

ANTH, HIST, LANG 3550-001: Culture of East Asian Syllabus, Fall 2013

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Textbook: None

Referencebook: Ju Brown and John Brown, *China, Japan, Korea Culture and Customs* (BookSurge, 2006); Amazon.com

Class meets: MF, 11:30-12:45 PM at Family Life 307

Office hours: by appointment

I. Class at a Glance

Updated syllabus and other course material are available at <http://canvas.usu.edu/>

Culture appears everywhere in human societies, from observable activities to underlying philosophies. Conventionally East Asia is defined to be the area including China, Taiwan, Japan, North and South Korea. This course will focus on Korean and Chinese culture but other related cultures will also be discussed in many topics. Chinese culture section will be taught by FenAnn Shen in the first half of the semester, followed by Korean culture, taught by Eunsook Chung. The following are the details of each half semester's syllabus:

II. Chinese Culture Syllabus (August 30 to October 17, taught by FenAnn Shen)

During the lectures I will present an introduction to Chinese culture, including custom, calligraphy, paintings, music, martial arts, medicine, education, Confucianism and religions. My introduction is designed to raise your curiosity to pursue a further in-depth study on a special topic of your choice in Chinese culture. Your work will be presented orally (first half students alphabetically on the roster) and as a term paper (each student in the class) at the end of Chinese section. The oral presentation will be a **8 minute Power Point presentation** consisting of 7-8 slides describing your study. The example as the contents' guidance of your slides is available at the resource folder of the class website. Last day of the section, a **term paper** is due. The requirement of the paper is detailed in Sec. IV and oral presentation in Sec. V. There will be **two written examinations** in the segment as well. The detail of the examinations is described in Sec. VI.

III. In-depth study topics

Each student needs to perform a study for Chinese culture. Student can select a topic from the list below. Your choice of the **topic is due on September 9th**. That will give you plenty of time to find reference materials. These topics are very generic and broad. You can follow your interest in one category and gradually condense it into a specific title while researching it. The Wikipedia is a good starting points, but be aware that online information is not always accurate. Acceptable reference material includes printed books, online references from experts with credentials in that particular field, articles from reputable magazines, and professional journals. You can search for relevant books from USU library. You can take advantage of the USU interlibrary loans to get any book

in print for 10 days free. You have a half semester to prepare your term paper, so please do not wait until the last week. Please update me if you find any difficulty on the in-depth study, so that I can provide in-time help. I will also inform you interesting references whenever I come across them. Here are the in-depth topics:

Chinese Culture topics:

Writing systems

1. The separation of Japanese/Korean scripts from Chinese
2. The social and culture impact of simplified Chinese, introduced since 1956
3. Do writing tools affect the development of scripts in major cultures?
4. Compare pictorial elements in Chinese scripts with other ancient civilizations.

Music

5. The difference of traditional Chinese music from western music
6. The origins of music scales: are there universal rules?
7. Are the rhythms of ethnical music related to cultural factors?
8. Comparing the techniques used in Chinese opera and other local vocal music with that in the west.
9. Comparing Chinese music with Japanese/Korean music: instrumental, vocal, drama
10. The life and social status of Chinese opera singers.

Painting

11. The evolution and styles of Chinese painting.
12. The difference of Chinese painting from western painting: style, content, tools....
13. Japanese painting

Martial arts

14. Is there real physical effect of “chi” in chi-kung (qigong)?
15. The development of various martial arts in Asia

Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM)

16. What are the scientific supports for TCM?
17. What are the Chinese views of human physiology and the foundation of TCM
18. Chinese methods of treatment and herbal medicine
19. Can meditation and circulation “chi” in one’s body really improve one’s health?

Food

20. The environmental impact of Chinese cuisine
21. Is Asian cuisine a solution to obesity?
22. Evaluation of Asian cuisine based on health considerations

Religion

23. Aspects of Buddhism: principles, life and after-life, super nature beings....
24. Daoism: principles, local variations, practices.
25. Why religion is never a dominating factor in East Asia history?
26. The policy of Buddhism and Daoism toward non-believers and other religions

27. The influence of Buddhism and Daoism in Asian societies

Social issues

28. Did Confucianism block the idea of democracy in East Asia?
29. Does Confucianism lead to stronger family relations, lower divorce rate in East Asia?
30. Do East Asian countries have lower crime rate and if so, why?
31. Why do East Asian societies honor dying in honor than living in shame?
32. Does Asian culture result in different responses from political figures in scandals?
33. Do East Asian kids spend more time on academics, if so, why?
34. Do East Asian cultures suppress women?
35. How do East Asian cultures maintain their social values and morality?
36. Can Toyota success be implemented to other cultures?

Science and technology development

37. Did Confucianism block the development of science and technology in East Asia?
38. The origins and adjustments of the lunar calendars. Besides East Asian what other cultures have used them?
39. What are the Asian counting systems? Was similar mathematics developed in different cultures globally?
40. With the impact of western science and technologies, will Asian cultures gradually merge with western cultures?
41. The history and impact of Chinese printing technology
42. The history and impact of Chinese paper-making technology

IV. Term-Papers

1. Each student needs to turn in a term-paper.
2. The first page must begin with a title and your name (no more than 14-point font-size). Between title and paragraph or between paragraph and paragraph should have only one single-line space.
3. The Term paper should be at least **2 full pages long in single-space**, 12-point font-size, with 1” margin in all directions.
4. Term paper should list at least **1 non-online reference**. However, articles posted online from print-magazines such as Time, Newsweek, and professional academic journals are acceptable. Page numbers of a book citation should be listed. Main text should be at least 2 full pages long. Citing **at least 6** references are required for the term paper.
5. References, figures and tables should be followed after main text. They are **NOT** included in the page count in the term paper.
6. Term-paper submitted online at the due day. All the papers should be written as for academic publication. They will be graded by logic clarity, argument strength, reference thoroughness, and content richness, but not by literature styles or wording. Needless repetition to meet minimum length requirement and any form of plagiarism will not help.

V. Oral presentation

Due to large number of students enrolled in the class, only **first half students alphabetically on the roster** will need to give a 8-minute Power Point presentation on one of your studies for the Chinese section. Rest of the students will give their presentations in the Korean culture section. The goal for the presenters is to share the class what you have learned in that special topic of your choice. The suggestions and questions from the class may also help in your written report which is due at the last day of the section. Given the limited class time, the presentation has to be short and focused. Please summarize your study in 7-8 slides on why you are interested in this topic and what you found, pictures or figure of the subject, and the references based on. All the points will be in bullet format. You can elaborate your points verbally within 8 minutes. The power point slides will be due one day before the presentation, so I can load them into a thumb drive before presentation. 1 pont will be deducted for each late day submission. Oral presentation will be evaluated by organization, analysis, clarification, depth, and content.

VI. Written examination

There will be **two** written examinations. **The first examine will be held on September 20 and the second examination will be held on October 17.** 1st Exam counts for 12% of your final grade and 2nd Exam counts for 15% of your final grade. Most of the material on the tests will be covered in the lectures. Therefore, attending every lecture, taking good notes, read the lecture notes, and asking questions will be the best way to prepare for the exams.

VII. Grading

If you give presentation in Chinese section, you will have a maximum of 6% add into your final grade. Other than that, Chinese section will count 47% of your final grade. The attendance is important in this class. Therefore, the attendance in this segment will count 10% of your final grade. To accommodate some unpredicted events in life, **two absence** for the **entire semester** (combination of 1st half and 2nd half semesters) will be accepted **if the lecturer is notified within a week of your absence.** That means you can only miss two classes in the combination of Chinese and Korean section. The final grade for 1st half semester will be composed of classroom attendance (10%), two exams (27%), two homework assignments plus one term paper (10%), oral presentation (6% if you present in this section).

*Final grade = Score from Chinese portion (47%) + Score from Korean portion (47%) + presentation (6%), rounded to the nearest integer. The grading scale is as follows:

93-100%=A; 90-92%=A-; 87-89%=B+; 83-86%=B; 80-82%=B-;

77-79%=C+; 73-76%=C; 70-72%=C-; 65-69%=D+; 60-64%=D; 0-59%=F

VIII. Tentative class schedule

Week 1	1	08/26/13	Korean Culture Introduction and lecture
	2	08/30/13	Chinese Culture Introduction Chapter 1 Land, Custom(I)
Week 2		09/02/13	Labor day; No Class
	3	09/06/13	Chapter 1 Land, Custom(II)

Week 3	4	09/09/13	Chapter 2 Chinese Belief System Chinese Culture Assignment 1 Due
	5	09/13/13	Chapter 3 Martial Arts
Week 4	6	09/16/13	Chapter 4 Traditional Chinese Medicine
	7	09/20/13	Chapter 5 Writing, Calligraphy (I) Exam 1
Week 5	8	09/23/13	Chapter 5 Writing, Calligraphy (II) Chinese Culture Assignment 2 Due
	9	09/27/13	Chapter 6 Traditional Chinese Painting
Week 6	10	09/30/13	Chapter 7 Music & Instruments
	11	10/04/13	Chapter 8 Confucianism (I) Students Presentation(3 students)
Week 7	12	10/07/13	Chapter 8 Confucianism (II) Students Presentation(3 students)
	13	10/11/13	Chapter 9 Education(I) Students Presentation(3 students)
Week 8	14	10/14/13	Chapter 9 Education (II) Students Presentation(3 students)
	15	10/17/13	Students Presentation(3) Chinese Culture Term Paper Due Exam 2

Korean Culture Syllabus (October 21 to December 6)

The objective of this course is to provide students with a basic knowledge and understanding of the Korean and Japanese culture. Students will come understand and enjoy the fact that there are both similarities and differences between Korea and Japan.

Oral presentation

Due to large number of students enrolled in the class, each student will only need to give **one 7-minute Power Point presentation**. Given the limited class time, the presentation has to be short and focused. Please outline your summary in 5-6 slides on why you are interested in this topic and what you found, pictures or figure of the subject, and the references based on. The power point slides will be due one day before the presentation, so I can load them into a thumb drive before presentation. **1 point will be deducted for the each late day submission**. Oral presentation will be evaluated by organization, analysis, clarification, depth, content, and adherence to time.

*** Korean Culture Presentation Topics:**

Writing Systems

1. Origin of Korean Characters (Hangeul)
2. Social and Cultural Impacts of Korean Language (Hangeul)

Music and Dance

1. Origins and Historical Background of Traditional Korean Music and Dance
2. The Classification of Traditional Korean Music
3. Nongak, One of Korean Traditional Folk Musics (Farmer's Band Rooted in Village Ritual)
4. Pansori, Traditional Korean Opera
5. Samulnori, Traditional Korean Percussion Quartet
6. Korean Folk Mask Dance Drama, Hahoe Mask Dance
7. Kabuki, Traditional Japanese Theater

Martial Arts

1. Types of Korean Martial Arts
2. Ssireum, Traditional Korean Wrestling
3. Sumo, Japanese Martial Art
4. Judo, Japanese Martial Art

Religion

1. Korean Beliefs and Religion
2. Aspects of Korean Shamanism
3. Influence of Shamanism on Korean Societies
4. Difference of Religion between Japan's Animism and Korea's Shamanism
5. Korean Characteristic of Korean Christianity

Costume

1. Korean Traditional Clothing, Hanbok
2. History and Evolution of Hanbok
3. Japanese Traditional Clothing, Kimono

Creative Arts

1. Korean Traditional Papermaking, Hanji
2. Tea Culture in East Asia
3. Evolution of Korean Architecture
4. Hanok, Korean Traditional House
5. Garden Architecture of Japan

Politics

1. Japanese Colonial Rule and the National Liberation Movement
2. Democratic Movement of South Korea

3. The Most Ardent Wish of the Koreans-Korean Reunification
4. Relationship with North Korea
5. Images of North Korea

Social Issues

1. Korean Education Fever
2. Miracle of Korean Economy
3. Economic Development of South Korea
4. Economic Recession in Japan

Modern Culture

1. Impacts of Korean Wave
2. Online Video Gaming Culture in Korea
3. Otaku Culture of Japan-Japanese Term for Obsession
4. Bath Culture in Japan and Korea
5. Blood Type-The Significance of Blood Type in Japan
6. Manga Industry in Japan

Written examination

There will be two **written examinations** in the Korean Culture session. **The first examine on Korean culture will be November 1st and the second examination on Korean culture will be held on December 6th.** Each counts for 15% of your final grade. Most of the material on the tests will be covered in the lectures. Therefore, attending every lecture, taking good notes, asking questions will be the best way to prepare for the tests.

Movie Reaction Paper

I hope you will focus first on prewriting—note taking, rough outlines, and so forth. A reaction paper is 12 fonts, single space, and 1 **full page long**. When the paper is written, make sure to include an introductory, beginning, middle, and end. You should start with a brief summary of the movie. From there, discuss what you found the most important, interesting, and include your opinions of these events. You could conclude with your final thoughts and overall opinion of the movie. You need to remember that you are writing about your personal reaction to the movie, so focus on that rather than trying to recount every little detail of it.

Grading

Test 1 (November 1)	15%
Movie reaction paper (November 18)	7%
Test 2 (December 6)	15%
Class attendance	10%

*Final grade = Score from Korean portion + Score from Chinese portion, (rounded to the nearest integer). The grading scale is as follows:
 93-100%=A; 90-92%=A-; 87-89%=B+; 83-86%=B; 80-82%=B-; 77-79%=C+; 73-76%=C; 70-72%=C-; 65-69%=D+; 60-64%=D; 0-59%=F

Tentative class schedule

Week 9	17	10/21/13	Land, People, and Language
	18	10/25/13	Most Important Value of Japan and Korea
Week 10	19	10/28/13	Religions of Japan and Korea
	20	11/01/13	Korean Culture Test 1 Customs
Week 11	21	11/04/13	Education
	22	11/08/13	Taste of East Asian Cuisine
Week 12	23	11/11/13	Film
	24	11/15/13	Film
Week 13	25	11/18/13	Creative Arts Film Reaction Paper Due
	26	11/22/11	Decorative Arts
Week 14	27	11/25/13	Students Presentations
	28	11/29/13	Thanksgiving Break, No Class
Week 15	29	12/02/13	Students Presentations
	30	12/06/13	Korean Culture Test 2