

Korean Travel Narratives 700s-1940s

EAS369/COM358 (EC) Seminar

Spring 2018

Instructor: Ksenia Chizhova (kchizhova@princeton.edu; 233 Frist Campus Center)

Course Time and Location: T 1:30-4:20, 209 Frist Campus Center

Office Hours: MW 3-4pm and by appointment

Course Description: Knowledge about the world transformed over history: civilization, empire, East-West encounter, and postcolonial homelessness are frames that link identity and space. Reading travelogues by Koreans and about Korea, we will pursue two goals. We will analyze the epistemic coordinates of travelogue that produces knowledge about self and other. And we will note the changing historical contexts around Korea, which defined the modes of mobility for shipwreck survivors, prisoners of war, Christian missionaries, Japanese colonial officials, and communist guerilla fighters. Korea will provide us with a concrete vantage point upon the larger world.

Course Requirements and Evaluation:

- Attendance and participation: 20%
- Weekly response papers: 20%
- Midterm paper 10%
- Seminar presentation: 10%
- Digital itinerary: 30%
- Itinerary rationale: 10%

Required Texts (available for purchase at the Labyrinth bookstore 116-122 Nassau St):

- Roland Barthes, *Empire of Signs*, trans. Richard Howard (Hill and Wang, 1982).
- JaHyun Kim Haboush and Kenneth R. Robinson, eds., *A Korean War Captive in Japan: The Writings of Kang Hang* (Columbia, 2013).
- Yi T'aejun, *Eastern Sentiments*, trans. Janet Poole (Columbia 2012).

Course Work:

- Readings: please complete all readings on time and bring print-outs/books to class.
- Blackboard postings: in 2-3 paragraphs, please discuss the assigned readings, drawing connections and posing questions. The length is not to exceed one single-spaced page. The response papers are due on **Sunday midnight** on Discussion Board. These short write-ups are not graded but they will be drawn upon to facilitate class discussion.
- Each student will be asked to lead one seminar by providing an introductory overview of the week's theme, proposing discussion questions, and facilitating discussion by drawing on your classmates' response papers. Presenters do not write response papers for the week in which they are presenting.

- The midterm paper will be a short museum piece following our week on the travels to the Diamond Mountains in Chosŏn. We will have a guest talk and a visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art after which you will write a 2-3 page overview of paintings as travelogues.
- Final project: a digital itinerary, to be presented on the last day of classes. In this project, you link together the questions of space, time, and identity. The sources can be selected from the class syllabus, or you can bring external sources. The digital itineraries can be creative or strictly historical, but they should 1) be related to Korea, 2) incorporate factual historical background, 3) have a clearly conceived structure. A 2-3 page itinerary rationale is due on the Dean's Date together with the finalized digital project.

Week 1 (February 6): Course Introduction

No assigned readings.

Week 2 (February 13): Strange Encounters

Sarah Ahmed, *Strange Encounters: The Embodied Others in Postcoloniality* (Routledge, 2000), 12-74.

Barthes, *Mythologies*, trans. Richard Howard (Hill and Wang, 2012), pp. 215-274.

Roland Barthes, *Empire of Signs*, trans. Richard Howard (Hill and Wang, 1982).

Digital technology presentation from McGraw Teaching Center.

Week 3 (February 20): Pilgrimage through the Buddhist World (700s)

Donald S. Lopez, "First There Is a Mountain," in *Buddhism & Science: A Guide for the Perplexed* (Chicago, 2008), pp. 39-72.

Robert E. Buswell, "Korean Buddhist Journeys to Lands Worldly and Otherworldly," *The Journal of Asian Studies* 68.4 (2009): 1055-1075.

Ha Tae-Hung et al trans., *Samguk yusa. Legends and History of the Three Kingdoms of Ancient Korea* (Yonsei UP, 1972), pp. 179-183, 205-207, 215-220, 279-288.

The Hye Ch'o Diary: Memoir of the Pilgrimage to The Five Regions of India (Asian Humanities Press, 1984), 39-58.

Guest lecture by Professor Xin Wen.

Week 4 (February 27): Landscape and Travel during the Koryŏ Dynasty (1000s)

Remco Breuker, "Within or Without? Ambiguity of Borders and Koryŏ Koreans' Travels during the Liao, Jin, Song, and Yuan," *East Asian History* 28 (2014): 47-61.

Remko Breuker, "Mountains and Streams: Architecturalizing Landscapes in Medieval Korea," in *Architecturalized Asia. Mapping a Continent Through History*, ed. Vimalin Rujvacharakul et al (Hawaii, 2013), pp. 53-66.

Sem Vermeersch and Robert E. Buswell Jr., *A Chinese Traveler in Medieval Korea: Xu Jing's Illustrated Account of the Xuanhe Embassy to Koryŏ* (Hawaii, 2016), pp. 1-11, 59-79, 141-150, 169-173, 206-219, 236-245.

Samguk yusa, selections

Week 5 (March 6): Chosŏn and the Qing Empire (1700s)

James Hevia, *Cherishing Men from Afar: Qing Guest Ritual and the Macartney Embassy of 1793* (Duke, 1995), pp. 118-133, 167-193, 212-225 (available electronically via Princeton Library).

JaHyun Kim Haboush, "Contesting Chinese Time, Nationalizing Temporal Space: Temporal Inspection in Late Chosŏn Korea," in *Time, Temporality, and Imperial Transition: East Asia from Ming to Qing*, ed. Lynn A. Struve (Hawaii, 2005), 121-137.

Pak Chi-wŏn, *The Jehol Diary: Yŏrha Ilgi of Pak Chiwŏn (1737-1805)* (Global Oriental, 2010), 83-139.

Visit to China Rare Book Collection with Dr. Martin Heijdra

Week 6 (March 13): Travel to the Diamond Mountains in Korea (1700s)

No class, visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art on March 30, attend the talk by Professor Maya Stiller (Art History, University of Kansas) on March 12, Monday, 4:30-6pm.

March 17-25 Spring Recess

Week 7 (March 27): Prisoners of War in Japan (1600s)

JaHyun Kim Haboush, "Dead Bodies in the Postwar Discourse of Identity in Seventeenth-Century Korea: Subversion and Literary Production in the Private Sector," *The Journal of Asian Studies*. 62.2 (2003): 415-442.

JaHyun Kim Haboush and Kenneth R. Robinson, eds., *A Korean War Captive in Japan: The Writings of Kang Hang* (Columbia, 2013), pp. 1-100.

Visit to Japan Rare Book Collection with Dr. Setsuko Noguchi

March 30, Friday, field trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Week 8 (April 3): Christian Missionaries in Korea (1900s)

Edward Said, *Orientalism* (Routledge, 1978), 31-72.

Annie Baird, *Daybreak in Korea: A Tale of Transformation in the Far East* (FH Revell Company, 1897), 25-68, 95-123.

Lillias Underwood, *Fifteen Years among the Topknots: Life in Korea* (American Trust Society, 1904), 1-20, 106-123, 153-201.

Midterm Paper Due in Class

Week 9 (April 10): Japanese Residents in Colonial Seoul 1930-40s

Homi Bhabha, *The Location of Culture* (Routledge, 1994), 94-131.

Jun Uchida, *Brokers of Empire. Japanese Settler Colonialism in Korea, 1876-1945* (Harvard, 2011), pp. 36-39, 65-90, 115-136.

Toshiyuki Kajiyama, *The Clan Records: Five Stories of Korea* (Hawaii, 1995).

Week 10 (April 17): Communist Guerilla Fighter in Manchuria (1930s)

Yuri Lotman, *Universe of the Mind: A Semiotic Theory of Culture* (Indiana, 2001), 131-142.

Kim San and Nym Wales, *The Song of Ariran: A Korean Communist in the Chinese Revolution* (Ramparts Press, 1972).

Guest Lecture by Professor Franz Prichard

Week 11 (April 24): Inhabiting the Colonial Time and Space (1930s)

Michel de Certeau, *The Practice of Everyday Life*, trans. Steven Rendall (UC, 1984), 91-110, 115-130.

Todd Henry, *Assimilating Seoul: Japanese Rule and the politics of Public Space in Colonial Korea, 1910-1945* (UC, 2014), pp. 22-61.

Yi T'aejun, *Eastern Sentiments*, trans. Janet Poole (Columbia, 2012).

Visit to the Cotsen Collection

Week 12 (May 1): Presentation of Students' Projects