmuring* (Oct. 28)

+View *The Murmuring* (1995; 98m)

Distribute midterm essay assignment (To be submitted *via email* by 9:30 AM on Nov. 11)

9. Wartime Soldiering and Masculinity (Oct. 30)

*Takashi Fujitani, “The Colonial and National Politics of Gender, Sex, and Family” (335-374) in *Race for Empire: Koreans as Japanese and Japanese as Americans during World War II*

PART II: POST-COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ITS DISCONTENTS

Week 5: American Neo-Imperialism and Racial (Im)purity (1)

10. Discussion of *The Volunteer* (Nov. 4)

+View *The Volunteer* (1941; 55m)

11. Hot Wars and Korean “Camp Towns” (Nov. 6)

*W. Taejin Hwang, “An Indispensable Edge: American Military Camp towns in Postwar Korea” (88-122) in Wen-hsin Yeh (ed.), *Mobile Subjects: Boundaries and Identities in the Modern Korean Diaspora*

Week 6: American Neo-Imperialism and Racial (Im)purity (2)

12. Veteran’s Day – No Class (Nov. 11)

Submit midterm essay to instructor *via email* (tahenry@ucsd.edu) by 9:30 AM

13. Discussion of *The Women Outside: Korean Women and the U.S. Military* (Nov. 13)

+View *The Women Outside: Korean Women and the U.S. Military* (1995; 52m)

Week 7: Domestic Sex Work

14. Economic Development and Sexualized Labor (Nov. 18)

*Jin-kyung Lee, “Domestic Prostitution: From Necropolitics to Prosthetic Labor” in *Service Economies: Militarism, Sex Work, and Migrant Labor in South Korea* (91-124)

15. Discussion of *Yeongja’s Heyday* (Nov. 20)

+View *Yeongja’s Heyday* (1975; 103m)

Week 8: Authoritarianism and Student/Labor Activism

16. The *Minjung* Movement (Nov. 25)

*Namhee Lee, “The Alliance between Labor and Intellectuals” (213-239) in *The Making of Minjung: Democracy and the Politics of Representation in South Korea*

17. Thanksgiving – No Class (Nov. 27)

Week 9: “Queering” the Korean Family

18. Discussion of *A Single Spark* (Dec. 2)

+View *A Single Spark* (1995; 96m)

19. The Emergence of a Queer Korea (Dec. 4)

*John (Song Pae) Cho, “The Wedding Banquet Revisited: ‘Contract Marriages’ Between Korean Gays and Lesbians,” *Anthropological Quarterly* 82:2 (2009): 401-422

Week 10: Toward the Twenty First Century

20. Discussion of *Two Weddings and a Funeral* (Dec. 9)

+View *Two Weddings and a Funeral* (2012; 106m)

Distribute final exam assignment

[Submit in instructor’s office (HSS 3008) on Dec. 18, 10-11 AM]

21. Wrap Up (Dec. 11)