HISTORY 3613F
The Koreas since 1945
Fall/Winter 2022-23
Wednesdays 2:30-5:30 PM
Course delivery in-person

Instructor: Dr. Carl Young
Office Hours: Wednesday and Thursday 1:00-2:00 PM
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This is a draft syllabus. Please see your course OWL site for the final syllabus.

Course delivery with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic
The intent is for this course to be delivered in-person but should the COVID-19 landscape shift, the course will be delivered on-line synchronously (i.e., on Zoom at the times indicated in the timetable). The grading scheme will not change. The course will return to an in-person mode of delivery when the University and local health authorities deem it safe to do so.

Course Description:
This course will investigate developments in North and South Korea since 1945. Topics will include the Korean War; economic development, military dictatorship, and democratisation in South Korea; the consolidation of the Kim family state in North Korea; and the role of the Korean peninsula in international relations in the Asia-Pacific.

Prerequisite(s):
1.0 History course at the 2200 level or above or the former International Relations 2701E.

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Syllabus:
Located at the crossroads of Northeast Asia, the Korean peninsula has often been at the centre of developments in the region, often as a prize of larger powers. After the end of World War II in 1945, Korea emerged from a long period of Japanese colonial rule. New foreign interference that started with the decision of the US and the USSR to divide the peninsula into two occupation zones led to the creation of North and South Korea in 1948, each claiming to be the only legitimate government of all Koreans. Tensions and antagonism between the two states culminated soon after in the Korean War of 1951-1953, a civil war that also led to foreign intervention. The war
proved destructive for both states but was inconclusive and entrenched the division of the peninsula into two antagonistic and increasingly divergent states that are still technically at war and have the most militarised border in the world between them.

The purpose of the course will be to investigate developments in North and South Korea since 1945. Topics will include the formation of North and South Korea; the Korean War; economic development, military dictatorship, and democratisation in South Korea; the consolidation of the Kim family state in North Korea; and the role of the Korean peninsula in the international order in the Asia-Pacific during the Cold War and beyond.

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

- assess the interaction between political, social, economic, cultural, and international factors in the development of North and South Korea
- explain the characteristics of the different political regimes in the Korean peninsula since 1945 and their impact on Korean society, economy, and culture
- Analyze primary and secondary sources on select topics in modern Korean history since 1945 through both oral discussion and written work
- Present findings and views from readings through oral presentations
- Synthesise primary and secondary sources to produce a research paper

Course Materials:

Selected articles and book excerpts available on the course OWL site

Methods of Evaluation:
- Term Paper (around 15 pages) 30%
- 3 Article Analyses (4-6 pages: 15% each) 45%
- 1 Oral Presentation 10%
- Discussion Participation 15%

100%
The term paper will be a research paper on a topic of your choice in the history of North and South Korea since 1945. Suggested topics will be handed out early in the beginning of the semester. The suggested length of the papers will be approximately 10-15 pages. The paper will due on Nov. 16.

The three article/document analyses will be based around the readings for each class. During the semester, students will choose any 3 of the articles or documents (except for the Buzo textbook readings) assigned and write a 4-6 page paper each on the articles. These papers are due on the day of the relevant seminar in which the particular reading is assigned. This assignment will not normally be accepted late. The 1st article analysis, on readings between Sept. 18 and Oct. 12, must be done by Oct. 12. The 2nd article analysis, on readings between Oct. 19 and Nov. 9, must be done by Nov. 9. The 3rd article analysis, on readings between Nov. 16 and Dec. 7, must be done by Dec. 7. This assignment is more than merely a summary. The main purpose of the paper is to bring forth the main issues of the article or series of documents, discuss how the author(s) bring forth their point of view, and also analyze the effectiveness of the readings in conveying information and opinion, as well as their contribution to the topic under discussion in the particular seminar.

Students will also be required to do 1 oral presentation in the course of the semester. These will be based on the articles and documents assigned as readings for the seminar. A sign-up sheet will be passed around in the beginning of the semester. This will involve a brief 10-15 minute presentation on the reading in question, which will include a brief summary of the reading and the launching of questions for discussion.

This is a seminar course and the success of the seminar depends a lot on keeping up with the readings, attendance in class, and participation in discussion. It is for this reason that 15% of the course mark depends on seminar participation. Roll will be taken in each class and students will be given marks for participation in the discussions. For each class, students will be marked on a scale of 1 to 5 for each class and at the end of the semester, the marks will be added together to give an overall participation mark.

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 term papers 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. In case of family emergency or illness, penalties can be removed from assignments by undergoing the process laid out in the next paragraph relating to academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds. The article/document analyses will normally not be accepted late. 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 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 the wooden drop-off box outside the History Department office at Lawson Hall. 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 is provided at the end of this course outline.

Course Schedule and Readings:


Sept. 14—Introduction

Sept. 21—The Colonial Background

Buzo, 46-84; 1-45 (recommended for those with little background in East Asian or Korean history)


Sept. 28—Liberation and Occupation

Buzo, 85-105


Oct. 5—The Formation of North and South Korea


Oct. 12—The Korean War

Buzo, 106-125


*************Last chance to hand in 1st article analysis—Oct. 12***************

Oct. 19—Domestic Reconstruction and International Relations in the 1950’s and 1960’s

Buzo, 126-156


Oct. 26—North Korea: Juch’e and the Consolidation of the Kim Family State (c. 1953-1970)


Fall Reading Week—Oct. 31-Nov. 6—No class
Nov. 9—Corruption, Failed Democracy, Military Dictatorship, and Economic Development in South Korea (c. 1953-1970)


**************Last chance to hand in 2nd article analysis—Nov. 9**************

Nov. 16—Divergent Authoritarianisms in the 1970’s (those who sign up for presentations on Nov. 16 will get a 1 week extension on their term paper)

Buzo, 157-176


***************Term Paper due—Nov. 16***************

Nov. 23—Failed Authoritarianism and New Democracy in South Korea (c. 1979-1990)

Buzo, 177-203


**Nov. 30—The Korean Peninsula after the Cold War**

Buzo, 204-233


**Dec. 7—Prospects for the Peninsula**

Buzo, 234-265


***********Last chance to hand in 3rd Article Analysis—Dec. 7*************

**Additional Statements:**

Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document, [https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf](https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf), for additional information regarding:

- Academic Offences
- Accessibility Options
- Medical Issues
- Plagiarism
- Scholastic Offences
- Copyright
- Health and Wellness