

ASP East Asian Literature and Culture in Translation

Section 1

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【Course Outline / Description】

This course examines literary texts/films and various forms of cultures from different countries of East Asian region (Japan, South Korea, China, Hong Kong, etc.). The range of the texts in this course includes fictions, films, photographs, documentaries, TV commercials, etc. and we will discuss these cultural productions vis-a-vis the intensive process of globalization in this region (roughly the early 1990s and onwards) as well as in the context of rapidly growing inter-Asian cultural flows we are facing now. Also, moving beyond the selected texts as part of the literary/art genre, we will envision how these cultural productions are inseparable from our living surroundings, and how, these texts shape social memories, traditional Asian values, gender roles, nationalisms, and historical traumas.

Section 2

【Course Objectives/Goals/Learning Outcomes】

1. Students will learn how to approach various examples of cultures from different Asian societies in the larger context of (East)Asia, past and present.
2. This course will help students understand the complex, intricate layers of different East Asian cultures and societies through cultural productions.
3. We also aim to discuss the issues of translating literature/culture in the context of global cultural economy and its relations to the issues of national development and identity.

Section 3

【Class Schedule/Class Environment, Literature and Materials】

(NOTE: More detailed syllabus to be distributed on the first day of class)

WEEK 1 WRITING WOMAN IN EAST ASIA

Class 1] Introduction, Explain syllabus, plans for the semester, etc.

Class 2] Shin, Kyong-suk, “Where the Organ Once Stood”

WEEK 2 WRITING WOMAN IN EAST ASIA

Class 3] Shin, Kyong-suk, “Where the Organ Once Stood”

Class 4] Shin, Kyong-suk, “Where the Organ Once Stood”

WEEK 3 WRITING WOMAN IN EAST ASIA

Class 5] Shin, Kyong-suk, "Where the Organ Once Stood"

Class 6] Yoshimoto Banana, *Kitchen* 吉本バナナ、<キッチン>

WEEK 4 WRITING WOMAN IN EAST ASIA

Class 7] Yoshimoto Banana, *Kitchen*

Class 8] Yoshimoto Banana, *Kitchen*

WEEK 5 WRITING WOMAN IN EAST ASIA/NOSTALGIA AND ROMANCE IN JAPAN

Class 9] Yoshimoto Banana, *Kitchen*

Class 10] Iwai Shunji, *Love Letter* (film) 岩井俊二、<ラブレター>

WEEK 6 NOSTALGIA AND ROMANCE IN JAPAN

Class 11] Iwai Shunji, *Love Letter* (film)

Class 12] Iwai Shunji, *Love Letter* (film)

WEEK 7 WORKINGS OF MEMORY, TRAUMA, AND HISTORY (PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA)

Class 13] Documentary on Cultural Revolution

Class 14] Preview on Zhang Yimou, *To Live* (Film)

WEEK 8 WORKINGS OF MEMORY, TRAUMA, AND HISTORY

Class 15] Zhang Yimou, *To Live*

Class 16] Zhang Yimou, *To Live*

WEEK 9 WORKINGS OF MEMORY, TRAUMA, AND HISTORY

Class 17] Zhang Yimou, *To Live*

Class 18] Zhang Yimou, *To Live*

WEEK 10 WORKINGS OF MEMORY, TRAUMA, AND HISTORY (HONG KONG)

Class 19] Peter Chan, *Comrades, Almost a Love Story*

Class 20] Peter Chan, *Comrades, Almost a Love Story*

WEEK 11 WORKINGS OF MEMORY, TRAUMA, AND HISTORY

Class 21] Peter Chan, *Comrades, Almost a Love Story*

Class 22] Peter Chan, *Comrades, Almost a Love Story*

WEEK 12 WORKINGS OF MEMORY, TRAUMA, AND HISTORY (SOUTH KOREA)

Class 23] Im, Kwon-taek, *Sopyonje*

Class 24] Im, Kwon-taek, *Sopyonje*

WEEK 13 WORKINGS OF MEMORY, TRAUMA, AND HISTORY

Class 25] Im, Kwon-taek, *Sopyonje*

Class 26] Im, Kwon-taek, *Sopyonje*

WEEK 14 WORKINGS OF MEMORY, TRAUMA, AND HISTORY (PRC)

Class 27] Chen Kaige, *Farewell My Concubine*

Class 28] Chen Kaige, *Farewell My Concubine*

WEEK 15 FINAL WEEK

Class 29] Chen Kaige, *Farewell My Concubine*

Class 30] **LAST DAY OF CLASS**

Catch-up, prepare for final exam, etc.

【Textbooks/Reading Materials】

*Shin, Kyoung-suk, “Where the Organ Once Stood”

*Yoshimoto Banana, *Kitchen* 吉本バナナ、<キッチン>

*Iwai Shunji, *Love Letter* (film) 岩井俊二、<ラブレター>

*Various Handouts

[All readings, supplementary documents, and links to the films will be available on Blackboard under “Course Materials.”]

Section 4

【Learning Assessments/Grading Rubric】

- 1) **Participation (Short-response postings on Blackboard, Attendance/participation, etc.): 40%**
- 2) **Midterm Paper: 30% (You are required to submit ONE essay by uploading the file on Blackboard). Details, instructions TBA. Paper due date: TBA (to be uploaded on Blackboard under “Midterm Paper” menu)**
- 3) **Final Exam: 30% (On designated exam date/time during Final Exam week, Details TBA)**

Section 5 Work Outside of Class Activities

Please post your comments and/or questions about the readings/films at the end of each week. These are informal response-postings aimed to show how actively you have been involved in the readings and films and also for me to address your concerns during our class (on average it will be 1 post per week). This is a FREE WRITING WITH NO FORMAT (NO MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM WORD COUNT REQUIRED. JUST USE YOUR COMMON SENSE. You are free to write either/or short responses, confusions, questions that arose while you were doing the class readings (or after watching the films). You can also post MULTIPLE responses on a SINGLE text or film—just make sure that you post your responses within the assigned schedule. Over-due response postings will be discarded.