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ANTH 210: Anthropology of East Asia

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2023 Spring ANTH210 (34427)

Peoples of East Asia

Prof. Emoto

Department of Anthropology,

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines contemporary cultures of East Asia from anthropological perspectives, using readings and films (documentary, commercial, and ethnographic films). Primary topics include nationalism, identity and power, tourism and modernity, gender, and social movements. Class activities include lecture, discussion and film viewing. Class will be divided into three units with different topical/geographical focuses: at the end of each unit student will write a three-page summary report.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Learn sociocultural dynamics of East Asia within the global contexts.
2. Learn diversity within.
3. Connect past to the present: Learn historical process to understand the present.
4. Use films as medium of learning East Asia.

Grading Policy on Final grade

A 90-100%, B 89-80, C 79-70, D 69-60, F 59-- (+/- distinctions)

You must earn a 60% minimum **in each** of the following three categories to pass.

1. three summary reports (60% minimum for EACH report): 60%
2. Class Performance (attendance, participation): 30%
3. Blackboard assignments: 20%

Required Readings and Videos:

This is a Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) course. All required readings, including the textbook, readings and videos will be provided free of charge through the course site (Blackboard, syllabus). Students are expected to read the materials by the assigned date. In the Tentative Schedule listed below, required readings are listed to the right of the class number that they are to be read.

Tentative Class Schedule

Section 1: Gender, State and Modernization in Japan (class 1-6)

- Class 1. Mystical Bad Girls, on Gender Politics
Class 2. Black Hair (30 min), on Folklore and gender
Class 3, 4, & 5. Tokyo Story (2h 10min), on Modernization and family
Class 6. Japanese Mothers and Obento, on Motherhood and State

Submission of Summary Report I.

Section 2-1: Race and Colonial legacy of Korea (Class 7-10)

Class 7 & 8. Minari (1h 55min) on Diaspora, on Diaspora

Read two or more below on race and power in LA

When LA Erupted In Anger: A Look Back At The Rodney King Riots

<https://www.npr.org/2017/04/26/524744989/when-la-erupted-in-anger-a-look-back-at-the-rodney-king-riots> (audio attached)

What were the LA Riots?

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2022/04/28/magazine/la-riot-timeline-photos.html>

The LA riots were a rude awakening for Korean Americans

<https://www.cnn.com/2017/04/28/us/la-riots-korean-americans/index.html>

Korean American-Black conflict during L.A. riots was overemphasized by media

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/asian-america/korean-american-black-conflict-l-riots-was-overemphasized-media-expert-rcna26547>

Class 9 & 10. Use and abuse of Race and culture,

Lecture on race and ethnicity

Section 2-2: Korean War and Nationalism (Class 11-16)

Class 11. JSA: Joint Security Area (1h 50min), on Korea Divided

Class 12 War in Korea (26 min)

Read -The Korea War 101

- [The Korean war - The Perspective](#)

Class 13. [Women, Resistance and Divided Nation, on State and Gender](#)

Class 14 [McDonald's in Seoul: Food Choices, Identity and Nationalism.](#)

Class 15 &16 [Peppermint Candy](#) (2hr 10 min)

Submission of Summary Report II.

Section 3: Shamanism and Modernization (class 17-24)

Class 17 [Between the Two Worlds: the Hmong Shamanism](#) (28 minutes); "Vanishing Shaman" (27min)

Class 18 [Bear Ritual](#) (30 min)

[The Concepts behind the Ainu Bear Festival](#)

Class19 [Japanese Ainu Mosir](#) (1h 24min)

Class 20 [Ethnic Tourism in Hokkaido and the Shaping of Ainu Identity](#)

Class 21 [The Social Symbolism of Healing in Nepal](#)

Class 22 [Shamans of the Blind Country](#) (1hr 37 min)

Class23 [Asocial memories, poisonous knowledge and haunting in Mongolia](#)

Class 24 [The Split Horn: Life of a Hmong Shaman in America](#) (57 min)

Submission of Summary Report III.

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York. In this class, penalties for academic dishonesty include academic sanctions: Students will receive F for an entire course grade and be reported to the Dean of Students at the Queens College. *For detailed policy, go to [Academic Integrity Policy](#)*

Academic Support

-If you need special accommodations due to disabilities, or Assistive Technology to help those with disabilities engage in remote instruction, they should contact the QC Office of Special Services at qc.spsv@qc.cuny.edu.

As any other medical absence, the student should provide documentation and inform the instructor immediately via email with a designated subject line.