

Love, Marriage, and Family in Korean Literature and Film

Global Collaborative Summer 2018
Kyung Hee University

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Course Description

This course examines a broad range of Korean literary and cinematic texts focusing on three intertwined themes: love, marriage, and family. Viewing these not simply as universal human experiences but also as ever-changing cultural institutions, this course will ask what roles Korean literary and cinematic texts have played in reproducing socially sanctioned modes of intimacy and at the same time in challenging and redefining them. How have Korean love stories changed from the time when marriage was in principle a family matter, presided over by the authority of the patriarchy, to the time when the mutual feeling of love has become a precondition of marriage? To what extent have Korean writers reworked modern European notions of love and home since the early twentieth centuries? How have Korean literature and film challenged heteronormative intimacy and family?

All readings and discussion are in English; No previous knowledge of Korean is required.

Course Requirements and Grades

Students can earn a maximum of 100 points over the course of the semester. The final grade will be based on the following criteria:

1. Attendance and class participation (15 points)

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Any unexcused absence or lateness will impact your grade. Two absences without excuses will lower your grade by one full letter (A-to B -). Three times of unexcused tardiness to class will be counted as one unexcused absence. In the case of illness or emergency, please notify the instructor by e-mail before class. Each student is required to complete all the assigned readings before class and to contribute to class discussion regularly and actively. Occasionally a quiz will be given without prior warning to check if students keep up with their readings.

2. Two short papers (10 points x 2=20 points)

Students are asked to write two short papers (600 words per paper) in response to the prompts given by the instructor. Due dates: TBA

3. PowerPoint Presentation (15 points)

All students are required to give an in-class PowerPoint presentation. Each presentation should analyze the literary/ cinematic texts assigned for the day. Each presentation needs a clear thesis, three pieces of textual evidence, a compelling conclusion, and three questions for class discussion.

4. Final Papers (20 points)

Final papers are interpretive essays (1500 words). A list of suggested topics will be provided, but students should feel free to explore other themes. Each paper needs a clearly defined thesis, textual evidences to support it, and well-developed structure. It also should include a close reading of at least two passages selected from the text (s) that it examines. The papers should follow the MLA Style formatting. Due date: TBA.

5. Mini-conference (5 points)

Students will present their drafts of final papers at the mini-conference scheduled for the last week of the semester and receive feedback from their classmates as well as from the instructor. Each presentation needs to be 5-7 minutes long.

6. Final Exam (25 points)

The final consists of True/False questions, short answer questions, and essay questions. It will evaluate not only students' understanding of course readings and lectures but also their ability to analyze literary texts in a creative and critical way. A study guide will be provided.

* The schedule and other elements in the syllabus may be changed at the instructor's discretion. In such cases announcements will be made in class as well as via email.

Required Texts

The following books are available for purchase at Barnes and Noble.

Ann Sung-hi Lee, *Mujong: Yi Kwang-su and Modern Korean Literature*, (U of Hawai'i Press, ISBN 978-1885445278

Unyong-Jon: A Love Affair at the Royal Palace of Choson Korea, ISBN: 978-1557290939

Course Schedule (tentative)

WEEK 1: Introduction; Between Lovesickness and Chastity

Readings: Chu Yosöp, "Mama and the Boarder" (1935, trans. Chong-Un Kim & Bruce Fulton); The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch'unhyang (trans. Richard Rutt); *Unyöng-Jön: A Love Affair at the Royal Palace of Choson Korea* (trans. Kil Cha and Michael Pettid); Kwön P'il, "Tale of Gentlemen Zhou" (trans. Janet Lee); Martina Deuchler, "Propagating Women's Virtues in Chosön Korea"; *Anthony Giddens, The Transformation of Intimacy: Sexuality, love, and eroticism in modern societies* (excerpts), Janet Lee "Dilemma of the Lovesick Hero: Masculine Images and Politics of the Body in Seventeenth-Century Korean Love Tales."

Films: *Mother and a Guest* (1961, dir. Shin Sangok); *Chunhyang* (2000, dir. Im Kwont'aek)

WEEK 2: Modern Love, Colonial Family

Readings: Yi Injik, "Tears of Blood" (1906, trans. W. E. Skillend); Yi Kwangsu "Is this Love" (1909, trans. Janet Poole); Yi Kwangsu, *The Heartless* (1917, trans. Ann Sung-hi Lee); Kim Wönju, "Awakening" (1926, trans Yung-Hee Kim); Yom Sangsop "On the Eve of the Uprising" (trans. Sunyoung Park); Kang Kyöngae "The Underground Village" (1935, trans. Ji-moon Suh); Yi Sang, "Wings"(1936, trans. Walter K. Lew & Youngju Ryu); Ch'oe Chönghui "Wild Chrysanthemums" (1942, trans by Sarah

Frederick); Haiyan Lee, *Revolution of the Heart* (excerpts); Ueno Chizuko, *The Modern Family in Japan: Its Rise and Fall* (excerpts); Aimee Nayoung Kwon, *Intimate Empire* (excerpts); Sunyoung Park, *The Proletarian Wave* (excerpts)

Films: Straits of Chosun (1943, dir. Pak Kich'ae)

WEEK 3: Non-Normative Intimacy, Alternative Families

Literary Texts: Noguchi Kakuchū (or Chang Hyōkju) “Foreign Husband” (1953, trans. Aimee Nayoung Kwon); Cho Sehūi, *The Dwarf* (excerpts) (Trans. Ju-Chan & Bruce Fulton); Cho Sōnjak “Yōungja’s Heydays” (1973, trans. Chan Young Kim & David R. Carter); O Chōnghūi “The Toy Shop Woman” (1968, trans. Bruce & Ju-Chan Fulton); Kim Bi “Tree of Lips” (2005, trans. Sora Kim Russel & Eunjung Kwon-Lee); Ruth Barraclough, *Factory Girl Literature* (excerpts); Jiseung Roh “Love under Dictatorship: The Pleasure of Korea’s Working-Class Women”; Jin-Kyung Lee, *Service Economies* (excerpts); Youngju Ryu, *Writers of the Winter Republic* (excerpts)

Films: The Housemaid (1960, dir. Kim Kiyoung); Yōungja’s Heydays (1975, dir. Kim Hosun); Happy End (1999, dir. Jung Jiwoo); Family Ties (2006, dir. Kim T’aeyong)