

**The University of Western Ontario  
Department of History**

**History 2611E—Survey of Korean History**

M 10:30-12:30 PM

Instructor: Carl Young  
Office Hours: M 12:30-1:30, T 3:00-4:00  
or by appointment

Office: LwH 2225  
Telephone: 661-2111, ext. 84910  
E-mail: cyoung73@uwo.ca

**Course Description**

Korea has a long and rich history. Located at the crossroads of Northeast Asia, it has often been at the centre of developments in the region, often as a prize of larger powers. Korea also has a long tradition of autonomy, however, and developed a unique culture and political structure that gave it a distinct identity and allowed it to make distinguished contributions to the East Asian cultural sphere.

This course aims to provide an overview of Korean history from the beginnings to the present. It will present developments in the political, cultural, social, and philosophical spheres and assess the impacts of these processes on the peninsula. Korea's strategic position at the centre of the Northeast Asia region will also be investigated, as well as its role as mediator and battleground for its more powerful neighbours and the impact that this has had on the international system in East Asia.

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Provide accurate information about the processes, people, and events behind the development of the different states on the Korean peninsula from prehistoric times to the present
- Describe the importance and role of the Korean peninsula in the international system in East Asia
- Analyze primary sources and reveal what they show about the events, people, values, and society they come from
- Synthesise primary and secondary sources to produce a research paper

**Required Texts**

Michael J. Seth, *A History of Korea: From Antiquity to the Present*, (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2011)

Peter H. Lee & Wm. Theodore de Bary, eds., *Sources of Korean Tradition, Volume I* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1996)

Yŏngho Ch'oe, Peter H. Lee, & Wm. Theodore de Bary, eds., *Sources of Korean Tradition, Volume II* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2000)

### **Course Evaluation**

1 Term Paper (10-15 pages)	20%
3 Source Document Assignments (10% each; 4-6 pages)	30%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Quizzes	<u>10%</u>
	100%

The term paper will be a research paper on topics of your choice in the history of Korea. Suggested topics will be handed out early in the beginning of the second semester. The suggested length of the paper will be approximately 10-15 pages. The paper will be due on **March 24 by 5:00 PM.**

There will be two exams in the course, one in the December exam period covering topics from the first semester and the other in the April exam period covering topics from the second semester. The exams will be made up of a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions.

The source document assignments will be based on documents from the two volumes of *Sources of Korean Tradition*. Questions based on the documents will be handed out in class and students will choose **one** question and write a 4-6 page analysis of the documents relating to the question. The first source document assignment on themes from the prehistoric period to the end of the Koryŏ period will be due on **Oct. 28 by 5:00 PM.** The second source document assignment on themes from the early and mid-Chosŏn periods will be due on **Nov. 25 by 5:00 PM.** The third source document assignment on themes from the late Chosŏn and modern periods will be due on **March 3 by 5:00 PM.**

There are four scheduled quizzes throughout the course. These will be composed of around 20 multiple-choice questions each and will be held in the first 10 minutes of class for which they are scheduled.

If you should have any questions pertaining to the structure or content of the course, please do not hesitate to contact me during my office hours, or by phone or e-mail to make an appointment.

### **Lateness and Absence Policy**

The source document assignments and the term paper will be accepted late. However, there will be a penalty of 2% a day that will be applied for every day the assignments are late, including weekends and holidays. It is expected that quizzes and exams will be written on the day they are held. In case of family emergency or illness, penalties can be removed from assignments or exams can be rescheduled by undergoing the process laid out in the next paragraph relating to academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds. If you have missed class, try and get notes from another member of the class.

Students are reminded that academic accommodation on medical grounds can in most instances **only** be granted if supported by a **University of Western Ontario Student Medical Certificate**. This form can be accessed at the following website: [https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical\\_document.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_document.pdf) or be picked up at the Academic Counselling Office in the student's home faculty. (For Social Science students 2105 SSC.) Further details on this policy can be found at the following website: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf>

If you do hand in your assignment late, please hand it in to wooden drop-off box outside the History Department office. The staff will pick up the assignment and stamp it with a date and time and put it in my mailbox. This provides greater security and clarity for the handing in of the assignment. Please avoid shoving the paper under my office door if at all possible, because it could get lost.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

It is expected that proper footnoting and referencing will be used for all the papers of this course. Plagiarism is a serious offence and can bring forth severe academic penalties. Please refer to the University calendar and to the department website for more details. More detailed information can be seen on the following website [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf) and at the end of the syllabus.

## **Schedule of Readings—History 2611E –September 2013-April 2014**

Seth: Michael J. Seth, *A History of Korea*  
*SKT 1: Sources of Korean Tradition*, Volume I  
*SKT 2: Sources of Korean Tradition*, Volume II

### **Sept. 9—Introduction**

**Sept. 16 & 23—Prehistoric Korea and the Three Kingdoms of Koguryō, Paekche, and Silla**

Seth, p. 1-47; *SKT 1*, p. 3-17, 57-61

### **Sept. 30—Unified Silla and Parhae**

Seth, p. 49-75; *SKT 1*, 54-56, 65-66, 109-116

\*\*\*\*\**Quiz #1—Oct. 7*\*\*\*\*\*

**Oct. 7 & 21—Koryō: Aristocratic Society, Military Government, and Mongol Rule**

Seth, p. 77-125; *SKT 1*, p. 151-156, 190-196, 199-208

October 14—Thanksgiving holiday—No class

\*\*\*\*\**1<sup>st</sup> Source Document Assignment due—Oct. 28*\*\*\*\*\*

**Oct. 28, Nov. 4 & Nov. 11—Morning Calm: Early and mid-Chosŏn and the Rise of Neo-Confucianism in Korea**

Seth, p. 127-188; *SKT 1*, p. 271-276, 294-299, 306-310, 311-326; *SKT 2*, p. 12-23, 30-33, 46-52, 141-173

**Nov. 18 & 25 and Dec. 2—Chosŏn in the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries**

Seth, 189-230; *SKT 2*, p. 52-60, 99-116, 124-142, 173-180

\*\*\*\*\**Quiz #2—Nov. 18*\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\**2<sup>nd</sup> Source Document Assignment due—Nov. 25*\*\*\*\*\*

Dec. 9-Jan. 5—Mid-term Examination period and Winter holidays—No class

\*\*\*\*\**Mid-term Exam during December examination period*\*\*\*\*\*

**Jan. 6—Under Pressure: The Opening of Korea and Foreign Pressures in the 1870's and 1880's**

Seth, p. 230-243; *SKT 2*, p. 216-244, 245-260

**Jan. 13 & 20—The Tonghak Rebellion and the Last Days of Independence, 1894-1910**

Seth, p. 243-263; *SKT 2*, p. 261-267, 272-314

**Jan. 27, Feb. 3 & 10—Korea as Japanese Colony, 1910-1945**

Seth, p. 265-304; *SKT 2*, p. 331-346, 315-322, 346-349, 352-365

\*\*\*\*\**Quiz #3—Jan. 27*\*\*\*\*\*

Feb. 17-21—Reading Week—No class

**Feb. 24 & March 3---Liberation, Division, and the Korean War**

Seth, p. 305-337; *SKT 2*, 350-351, 365-366, 382-393

\*\*\*\*\**3<sup>rd</sup> Source Document Assignment due—March 3*\*\*\*\*\*

**March 10—Post-War North Korea**

Seth, p. 339-372; *SKT 2*, p. 419-425

\*\*\*\*\**Quiz #4---March 10*\*\*\*\*\*

**March 17 & 24—South Korea, 1953-1997**

Seth, p. 373-436; *SKT 2*, p. 393-400, 439-445,

\*\*\*\*\**Term Paper due—March 24*\*\*\*\*\*

**April 2 & 9—The Korean Peninsula in the 1990's and Prospects for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

Seth, p.437-502; *SKT 2*, p. 445-451

\*\*\*\*\**Final Exam during April examination period*\*\*\*\*\*

**SUPPORT SERVICES**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

*Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.*

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

PLAGIARISM

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of

the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

## MEDICAL ACCOMMODATION

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to [https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical\\_accommodations\\_link\\_for\\_OOR.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf) to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. Please go to <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf> to download the necessary form. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation is warranted. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once a decision has been made about accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for term tests, assignments, and exams.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Rebecca Dashford,  
Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84962 or  
rdashfo@uwo.ca