

HH2026: Health, Food, and Sports in Modern Korean History



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Course Description:

This course aims at enhancing and deepening your understanding of modern Korean history through your case studies of topics concerning health, food, and sports. These three subjects have often been ignored in the mainstream narrative of Korean history, but are now highlighted with the growth of medical history and microhistory, as well as a closer relationship among history, sociology, and ethnography. These scholarly developments have enriched our purview, as they can show minute details of everyday life of ordinary Koreans alongside the larger power shifts in broader social formulations. Hence, you will be able to appreciate the complexities and contradictions in the process of nation-building and crafting modernity in Korea, especially its southern half during the twentieth century. This course thus broadens your view of East Asian history and society.

Evaluation:

1. First Essay
2. Second Essay
3. Final Quiz
4. Pre-Class Questions
5. Discussion Reports
6. Attendance and Participation

Course Schedule and Prescribed Readings:

1. Introduction

Gi-Wook Shin, *Ethnic Nationalism in Korea: Genealogy, Politics, and Legacy* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2006), pp. 1-20.

Sheila Jasanoff, "Technologies of Humility: Citizen Participation in Governing Science," *Minerva* 41 (2003), pp. 223-244.

2. Theoretical Issues

Sonja Kim, "In the Margins: Writing on Medicine in Korea after 1876," *Korean Journal of Medical History* 19 (2010), pp. 255-298.

Rachael Joo, *Transnational Sport: Gender, Media, and Global Korea* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2012), pp. 35-64.

Katarzyna Cwiertka, *Cuisine, Colonialism, and Cold War: Food in Twentieth-Century Korea* (London: Reaktion Books, 2012), pp. 7-13

3. "Premodernity" in Medicine and Public Health

Don Baker, "Oriental Medicine in Korea," in Helaine Selin (ed.), *Medicine across Cultures* (Dordrecht, Kluwer, 2003), pp. 113-153.

Dongwon Shin, "Hygiene, Medicine, and Modernity in Korea, 1876-1910," *East Asian Science, Technology, and Medicine* 3 (2009), pp. 5-26.

Soyoung Suh, "From Influence to Confluence: Positioning the History of Pre-Modern Korean Medicine in East Asia," *Korean Journal of Medical History* 19 (2010), pp. 225-253.

4. Health, Food, and Sports during the Colonial Challenge

Cwiertka, *Cuisine, Colonialism, and Cold War*, pp. 58-78.

Jung Hwan Cheon, "Bend It Like a Man of Chosun: Sports Nationalism and Colonial Modernity of 1936," in Kyung Hyun Kim and Youngmin Choe (eds.), *The Korean Popular Culture Reader* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2014), pp. 199-227.

Todd A. Henry, "Sanitizing Empire: Japanese Articulations of Korean Otherness and the Construction of Early Colonial Seoul, 1905-1919," *Journal of Asian Studies* 64 (2005), pp. 639-675.

5. Gendered Bodies in the Colony

Jin-Kyung Park, "Husband Murder as the 'Sickness' of Korea: Carceral Gynecology, Race, and Tradition in Colonial Korea, 1926-1932," *Journal of Women's History* 25 (2013), pp. 116-140.

Theodore Yoo, *The Politics of Gender in Colonial Korea: Education, Labor, and Health, 1910-1945* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008), pp. 161-192.

Sonja Kim, "'Limiting Birth': Birth Control in Colonial Korea (1910-1945)," *East Asian Science, Technology, and Society* 2 (2008), pp. 335-359.

6. Designing Biomedical Bodies during the Cold War

John P. DiMoia, *Reconstructing Bodies: Biomedicine, Health, and Nation-Building in South Korea since 1945* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2013), pp. 72-106, 145-176.

Hyung Wook Park, "Bodies and Viruses: Biomedicalizing Hepatitis B in Shaping South Korea's Nationhood," *Seoul Journal of Korean Studies* 32 (2019), pp. 173-209.

7. Food and the Making of Modernity

Sangmee Bak, "McDonald's in Seoul: Food Choices, Identity, and Nationalism," in James L. Watson (ed.), *Golden Arches East: McDonald's in East Asia* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2006), pp. 136-160.

Cwiertka, *Cuisine, Colonialism, and Cold War*, pp. 114-141.

Young-Kyun Yang, "Jajangmyeon and Junggukjip: The Changing Position and Meaning of Chinese Food and Chinese Restaurants in Korean Society," *Korea Journal* 45 (2005), pp. 60-88.

8. Traditional Korean Medicine and the Confused Boundaries

Jongyoung Kim, "Alternative Medicine's Encounter with Laboratory Science: The Scientific Construction of Korean Medicine in a Global Age," *Social Studies of Science* 37 (2007), pp. 855-880.

Eunjeong Ma and Michael Lynch, "Constructing the East-West Boundary: The Contested Place of Modern Imaging Technology in South Korea's Dual Medical System," *Science, Technology, and Human Values* 39 (2014), pp. 639-665.

9. World Cup and the Politics of Representation

Rachel Joo, "Consuming Visions: The Crowds of the Korean World Cup," *Journal of Korean Studies* 11 (2006), pp. 41-67.

Hyunjung Lee and Younghan Cho, "Performing Nation-ness in South Korea during the 2002 Korea-Japan World Cup," *Korea Journal* 49 (2009), pp. 93-120.

Jiyeon Kang, "Corporeal Memory and the Making of a Post-Ideological Social Movement: Remembering the 2002 South Korean Candlelight Vigil," *Journal of Korean Studies* 17 (2012), pp. 329-350.

10. The Hwang Scandal and the Biomedical Questions on National Bodies

Sanghyun Kim, "The Politics of Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research in South Korea: Contesting National Sociotechnical Imaginaries," *Science as Culture* 23 (2014), pp. 293-319.

Leo Kim, "Explaining the Hwang Scandal: National Scientific Culture and Its Global Relevance," *Science as Culture* 17 (2008), pp. 397-415.

Azumi Tsuge and Hyunsoo Hong, "Reconsidering Ethical Issues about 'Voluntary Egg Donors' in Hwang's Case in Global Context," *New Genetics and Society* 30 (2011), pp. 241-252.

So Yeon Leem and Jin Hee Park, "Rethinking Women and Their Bodies in the Age of Biotechnology," *East Asian Science, Technology and Society* 2 (2008), pp. 9-26.

11. Food, Health, and Mad Cow Militancy

Herbert Gottweis and Byoungsoo Kim, "Bionationalism, Stem Cells, BSE, and Web 2.0 in South Korea: Toward the Reconfiguration of Biopolitics," *New Genetics and Society* 28 (2009), pp. 223-239.

Jongyoung Kim, "The Networked Public, Multitentacled Participation, and Collaborative Expertise: US Beef and the Korean Candlelight Protest," *East Asian Science, Technology, and Society* 8 (2014), pp. 229-252.

Seung-Ook Lee, Sook-Jin Kim, and Joel Wainwright, "Mad Cow Militancy: Neoliberal Hegemony and Social Resistance in South Korea," *Political Geography* 29 (2010), pp. 359-369.

12. Plastic Surgery and the Modification of Identities

John P. DiMoia, *Reconstructing Bodies*, pp. 177-212.

Ruth Holliday and Joanna Elfving-Hwang, "Gender, Globalization and Aesthetic Surgery in South Korea," *Body and Society* 18 (2012), pp. 58-81.

So Yeon Leem, "The Anxious Production of Beauty: Unruly Bodies, Surgical Anxiety and Invisible Care," *Social Studies of Science* 46 (2016), pp. 34-55.

13. Final Quiz / Medicine and Gender in the Twenty-First Century

Yeonbo Jeong, "Scientific Motherhood, Responsibility, and Hope: Umbilical Cord Blood Banking in South Korea," *New Genetics and Society* 33 (2014), pp. 349-369.

Laura C. Nelson, "Diagnosing Breast Cancer in South Korea: 'Western' Behaviors, Stress, and Survivor Activism," *Journal of Korean Studies* 17 (2012), pp. 253-268.

Assignments:

First Essay

The first essay (about 1,000 words) will be about a topic of the course. The essay topic will be announced around 4th week of the class. Please save the essay in the MS word format (rather than the pdf format) and submit it to "First Essay" in NTULearn.

Second Essay

The second essay (about 1,000 words) will be about a topic of the course. The essay topic will be announced around 11th week of the class. Please save the essay in the MS word format (rather than the pdf format) and submit it to “Second Essay” in NTULearn.

Final Quiz: (15%)

There will be the final quiz on the last of the course. The questions will come from all contents of the course. You are expected to write a short answer (3-4 sentences) for each question.

Pre-Class Questions (20%)

After finishing the required readings for each week, every student must submit a question for discussion during the seminar. The question is to be uploaded in the course portal in NTULearn. These questions will be graded according to their relevance, novelty, and ingenuity.

Discussion Reports (15%)

After the seminar, each group should submit a short report of discussion to the course portal of NTULearn after the end of the class. This report reflects the outcome of the class members’ conversation about the discussion question assigned to them. The professor’s evaluation will be added as a comment, about which students can ask further questions. In each report, there must be a list of participating members.

Attendance and Participation (10%)

Your activity and attendance are monitored in every seminar and will be used in the final evaluation. Please try to attend every class and be sure to be proactive during the discussion.

Late Submission:

There will be a penalty to a paper submitted after the deadline. The extent of penalty will be decided depending on the general distribution of students’ marks in the entire class. But late submission can be excused according to the professor’s understanding of the student’s circumstances.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious academic misconduct and may endanger a student’s career in a highly severe way. It is done intentionally or unintentionally by using another person’s ideas and writings without any proper citation and/or quotation marks. Paraphrasing is an act of rewriting other people’s ideas or arguments using your own words. While this is an acceptable practice in most cases, it can be an issue if you do not indicate that the ideas have come from another

person's work. If you are not sure about how you should do regarding these issues, please do cite the referred sources in footnotes/endnotes and use the quotation marks around the terms you did not invent. Even if a student cited a source, direct quotation without quotation marks may be a problem, too. If any plagiarized sentence or paragraph is detected, the grade will be reduced to zero and the student's name will be reported to the school.

Policy on Missing Classes:

In general, students are encouraged to attend all seminars. However, they may miss a few, if there is a good reason, such as illness, required university activity, or family emergency. In such cases, students can claim for the credit of class attendance, only after they submit a summary of the week's readings along with the documentary evidence on the reasons for absence.

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