

Syllabus (2025-Summer)

Course Title	Women in Korean History	Course No.	
Credit	3 credits	Hours	45 Hours
Class Time Classroom	Mon to Thr Classroom TBA		
Instructor	Name Jung Nayoung	Department History	
	E-mail nyjung.starry@gmail.com	Phone	
Office Hours Office Location	By email appointment		

I. Course Overview

1. Course Description

This course is intended to examine various aspects of the lives of women in Korean history from the premodern to the present time. In the traditional society, women's roles were confined to the domestic realm and history of Korean women was marginalized with the lack of sources. In the turbulent modern history, women encountered changes and difficulties in the time of enlightenment, Japanese colonization, and wars. Women, in general, were described as the minority or victims and little attention was paid to their diverse lives and voice in Korean history. However, women have lived colorful lives in the context of time and social changes, adopting and adapting their roles, and making their voice heard.

From this perspective, this course aims to explore how the lives of women were and have changed in the historical context. To encourage a deeper understanding on the concrete topic, various reading materials range from an official record to letters between friends and family, and visual materials will be used. Also, when possible, there will be field trips to the museum or palace to make history come alive.

2. Prerequisites

No background needed

3. Course Format

Lecture	Discussion/Presentation	Field Trip	Other
65 %	20 %	10 %	5 %

4. Course Objectives

To gain the comprehensive understanding of the lives of women in Korean history

5. Evaluation Systems

Relative evaluation Absolute evaluation (for Ewha International Summer College students only) Others

Midterm Exam	Final Exam	Presentation	Assignments	Participation
25 %	30 %	15 %	10 %	20 %

1) Midterm Exam & Final Exam

In-class exams will be given. The format of the test will be discussed on the 1st day of class.

2) Presentation

Students are expected to give a 15-minute presentation on the life of a particular woman or any related topic in the class. The list of the women or topic will be provided at the class.

3) Assignments

Students are required to submit two reflection papers after the field trip to the museum and palace. Each paper will be one or two-page long. You're expected to explain the exhibition and the place in general and discuss concrete items or sections. 5 points will be assigned for each assignment.

4) Participation

Grading will be based on attendance and student's contribution to the class by offering critical analysis or questions regarding the class or discussion topics. Attendance for the field trip is also required.

II. Course Materials and Additional Readings

1. Required Materials

Class materials will be updated on the cyber campus.

2. Supplementary Materials

De Bary, William Theodore. Lee, Peter H. ed. *Sources of Korean Tradition*, vol. 1 & vol. 2, New York: Columbia University Press, 1997-2000.

Deuchler, Martina. *The Confucian Transformation of Korea*, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1992.

Hwang, Kyung Moon. *A History of Korea*, New York: Palgrave, 2010.

Haboush, Jahyun Kim. trans. *The Memoirs of Lady Hyegyŏng: The Autobiographical Writings of a Crown Princess of Eighteenth-Century Korea*. Berkely and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1996.

Haboush, Jahyun Kim. ed. *Epistolary Korea: Letters in the Communicative Space of the Chosŏn, 1392-1910*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2009.

Lee. Peter H. ed. *An Anthology of Traditional Korean Literature*. Hawaii: University of Hawaii Press, 2017.

III. Course Schedule

Day	Date	Topics & Class Materials, Assignments
Day 1	(6/30)	Introduction of the Course & Overview of Korean History

Day	Date	Topics & Class Materials, Assignments
Day 2	(7/1)	Cultural Traditions and Women in History
Day 3	(7/2)	Neo-Confucianism and Lives of Women in Joseon
Day 4	(7/3)	Royal Highness: Lives of Women in the Palace
Day 5	(7/7)	Hangeul & Women: Lives and Voice of Women
Day 6	(7/8)	“Shame of Joseon Women”: Returning Women to Home after the War
Day 7	(7/9)	Princess Deokhye: Fall of Joseon, and Tragic Life of Joseon’s Last Princess [Watch: Princess Deokhye (2016) directed by Heo Jin-ho]
Day 8	(7/10)	Visit to Changdeokgung or Deoksugung Palace
Day 9	(7/14)	Midterm Exam [Individual Feedback on the Presentation Topics – Optional]
Day 10	(7/15)	Picture Bride: Lives of Early Immigrant Women in Hawaii
Day 11	(7/16)	Women Go to School: Foundation of Modern School for Women and Education [Visit to Ewha Archives on the Campus]
Day 12	(7/17)	Arrival of New Women: Modern Girls in Gyeongseong
Day 13	(7/21)	“Comfort Women”: History and Memory of Life during Wartime [Watch: I Can Speak (2017) directed by Kim Hyun-seok]
Day 14	(7/22)	Student Presentation & Discussion
Day 15	(7/23)	Final Exam

IV. Special Accommodations

* According to the University regulation section #57-3, students with disabilities can request for special accommodations related to attendance, lectures, assignments, or tests by contacting the course professor at the beginning of semester. Based on the nature of the students' request, students can receive support for such accommodations from the course professor or from the Support Center for Students with Disabilities (SCSD). Please refer to the below examples of the types of support available in the lectures, assignments, and evaluations.

Lecture	Assignments	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Visual impairment: braille, enlarged reading materials . Hearing impairment: note-taking assistant . Physical impairment : access to classroom, note-taking assistant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra days for submission, alternative assignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Visual impairment: braille examination paper, examination with voice support, longer examination hours, note-taking assistant . Hearing impairment: written examination instead of oral examination . Physical impairment: longer examination hours, note-taking assistant

- Actual support may vary depending on the course.

* The contents of this syllabus are not final—they may be updated.