

Urban Culture Asia

Asian Popular Culture

Section 1

Instructor/Title	Hyunjung Lee/Professor
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【Course Outline / Description】

This course seeks ways to explicate variable, contested, and multi-layered features of urban cultures in Asian societies. The question of urban Asia, or "Asian modernity" acquires new significance at the current moment, as the impact of globalization and advancement of digital technology have created a thriving East Asian cultural market and active exchanges of pan-Asian popular cultures among different Asian locations. Looking into various forms of urban culture in contemporary Asian societies, students will be engaged in critical discussions about how people experience patterns of national and cultural expressions that are not readily reduced to fixed, static, narrative descriptions.

Section 2

【Course Objectives/Goals/Learning Outcomes】

After their successful completion of this course, students will be well-equipped to pursue advanced studies in cultural studies and will appreciate how different versions of cultural productions themselves are very much part of greater social discourses.

Section 3

【Class Schedule/Class Environment, Literature and Materials】

(Note: Some of the contents and the schedule are subject to change)

Week 1 Intro/The Lure of the Modern: the modern Shanghai and the urban culture, from the 1940s to present

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

Class 2: *Watch Ang Lee (dir.) Lust, Caution (色,戒) (2007) via link on Blackboard*

Week 2 The Lure of the Modern: the modern Shanghai and the urban culture, from the 1940s to present

Class 3: Ang Lee, *Lust, Caution*, Eileen Chang, *Lust, Caution*

Class 4: Eileen Chang, *Lust, Caution*

Week 3 The Lure of the Modern: the modern Seoul and the urban culture, from the 1940s to present

Class 5: Hong Kal, "Seoul and the Time in motion: urban form and political consciousness" (photographs, ads, etc. to be shown in-class)

Class 6: Jung Ji-woo (dir.) *Modern Boy* (2008) **[Film screened in-class]**

Week 4 The Lure of the Modern: the modern Seoul and the urban culture, from the 1940s to present

Class 7: Jung Ji-woo (dir.) *Modern Boy* (2008)

Class 8: Jung Ji-woo (dir.) *Modern Boy* (2008)

Week 5 Continuation and disjuncture, Old and the New

Class 9: Bong Jun-ho (dir.) *Host* (괴물) (2006) [Film Screened in-class]

Class 10: Bong Jun-ho (dir.) *Host* (괴물) (2006)

Week 6 Continuation and disjuncture, Old and the New

Class 11: Bong Jun-ho (dir.) *Host* (괴물) (2006)

Class 12: Park Chan-wook (dir.) *Old Boy* (올드보이) (2003) [Film Screened in-class]

Week 7 Continuation and disjuncture, Old and the New

Class 13: Park Chan-wook (dir.) *Old Boy* (올드보이) (2003)

Class 14: Park Chan-wook (dir.) *Old Boy* (올드보이) (2003)

Week 8 Train in Motion

Class 15: Bong Jun-ho (dir.) *Snowpiercer* (2013) [Film Screened in-class]

Class 16: Bong Jun-ho (dir.) *Snowpiercer* (2013)

Week 9 Train in Motion/Tokyo!

Class 17: Bong Jun-ho (dir.) *Snowpiercer* (2013)

Class 18: *Tokyo!* (Film trilogy by 3 directors) [Film screened in-class]

Week 10 Tokyo!

Class 19: *Tokyo!* (Film trilogy by 3 directors)

Class 20: *Tokyo!* (Film trilogy by 3 directors)

Week 11 Food and the Asian Urban

Class 21: Joji Matsuoka (dir.) *Shinya Shokudo* (深夜食堂)[Midnight Diner] (2014) [Film screened in-class]

Class 22: Joji Matsuoka (dir.) *Shinya Shokudo* (深夜食堂)[Midnight Diner] (2014)

Week 12 Food and the Asian Urban/ Multicultural Asia (?)

Class 23: Joji Matsuoka (dir.) *Shinya Shokudo* (深夜食堂)[Midnight Diner] (2014)

Class 24: Shin Dong-il (dir.), *Bandhobi* (반두비) (2009) [Film screened in-class]

Week 13 Multicultural Asia (?)

Class 25: Shin Dong-il (dir.), *Bandhobi* (반두비) (2009)

Class 26: Shin Dong-il (dir.), *Bandhobi* (반두비) (2009)

Week 14 Multicultural Asia (?)

Class 27: Shin Dong-il (dir.), *Bandhobi* (반두비) (2009)

Class 28: Shin Dong-il (dir.), *Bandhobi* (반두비) (2009)

Week 15 Catch-up

Class 29: Catch-up, Final exam info

Class 30: Final exam information

【Textbooks/Reading Materials】

*Ang Lee (dir.) *Lust, Caution* (色,戒) (2007)

*Eileen Chang, *Lust, Caution*

*Hong Kal, "Seoul and the Time in motion: urban form and political consciousness"

*Park Chan-wook (dir.) *Old Boy* (2003)

*Yoshimoto Banana, "Newly Wed" 吉本バナナ、<新婚さん>

Section 4

【Learning Assessments/Grading Rubric】

1. Class Participation (Weekly short-response papers/Group work, etc.): 40%

*Short Response Papers with comments and/or questions about the readings/movies: Students are required to submit **7 (minimum)** short response papers evenly throughout the semester. These are informal response papers aimed to show how actively you have been involved in the readings and films. 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).

A) Length of each short response paper: Maximum of 300 words.

B) One 300 words-response paper counts as ONE submission.

C) You CANNOT submit these short-responses (7 or more) in lump-sum at the end of the term. The purpose of these response papers is to assist in the class discussion at a time when it happens. So old responses will not help at all.

2. Writing Assignment: 30% (Prompt will be distributed ahead of time)

3. Final Exam: 30%

Section 5

【Additional Information】

1) All readings will be available on Blackboard. Students are required to download, read, and digest the assigned readings before coming to class. There are several films you are required to watch before coming to class: links to films will be provided on Blackboard as well.

2) Active class participation is mandatory. Your expressive, energetic communication skills and preparations for in-class discussions will be expected

3) You won't be able to make up for any in-class writing activities, tests, etc. you have missed caused by your absence