

IEE3371-01 UNDERSTANDING K-POP

CREDIT	3	INSTRUCTOR	Jungwon Kim
OFFICE		OFFICE HOURS	By appointment
TIME	Mon-Fri 13:30-16:00(O)	CLASSROOM LOCATION	TBA
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* Please leave the fields blank which haven't been decided yet.

[COURSE INFORMATION]

COURSE DESCRIPTION & GOALS	<p>This course examines a history of and issues in popular music cultures of contemporary Korea. For this examination, the course surveys the development of various genres of Korean popular music, from <i>sinminyo</i> (new folk song) in the early 20th century to the recent K-pop. Also, this course aims to situate these genres in a variety of the Korean societal contexts, including modernization, westernization, industrialization, urbanization, democratization, globalization, the Korean currency crisis, the Korean Wave, fandom, and gender and sexuality. Drawing upon abundant audio and video clips, the course will incorporate lectures and in-class discussions. Through this course, students will learn:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to approach contemporary Korean society and its history especially in relation to popular music cultures 2. How to study a history of Korean popular music 3. How to analyze K-pop socio-culturally, socio-historically, socio-politically, and socio-economically 4. How to listen to K-pop critically and analytically 5. How to discuss K-pop-related social issues by means of music, music videos, and musical performances <p>This learning will then enable students to better understand K-pop as a culturally, socially, and politically phenomenon, as well as to explore contemporary South Korea from diversified perspectives.</p>
PREREQUISITE	No prerequisites are required.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS	<p>Students are required to actively participate in in-class group discussions on assigned topics. Each group is required to share their discussion with the class, presented by their spokesperson. Students will take multiple-choice quizzes about topics on Week 1 for the midterm as well as about topics on Weeks 2 and 3 for the final. The midterm and final, as open-book, paperless examinations, will be taken on LearnUs so that students MUST bring their laptops or tablets to access the exam links posted to LearnUs. Sample questions will be provided on the third day of Week 1 for students to get to know about the exam format.</p> <p>Students are expected to acquaint themselves with romanization of Korean words instead of English translation. Since the instructor is rely on the Revised Romanization of Korean, students are encouraged to learn themselves this romanization system at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revised_Romanization_of_Korean.</p> <p>Cellphone MUST be turned off during classes. Laptops and tablets are allowed ONLY for academic uses – notetaking or googling specific jargons and exams. Students who use mobile devices for texting, online shopping, or web surfing, leave regularly to use phones, or disrupt the class will be marked down in class participation grades. Leaving before the end of a class without permission from the instructor will be counted as an absence. Recording lectures without permission from the instructor will NOT be allowed.</p> <p>Cheating will NOT be tolerated. Students who cheat on examinations will automatically receive ZERO (0) point for the exam grades, being reported to both Yonsei University and their home university.</p>

GRADING POLICY	<p>Attendance 30% Class participation (group discussion) 20% Midterm 20% Final 30%</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>Aforementioned percentage is same as scores going to each sector: 30 points given as a total score for attendance; 20 points for class participation from group discussions and presentations; 20 points for the midterm; 30 points for the final. For example, each absence will deduct 2 points out of the total attendance score. Also, 10 questions will be given for the midterm to account for 20 points and 15 questions will be given for the final to make up 30 points.</p> <p>Students' attendance will be electronically checked through Y-Attend app. For the attendance checking, the code will be given ONLY for 5 minutes. Students MUST enter it in the app when the instructor announces the code at the beginning of each class. Students, missing the code input due to their tardiness, will be considered absent.</p>
TEXTS & REFERENCES	<p>No textbooks are required. Reading materials, including book chapters, journal articles, news stories, and blog postings, will be distributed by the instructor on LearnUs if needed.</p>
INSTRUCTOR'S PROFILE	<p>Dr. Jungwon Kim is an ethnomusicologist specializing in Korean popular music cultures and gender studies. She earned her Ph. D. from the University of California, Riverside. Her dissertation investigates K-pop and its female fandom in Korea. As an avid member of fandom for K-pop musicians, Dr. Kim is actively engaging in fan practices herself and researching K-pop fandom. Based on her dissertation and postdoctoral autoethnographic research, she has published her first book in Korean in 2022. Since 2018, Dr. Kim has taught K-pop-related courses at several institutions, including Yonsei University.</p>

[WEEKLY SCHEDULE]

* Your detailed explanation would be very helpful for prospective students to get a pre-approval for credit-transfer from their home university in advance.

WEEK	DAILY TOPIC & CONTENTS	COURSE MATERIAL & ASSIGNMENTS	REFERENCE
1	(Dec. 27) Korean popular music cultures in the late 19 th and early 20 th centuries 1. <i>Minyo</i> (folk song), <i>pansori</i> (music narrative genre), <i>pungmul</i> (traditional Korean percussion ensemble music), and <i>talchum</i> (mask dance drama) 2. Popularity and circulation of <i>sinminyo</i> (new folk song) and <i>yuhaengga</i> (popular song) both within and outside of Korea 3. The emergence of first pop stars in Korea 4. Modernization (Westernization) of Korean popular music genres		
	(Dec. 28) Emergence of rock 'n' roll and youth culture in Korea 1. Pioneers in Korean rock 'n' roll in the 1960s 2. The development of Korean rock bands and their music in the 1970-80s 3. The construction of youth culture in postwar South Korea		Chapters 6 and 10 from <i>Made in Korea: Studies in Popular Music</i>
	(Dec. 29) Korean modern folk music and collegiate culture 1. Ups and downs of Korean modern folk music 2. The development of collegiate culture in the 1960s-70s 3. Korean democratization and protest culture		Chapters 7 and 11 from <i>Made in Korea: Studies in Popular Music</i> Chapter 4 from <i>The Candlelight Movement, Democracy, and Communication in Korea</i>
	(Jan. 2) Trot and Korean pop ballads 1. Musical traits of trot 2. Urban/suburban cultures in Korean industrialization 3. New (sub)culture of trot 4. Heyday of Korean pop ballads		Chapter 5 from <i>Made in Korea: Studies in Popular Music</i>
	(Jan. 3) The 1990s Korean society and the Korean popular music scene 1. Taiji Boys 2. <i>Sinsedae</i> (new generation) culture 3. Global pop's influence on Korean popular music (hip-hop, funk, R&B, and reggae)		Chapters 8 and 12 from <i>Made in Korea: Studies in Popular Music</i>
2	(Jan. 4) First-generation K-pop idols and <i>hallyu</i> (Korean Wave) (1) 1. The emergence of first-generation idol musicians in Korea 2. Korean idol musicians' advance into the Asian pop music market		

WEEK	DAILY TOPIC & CONTENTS	COURSE MATERIAL & ASSIGNMENTS	REFERENCE
	(Jan. 5) First-generation K-pop idols and <i>hallyu</i> (Korean Wave) (2) 1. The beginning of <i>hallyu</i>	Midterm examination during the second half of the class	
	(Jan. 8) Second-generation K-pop idols' global/local strategies and non-idol musicians in the K-pop scene (1) 1. Second-generation K-pop idols' musical and non-musical activities across the domestic and international scenes		
	(Jan. 9) Second-generation K-pop idols' global/local strategies and non-idol musicians in the K-pop scene (2) 1. Non-idol musicians recognized as K-pop stars outside of Korea K-pop fandom (1) 1. History of fandom for popular culture in Korea 2. Audience as K-pop idol producer/promoter 3. <i>Ttechang</i> (fan singing/chanting) 4. Dance cover		
	(Jan. 10) K-pop fandom (2) 1. Fan merchandise/fan-made content 2. <i>Sasaeng</i> (stalkers in fandom) 3. K-pop fans' social/political activities		TBA
	(Jan. 11) Cultural appropriation/appreciation in K-pop		TBA
3	(Jan. 12) Gender and sexuality in the K-pop scene (1) 1. Male idols' masculinities 2. Female idols' femininities		TBA
	(Jan. 15) Gender and sexuality in the K-pop scene (2) 1. Female idols' sexualization 2. Misogyny in the K-pop scene		
	(Jan. 16) Gender and sexuality in the K-pop scene (3) 1. LGBTQ+ issues		
	(Jan. 17) Re/conceptualization of K-pop 1. Re/definition of K-pop 2. K-pop and scandals	Final examination during the second half of the class	