

SCHOOL OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

KOREAN STUDIES

The Korean Studies programme offers the Major in Korean Studies and the Minor in Korean Studies. The objective of the Korean Studies programme is to bring participants to a high level of proficiency in the language and to provide them with a sound knowledge of Korea within the interdisciplinary framework of Area Studies and to be able to discuss matters relating to Korea in a critical and analytical perspective.

The **Major in Korean Studies** offers an interdisciplinary curriculum on Korea with intensive training in the Korean language and a range of courses on Korean culture, society, history, and literature. Students follow a core language pathway for three years of language training taught in Korean and select elective courses which are taught in Korean or English. These electives fall into two categories:

List A: Korean Language electives

List B: Korean Studies electives

Students will be strongly encouraged to participate in a 3- to 4-week intensive language programme in Korea during the summer either between their second and third year or third and fourth year of study. Upon their return to HKU, they can apply for **KORE3119** Overseas immersion language course – Korean.

The **Minor in Korean Studies** provides students with a good command of the four different language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students will also gain a deeper insight into the core issues relating to Korea's development, history and culture.

Admission to the Major in Korean Studies and Minor in Korean Studies requires a minimum grade of **C+** in all three prerequisite courses (**KORE1001, KORE1002, KORE1021**).

The Major and Minor requirements listed below are for students with **NO** prior knowledge of Korean. Students **WITH** prior knowledge of Korean can complete a Major in Korean Studies or a Minor in Korean Studies by entering the core language pathway at a higher level and taking additional elective courses to complete the total number of required credits. These students should contact the School of Modern Languages and Cultures or the Korean Language Programme Coordinator for further information.

Major (72 credits)

- **Prerequisite courses (18 credits):**
 - KORE1001. Korean I.1 (6 credits)
 - KORE1002. Korean I.2 (6 credits)
 - KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies (6 credits)

***Note:** Students intending to complete the Major in Korean Studies should aim to **complete the three prerequisite courses KORE1001, KORE1002 and KORE1021 during their first year of study.** These courses have a limited number of places. Year 1 students receive priority for enrollment, and students in Year 3 or above are **NOT** eligible to enroll in these courses.*

- **Core language courses (24 credits):**
 - KORE2001. Korean II.1 (6 credits)
 - KORE2002. Korean II.2 (6 credits)
 - KORE3001. Korean III.1 (6 credits)
 - KORE3002. Korean III.2 (6 credits)

- **Capstone experience course (6 credits):**
 - KORE4007. Advanced Korean individual project (capstone experience) (6 credits);
OR
 - KORE4008. Korean Studies independent research project (capstone experience) (6 credits);
OR
 - KORE4009. Korean Studies research seminar (capstone experience) (6 credits)
- **Interdisciplinary elective courses (24 credits):**
 - One** course chosen from **List A** (6 credits)
 - Two** courses chosen from **List B** (12 credits)
 - One** course chosen from **List A** or **List B** (6 credits)

List A: Korean Language electives

- KORE2021. Korean reading (6 credits)
- KORE2041. Korean writing 1 (6 credits)
- KORE2042. Korean listening: Genre and strategies (6 credits)
- KORE3023. Korean writing 2 (6 credits)
- KORE3024. English-Korean translation: Practical skills (6 credits)
- KORE3025. Korean for business (6 credits)
- KORE3029. News project in Korean (6 credits)
- KORE3037. Korean language through media (6 credits)
- KORE3039. Introduction to teaching Korean as a foreign language (6 credits)
- KORE3040. Presenting opinions in Korean (6 credits)
- KORE3041. Chinese-Korean translation (6 credits)
- KORE3119. Overseas immersion language course – Korean (6 credits)
- KORE4001. Korean IV.1 (6 credits)
- KORE4002. Korean IV.2 (6 credits)
- KORE4003. Advanced Korean: presentation and media analysis (6 credits)
- KORE4005. Advanced readings in Korean (6 credits)

List B: Korean Studies electives

Korean Studies

- KORE2024. Korean Studies 1 (6 credits)
- KORE2025. Korean Studies 2 (6 credits)
- KORE2026. Topics in Korean culture and society (6 credits)
- KORE2028. Society, culture, and politics of North Korea (DPRK) (6 credits)
- KORE2032. Korean literature in translation: sentiments and human relationships in modern Korean fiction (6 credits)
- KORE2033. Modern and contemporary Korea: modernity and social change (6 credits)
- KORE2034. Gender, sexuality, and family in Korea (6 credits)
- KORE2035. Society and thoughts in Korea (6 credits)
- KORE2036. Korean society before 1900 (6 credits)
- KORE2038. Global Korean pop culture (6 credits)
- KORE2040. Topics in Korean visual culture and cultural studies (6 credits)
- KORE2043. Korean political system and culture in transformation (6 credits)
- KORE2044. The Korean War: Origins, aftermath, reconstruction, and remembrance (6 credits)
- KORE3026. Special topics in modern Korean literature (6 credits)
- KORE3032. Directed readings in Korean Studies (6 credits)
- KORE3034. Korean Studies internship (6 credits)

- KORE3035. Korean Studies field trip (6 credits)
- KORE3042. Advanced seminar in Korean Studies (6 credits)
- KORE3043. Border-crossing literature from Korea and beyond (6 credits)

Art History

- ARTH2097. Arts of Korea (6 credits)
- ARTH2098. History of Korean paintings (6 credits)

Japanese Studies

- JAPN3083. Japan and the World, 1550-1850 (6 credits)

Faculty of Social Sciences

- POLI3052. International relations of East Asia (6 credits)
- SOCI2066. The Asian economic miracles and beyond (6 credits)
- GEOG2153. Smartphones, K-pop, and Kimchi: South Korea beyond the miracle (6 credits)

{Note:

Not all courses are offered in a given semester; students should check with individual units on course availability; students should also check on course prerequisites and other enrollment restrictions.}

Minor (36 credits)

- **Prerequisite courses (18 credits):**

- KORE1001. Korean I.1 (6 credits)
- KORE1002. Korean I.2 (6 credits)
- KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies (6 credits)

Note: *Students intending to complete the Minor in Korean Studies should aim to **complete the three prerequisite courses KORE1001, KORE1002 and KORE1021 during their first year of study.** These courses have a limited number of places. Year 1 students receive priority for enrolment, and students in Year 3 or above are **NOT** eligible to enroll in these courses.*

- **Core language courses (12 credits):**

- KORE2001. Korean II.1 (6 credits)
- KORE2002. Korean II.2 (6 credits)

- **Interdisciplinary elective courses (6 credits):**

ONE course with **KORE** course code chosen from **List B**

Prerequisite Courses

KORE1001. Korean I.1 (6 credits)

This introductory course is the first part of Korean I, which is designed for complete beginners (ab initio) who are interested in learning the Korean language and culture. On completion of the course, students will be able to participate in simple conversations related to daily life, and will have acquired a basic knowledge of the written forms of the Korean language.

Prerequisite: Nil

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE1002. Korean I.2 (6 credits)

This elementary Korean course continues to focus on proficiency-based Korean learning, further developing students' overall Korean language ability established in **Korean I.1**. On completion of the course, students will be able to participate in simple conversations and write short essays related to daily life. Also students will be able to produce appropriate discourse depending on the interlocutors.

Prerequisite: **KORE1001. Korean I.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies (6 credits)

The course provides students with a broad-based description of Korean culture and society from an interdisciplinary perspective. It will include a brief historical overview on the country, examine various socio-cultural issues in traditional and modern Korea, and compare them to those of the other East Asian countries. All coursework is in English.

Prerequisite: Nil

Assessment: 100% coursework

Core Language Courses

KORE2001. Korean II.1 (6 credits)

This course continues to focus on developing students' overall Korean language ability established in Korean I. 2. It aims to develop students' proficiency to an upper-beginner level with equal emphasis on reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. On the completion of the course, students will be able to master basic grammar and vocabulary and write short essays in the Korean language. Students will also be able to develop their communicative competencies in various situations and subjects through role-plays, short speeches, and discussions.

Prerequisite: **KORE1002. Korean I.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2002. Korean II.2 (6 credits)

This course is a continuation of **KORE2001 Korean II.1**. The aim of the course is to further increase students' ability in their use of spoken and written Korean, established in Korean II. 1, to an intermediate level and express their opinions supported by reliable sources. On the completion of the course, students will be able to acquire grammatical structures and essential vocabulary at an intermediate level so that they can participate in situational conversations and write essays on various topics.

Prerequisite: **KORE2001. Korean II.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3001. Korean III.1 (6 credits)

This course continues to build on the first and the second year's work. The aim of this course is to develop students' Korean language proficiency to an upper-intermediate level and discuss current social issues in contemporary Korea based on their knowledge of the Korean language and culture. Students will be able to expand their Korean language proficiency to an upper-intermediate level through various tasks and activities including role-plays, presentations, speeches and discussions.

Prerequisite: **KORE2002. Korean II.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3002. Korean III.2 (6 credits)

This course is designed for students who have completed **KORE3001. Korean III. 1** or who have attained an advanced level of proficiency in Korean. On completion of the course, students will be able to write descriptive essays and persuasive essays with complex grammatical structures and participate in not only situational conversations but discussions related to topics in current affairs, social and cultural issues at an advanced level of Korean through various tasks and activities including role-plays, presentations and discussions.

Prerequisite: **KORE3001. Korean III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

Capstone Experience Courses

KORE4007. Advanced Korean individual project (capstone experience) (6 credits)

As the capstone course of the Korean language programme, this course provides students with the opportunity to do an in-depth analysis of an approved topic and format, i.e. research paper, documentary video, presentation, etc., of their choice, integrating the language skills and cultural knowledge they have acquired during their studies. These individually supervised projects must be in Korean.

Students are required to obtain their supervisor's approval for the topic, the research plan, and the details of the format for the project that they wish to conduct at the beginning of the course. Contact hours are minimal because students spend much of their time on the individual project.

Prerequisite: **KORE3023. Korean writing 2** or **KORE3024. English-Korean translation: Practical skills** or **KORE3025. Korean for business** or **KORE3037. Korean language through media** or **KORE3040. Presenting opinions in Korean** or **KORE4003. Advanced Korean: presentation and media analysis**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE4008. Korean Studies independent research project (capstone experience) (6 credits)

Students in this course pursue independent research and produce a research project, normally a research essay, under the supervision of a teacher in Korean Studies. This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to explore in-depth a topic of interest to them in relation to Korean society and culture. Students are required to obtain their supervisor's approval for the topic. Individual meetings with the supervisor will be scheduled in the first week of the semester, and contact hours are minimal because students spend much of their time on individual projects. Students will be encouraged to engage with original texts written in Korean, although the class will be conducted in English and assignments should be written in English.

Prerequisite: **KORE2032. Korean literature in translation: sentiments and human relationships in modern Korean fiction** or **KORE2033. Modern and contemporary Korea: modernity and social change** or **KORE2034. Gender, sexuality, and family in Korea** or **KORE2035. Society and thoughts in Korea** or **KORE2044. The Korean War: Origins, aftermath, reconstruction, and remembrance** or **KORE3032. Directed readings in Korean Studies** or **KORE3042. Advanced seminar in Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE4009. Korean Studies research seminar (capstone experience) (6 credits)

This is a small-group research seminar course and also a capstone experience for students in their final year. This course explores aspects of Korean history, film, literature, culture and society at an advanced level. The specific area of study may vary from year to year depending on students' background, interests and the expertise of the instructor. Students will have topic-focused workshops, intensive group meetings, and also pursue a small research project. Students will be encouraged to engage with original texts written in Korean, although the class will be conducted in English and assignments should be written in English.

Prerequisite: **KORE2032. Korean literature in translation: sentiments and human relationships in modern Korean fiction** or **KORE2033. Modern and contemporary Korea: modernity and social change** or **KORE2034. Gender, sexuality, and family in Korea** or **KORE2035. Society and thoughts in Korea** or **KORE2044. The Korean War: Origins, aftermath, reconstruction, and remembrance** or **KORE3032. Directed readings in Korean Studies** or **KORE3042. Advanced seminar in Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

Interdisciplinary Elective Courses

{Note:

Not all courses are offered in a given semester; students should check with individual units on course availability; students should also check on course prerequisites and other enrollment restrictions.}

List A: KOREAN LANGUAGE ELECTIVES

KORE2021. Korean reading (6 credits)

This course is offered to students who have attained an intermediate level of Korean in order to further enhance their reading comprehension and extend their knowledge of Korean society through an analysis of contemporary texts in different styles. On the completion of the course, students will be able to appreciate and discuss various genres of Korean literature such as short stories, myths, poetry, essays. The teaching materials and the main medium of instruction will be Korean.

Co-requisite: **KORE2002. Korean II.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2041. Korean writing 1 (6 credits)

This course is an introductory writing course for students who have completed **Korean I**. One of the main objectives of this course is to improve students' writing skills, including accuracy, organizing compound sentences into a paragraph, develop ideas coherently. Another main objective of this course is to produce

texts for appropriate situations, and students will investigate rhetorical structures and genre characteristics of Korean texts.

Prerequisite: **KORE1002. Korean I.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2042. Korean listening: Genre and strategies (6 credits)

This course is designed to enhance students' listening comprehension in intermediate-level Korean. Students will listen to the various types of listening texts such as daily conversations, announcements, official interviews, and lectures. On completion of the course, students will be able to reach an intermediate level of vocabulary and expressions for listening and use listening strategies for various types of listening texts as well as the characteristic of colloquial Korean. The final goal of this course is to strengthen the communicative competence of Korean language based on solid listening strategies.

Co-requisite: **KORE2002. Korean II.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3023. Korean writing 2 (6 credits)

This course is designed for students with an advanced level of Korean. This course provides various activities related to elaborating ideas and organizing them for students to lead the writing procedure more actively. Writing strategies will be introduced as well. Through these activities, students will be able to expand their knowledge on the features of texts in different styles and produce texts that align with them. Also they will be able to produce cohesive texts at an advanced level in Korean with complex sentences

Prerequisite: **KORE3001. Korean III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3024. English-Korean translation: Practical skills (6 credits)

This course is an introduction to translating texts from English to Korean using a variety of texts written in different styles. It will provide students with intermediate level translation skills, a further understanding of Korean grammar and additional information on contemporary Korean topics. Special attention will be given to the particular problems or common errors arising from differences in grammar and other influences from the students' mother tongue. Students will practice additional structures and texts gradually. This is a practical rather than a theoretical course for translation. Students will be expected to do practical work in class as well as at home.

Prerequisite: **KORE3001. Korean III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3025. Korean for business (6 credits)

This course is designed for students with advanced level of Korean who want to prepare their career at a Korean-speaking company or institution by dealing with issues related to business activities, global economy and trade. A variety of topics and situations will be covered, such as business correspondence and etiquette, business meetings, data analysis, marketing strategies, etc. On completion of the course, students will be able to handle various business situations in Korean. Classes will be conducted in Korean.

Prerequisite: **KORE2002. Korean II.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3029. News project in Korean (6 credits)

This course is based on Project-Based Language Teaching. Students are required to take the initiative in learning and participate in classroom activities and discussions. This course is composed of two parts. During the first few weeks, students will read newspaper articles and watch media materials (such as Korean TV news clips), then discuss the materials in class. Students will be able to investigate the features of Korean society and its current issues during this progress. During the second half of the semester, students are required to work on a group project. Each group will select a topic regarding Korean society that they want to examine further and make a TV news report on it. The group project is designed to help students to acquire skills in independent learning, critical thinking and teamwork. The teaching materials and the main medium of instruction will be Korean.

Prerequisite: **KORE3001. Korean III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3037. Korean language through media (6 credits)

This course is designed to improve listening comprehension and the understanding of the diverse nuances of Korean language through the analysis of authentic Korean audio/video materials covering different media such as TV news, TV dramas, TV documentary and movies. Students will learn to analyze the situations of speakers in different scenarios and to distinguish different types of statements used in media. Students will be encouraged to reflect on their own culture and language, establish comparisons and present their own opinion on topics given in class. All the materials and the medium of instruction will be in Korean.

Co-requisite: **KORE3001. Korean III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3039. Introduction to teaching Korean as a foreign language (6 credits)

This course introduces second language teaching with a focus on teaching Korean as a foreign language to students who are interested in teaching Korean to various levels of learners. Students will learn how to apply different teaching methods based on the four different aspects of language. The coursework will also include practical aspects such as observing language classes, preparing lesson plans, and conducting a lesson. At the end of this course, students will be able to recognize the key features of second language teaching with a focus on Korean. The final goal of this course is to strengthen students' competence in the Korean language as well as to demonstrate their pedagogical competence in Korean language teaching. The teaching materials and the main medium of instruction will be Korean.

Prerequisite: **KORE3001. Korean III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3040. Presenting opinions in Korean (6 credits)

This course aims to improve the Korean language speaking proficiency of upper-intermediate students. During in-class activities, students will be exposed to different topics, from more personal ones to issues regarding the global society, and will be invited to explore these topics by learning related vocabulary and expressions and by participating in activities such as short individual/group presentations, and group

discussions. Through the above activities, students will learn how to effectively present their own opinions on these topics. The teaching materials and the main medium of instruction will be Korean.

Prerequisite: **KORE2002. Korean II.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3041. Chinese-Korean translation (6 credits)

This course is designed to offer students translation practice from Chinese into Korean using a variety of texts. It provides opportunities for students to identify distinctive linguistic elements of Chinese and Korean including vocabulary, grammar, and text structure. Students will practice resolving problems that may arise from the difference between Chinese and Korean, and learn how to produce well-constructed Korean texts. They will enhance their written Korean communication strategies and gain translation skills through lectures, text analysis, translation exercises, discussions, and translation assignments. Texts used will be in simplified Chinese characters.

Prerequisite: **KORE3001. Korean III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3119. Overseas immersion language course – Korean (6 credits)

This course provides an opportunity to study Korean and to experience linguistic and cultural immersion in a partner institution located in Korea. The course usually takes place in the summer months (e.g., June, July and/or August) and the duration of the stay may vary from two weeks to one month, but must include at least 60 hours of formal class tuition. Students typically take part in this course after the completion of their second year of language studies at HKU. The course is designed to build on and to reinforce the language competence acquired during the previous years of study as well as to prepare the participants for more advanced work in the final years of the Programme.

Prerequisite: **KORE2002. Korean II.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework. In order to be granted credits for this course, participants have to ensure that the course builds on their previous work done at HKU and is offered at the same level or above the level of their last Korean language course at HKU and, after completing of the course, students have (1) to produce a formal statement of attendance and certified transcript bearing mention of the final grade(s) and the level obtained from the host institution, (2) to provide a portfolio including i. a learning journal written in Korean of approximately 1,000 words relating to daily class activities and, ii. samples of assessments (written assignments, tests, examinations, projects, etc.) along with evaluation results.

KORE4001. Korean IV.1 (6 credits)

This course is for advanced learners of Korean who wish to continue to develop their communication skills by examining various topics relating to contemporary Korean society and culture. Emphasis will be placed on the expansion of their proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course includes lectures on various aspects of Korean society and culture including Korean history and socio-political issues in the 1950's ~ 1990's, such as industrialization, democratization and division of South and North Korea. Course materials will include authentic texts selected from newspapers, literature and magazines as well as movies, radio programmes and documentary films. The teaching materials and the main medium of instruction will be Korean.

Prerequisite: **KORE3002. Korean III.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE4002. Korean IV.2 (6 credits)

This course aims to further develop students' skills based on the work done in the previous semester with **KORE4001. Korean IV.1** Emphasis will be placed on the expansion of their proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will give 20-minute-long presentations about various topics on current issues in Korea to their peers and it will be followed by in a classroom discussion. Course materials will include authentic texts selected from newspapers, literature and magazines as well as movies, radio programmes and documentary films. The teaching materials and the main medium of instruction will be Korean.

Prerequisite: **KORE4001. Korean IV.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE4003. Advanced Korean: presentation and media analysis (6 credits)

This course is designed to provide students with knowledge and insights on current social and cultural issues in South Korea by examining social change, economic development and political progress in media. Through in-class discussion and student research, students will be able to articulate their analysis of current social issues in Korea through presentation. Course materials will include authentic texts selected from prints and visual sources including newspapers, literature and magazines. The teaching materials and the main medium of instruction are in Korean.

Prerequisite: **KORE3001. Korean III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE4005. Advanced readings in Korean (6 credits)

This course will extend students' Korean reading skills to the advanced level. Students will read and analyze selected Korean texts, e.g. excerpts from novels, poems, and short stories, covering various topics of Korean society. Students will also use advanced Korean to discuss the reading materials. Emphasis will be placed on learning to read and analyze literary language and texts in Korean. The teaching materials and the main medium of instruction will be Korean.

Prerequisite: **KORE3001. Korean III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

List B: KOREAN STUDIES ELECTIVES

KORE2024. Korean Studies 1 (6 credits)

Korean Studies 1 provides students with the opportunity to explore core aspects of Korean culture from a humanities perspective and explore the ways in which Korean culture has spread around the world and also consolidated a Korean identity within the nation itself. Topics may vary from year to year which cover the 'Korean Wave' around the world, modern Korean identity and 'traditional values', the Korean popular culture industry, literary and art trends, East Asian cultural interchange, food and national identity, etc., depending on students' interest and the expertise of the instructor.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2025. Korean Studies 2 (6 credits)

Korean Studies 2 provides students with the opportunity to explore more core aspects of Korean society from a social science perspective. Topics may vary from year to year which cover Korean government structure, interactions with North Korea, Korean economic development, urban development and innovation, etc., depending on students' interest and the expertise of the instructor. Students will further deepen their knowledge of Korean society by learning about Korean politics and economics. They will also analyze Korean society from a sociological and anthropological angle.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2026. Topics in Korean culture and society (6 credits)

This is a topical course that adopts multi-disciplinary perspectives to examine significant and complex issues in Korea during the 20-21st centuries. Topics include symbolic sites, activities and objects with discussion revolving around their significance and their meanings to Korea's evolving identity. Questions about the mobilization of tradition in contemporary Korea underpin this course.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2028. Society, culture, and politics of North Korea (DPRK) (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the study of North Korean society. It aims to provide students with knowledge of how North Korea has developed over the last six decades and in doing so, equip students with an understanding of contemporary North Korea

Prerequisite: Nil

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2032. Korean literature in translation: sentiments and human relationships in modern Korean fiction (6 credits)

This course is a survey course on Korean literary texts from Korea with two goals. One goal is to offer students foundational knowledge about Korean literature with a primary focus on fiction from the twentieth century to the present. The other goal is to explore "sentiments" and "human relationships" in important Korean short stories and novels. The readings, which represent major literary trends in style and content for representative historical moments, are also selected for their literary merit and the diversity of their subject matter, and they will provide a cross-section of the modern Korean literary tradition. We will supplement our reading of literary works with theoretical texts and recent scholarship on Korea. Key issues include the following: enlightenment, youth as sentiment, romantic love, modernity, affect, family relationships, trauma, etc.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2033. Modern and contemporary Korea: Modernity and social change (6 credits)

This course is designed to foster further knowledge about Korean society in the modern and contemporary era for students who took **KORE1021**. This is a topical course that adopts a cultural studies approach to examine significant and complex issues in Korea in the 20th and 21st century. This course will primarily concentrate on cultural practices that brought modernity and social changes in Korea. Students will explore various textual forms including treatise, fiction, documentary, and, scholarly materials in the disciplines of anthropology, sociology, cultural studies, history, film studies, women's studies, and literary studies. This course also examines the social changes in Korea in transitional and global contexts: in relationship with Korea's neighboring countries in East Asia and in relationship with the U.S.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2034. Gender, sexuality, and family in Korea (6 credits)

This course investigates representation of gender and sexuality in Korean society through the examination of various literary, cinematic, historical, and theoretical texts. From an interdisciplinary perspective, the course will question how the Korean nation-state and its socio-political changes have impacted gender and sexuality in historical & transnational contexts. We will critically explore how gendered images are framed by social norms but also challenges and de-stabilize those norms. Texts include literature, ethnographies, oral histories, visual culture, and films.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2035. Society and thoughts in Korea (6 credits)

This course surveys Korean thoughts from the earliest records to the modern era. We will read canonical texts on politics, society, and culture and explore the production of these thoughts: how Korean society adopts, transforms, and applies these thoughts in everyday life. Topics include: religious thoughts such as Shamanism, premodern Korean Buddhism, Taoism, Christianity; Political thoughts in Chosŏn Dynasty, neo-Confucianism on good government and the social order; early modern and modern period thoughts on nationalism, economic thinking and practice; minjung ideology. We will also consider the original forms of these thoughts found in India, China, Japan, and the West.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2036. Korean society before 1900 (6 credits)

This course surveys the history of the Korean civilization from the early times to 1900. Drawing on sources from a variety of disciplines, this course provides a deeper understanding of Korean tradition and identity in the context of East Asia. Some questions we will explore are: How is Korea as a nation distinctive from others? Is there such a thing as Korean identity? If so, how has Korean identity been constructed over time? How is this history reflected and/or produced in cultural production? The course will examine the following themes from interdisciplinary perspectives: foundation myths, early Korean kingdoms, peninsular society and maritime trades, spread of Buddhism and Confucius's ideology, neo-classicism, aristocratic and

bureaucratic culture. Students will also learn different positions of national history in the context of global history and early modern studies.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2038. Global Korean pop culture (6 credits)

This course is a survey course on Korean popular culture during the past 20 years. It will explore both the production side and consumption side of “soft power” as commodities, and study the consumption/spread of Korean popular culture in Korea, Asia and the rest of the world. Our approach will be based on humanistic studies, using cultural studies, history, literary, visual studies methodologies. In order to achieve this, we will analyze different aspects of pop culture studies and production and contextualize them historically. The course will consider: fundamentals of popular culture studies, studies on globalization of “national” culture, K-pop, K-drama, musical theater, idol phenomenon, tourism, food, film, and literature.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2040. Topics in Korean visual culture and cultural studies (6 credits)

This course examines Korean visual culture in the modern and contemporary period from a cultural studies approach. The course will also include introductory readings from cultural studies, visual studies, media studies, and film studies to deepen the understanding of Korean visual culture. Students will read selected materials from various interdisciplinary studies about cultural production including paintings, films, installation arts, advertisement, art festivals, and museum and galleries, produced in South and North Korea, and Korean diasporic sites. The course also aims to contextualize Korean visual culture in transnational interactions.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2043. Korean political system and culture in transformation (6 credits)

The key words associated with South Korean politics and society usually refer to colonialism, divided nation, compressed-rapid economic growth, democratization in terms of domestic politics, and the unique geopolitical position of the Korean Peninsula in terms of international politics. Over the five decades, the Korean peninsula has undergone profound the socio-political changes and economic development. This course is designed to introduce students to the dynamics of contemporary Korean politics and society in transformation and to provide an opportunity for students to have a better understanding of the Korean politics and society. This course examines the political development process after the foundation of the Republic of Korea till the present including the authoritarian regime, democratization, neo-liberal restructuring.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE2044. The Korean War: Origins, aftermath, reconstruction, and remembrance (6 credits)

The Korean War is one of the most significant conflicts of the 20th century. It was the first conflict where the “Cold War” turned “hot,” and the aftermath of this conflict is still felt in the present day. Utilizing an inter-disciplinary approach, this course examines how the Korean War has had a profound impact in shaping life not only on the peninsula but also beyond. Students will analyze the origin of the war, its aftermath, and how it has been remembered and memorialized to the present day.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3026. Special topics in modern Korean literature (6 credits)

This content elective course offers an overview of modern Korean literature from the early 1900s to present. In this course, students will examine Korean literature and its social, cultural and historical background of these works. Many of famous literary works of Korea of this period have had a significance appeal on national identity, dealing related issues on modernity, independence, resistance against Japanese rule, and national division, rapid industrialization and authoritarianism. In class, students will be provided the knowledge and skills to read, analyze and assess critically the forms and themes of modern Korean literature.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3032. Directed readings in Korean Studies (6 credits)

This is a Korean Studies elective course. It aims at selected students in Korean Studies who intend to pursue an individualized reading project under the supervision of a mentor, typically (though not necessarily) a Korean Studies Programme lecturer. The student is responsible for approaching the lecturer in advance and obtaining consent for supervision. Students are expected to carry out independent study on an approved subject, using texts both in Korean and English. The specific area of study may vary from year to year depending on students’ background, interests, and the expertise of the instructor.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies** and **KORE3001. Korean III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3034. Korean Studies internship (6 credits)

This Korean Studies elective course offers students an internship learning experience by allowing them to take their classroom knowledge into the community. Students will have an opportunity for experiential learning, earn credits towards their degree, and engage in a rich experience by working in an organization or company that has a real impact on society. The internship experience draws on coursework offered by the Korean Studies programme and allows students to work in Korean companies, or in companies which have a strong connection to Korea and demonstrates the use of Korean in the community. Internship duration must be at least three weeks full time or comprise a minimum of 120 hours part-time. Staffing resources and operations mechanisms allowing, students will be assessed by the organisation contact throughout the duration of the internship and will also, if possible, receive a letter of reference from the organisation at the end of the internship. A written report (800-1,000 words) with a description, critical assessment of and reflection on the internship experience will be assessed by the course supervisor at HKU. Students are asked to make their own internship arrangements with an organisation of their choice. They are asked to do this in liaison with a relevant teacher at the Korean Studies Programme of HKU.

Prerequisite: **KORE2002. Korean II.2** or **KORE3001. Korean III.1** or **KORE3002. Korean III.2**
Assessment: 100% coursework (graded on a distinction/ pass/ fail basis)

KORE3035. Korean Studies field trip (6 credits)

In this Korean Studies elective course, students will be led by an experienced faculty member on a supervised 2- or 3-weeks' educational field trip to Korea. This course is offered to Korean Studies majors between their second and third years of study. The rationale is to closely observe and study an aspect of Korea introduced in one of the courses on Korean Studies or in a related course. The field trip will take place in the early summer, and students must participate in workshop-type meetings leading up to the field trip in the second semester in Hong Kong. After returning to Hong Kong, students may be required to attend class meetings for one week. In addition, students will be required to complete a written report of about 3,000 words based on the experience and knowledge they have acquired during the field trip.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**
Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3042. Advanced seminar in Korean Studies (6 credits)

This course is an intensive seminar intended for Korean Studies major and minor students. The aim of this course is to provide an opportunity for students to engage key concepts in Korean Studies within the intimate settings of a seminar. Topics will relate to Korean history, culture, and society and will be determined by the course instructor. This course consists of two parts. The first part includes lectures and classroom discussions. Some lectures may be given by invited guest speakers. The second part consists of students engaging in innovative research projects based on their learning in the first-part of the course. As part of final assessment, students will be encouraged to engage in knowledge exchange. Students must secure written approval from the instructor of record to be enrolled in this course.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**
Assessment: 100% coursework

KORE3043. Border-crossing literature from Korea and beyond (6 credits)

This course is an advanced seminar course on Korean literary texts from Korea and beyond in the 20th-21st centuries. Border-crossing literature challenges the normative national, ethnic, and linguistic boundaries of "Korea." Boundaries sometimes consist of geographical demarcations, such as the contours of the Korean Peninsula itself and the 38th Parallel line separating North and South Korea, but they also construct the ideal figure of the "Korean people" as an ethnically/racially and linguistically homogeneous and heteronormative group. Thinking through the idea of "border-crossing," the course examines a selection of literature under the theme of colonialism and imperialism, "division literature" (bundan munhak, literature after the North/South split), Korean diasporic literature, and world (or transnational) literature. The course will survey major literary texts by Koreans living in China, Japan, and Americas. All readings are in English. The course will supplement literary works with theoretical texts and recent scholarship on Korea.

Prerequisite: **KORE1021. Introduction to Korean Studies**
Assessment: 100% coursework