Description and Objectives. One goal of this course is to acquaint class members with contending representations and interpretations of Korea's vernacular heritage. Topics include: material culture, family and kinship, popular religion, performing arts, wedding ceremonies, and efforts to conserve, revitalize, and construct "traditions" in situations of rapid social change. As part of a liberal arts curriculum, the course has a second objective of helping students to enhance their critical thinking when interpreting cultures and thereby develop more informed understandings of the various ways of life found throughout the world.

The two objectives are pursued through assigned readings, lectures, videos, slides, class discussions, and individual reflection. The topics of the readings and audiovisual material are varied and deal with diverse topics, but all are devoted to using folklore as a means of interpreting or explaining Korean culture and society. All of the slides and most of the videos are very rare and, like lectures and class discussions, unfortunately cannot be accessed outside of class.

Grading Policies. Grades are determined as follows:
(a) Three examinations each contribute 23% of the grade for the course.
(b) Ten one-page, double-spaced (i.e., about 250-300 words) synopses of reading assignments, each with one question suitable for class discussion. These ten synopses and questions are to be typed or computer-printed and submitted at the beginning of class. The synopses and questions will be graded and will contribute 23% of the semester's grade.
(c) The remaining 8% of each person's grade is determined by attendance and contributions to class discussions.
(d) Points may be added to the semester's average for optional book reviews (see below).

Optional Book Reviews. Each student has the option of writing one, two, or three book reviews to earn points that can be added to her/his semester average. All reviews should be submitted by December 7. They are to be typewritten or computer-printed. Each review should be approximately five pages in length. Points will be awarded according to the following scale: 4-excellent, 3-above average, 2-average, 1-weak, 0-inadequate.

A book review should not only describe the contents of a book but also identify the author's main points and show how well the information presented in the book supports these points. It should also discuss the relationship between the book and the topics and issues pursued in the class readings, lectures, audio-visual material, and discussions.

Not every book that deals with Korea is suitable for review. Some are collections of disparate articles; others are written for children or lack adequate documentation; and yet others are not germane to this course. Books must be approved by the instructor, preferably during office hours and by mid-semester. Such approval helps ensure that the effort expended to prepare the book review yields maximum benefit.

Readings.

Three books are available for purchase. One copy of each is also available in the Media/Reserves Room of the Main Library. (The Library also has Japanese and Korean editions of the first book, Ancestor Worship and Korean Society, but these are not on reserve.)


About a dozen articles or book chapters are also part of the required readings for the course. They are available via electronic reserves under the heading of **FOLK F305** Korean Folklore / East Asian Popular Religion, Janelli, Fall 2006. The direct url is: [http://ereserves.indiana.edu/eres/coursepage.aspx?cid=1283](http://ereserves.indiana.edu/eres/coursepage.aspx?cid=1283), and the password for the course is **ghost**.

### Class Schedule

**Aug. 29 T** Basic Course Concepts

**Aug. 31 R** Korean Folklore in the 1920s (Material Culture and popular religion)

### Material Culture of the Past

**Sep. 5 T** Crafts: Pottery; Video: *The Korean Onggi Potter*

**Sep. 7 R** Korean Agriculture ( ); Settlement patterns, housing, agriculture (slides)

### Ancestor Rites, Popular Religion, and Gendered Kinship

**Sep. 12 T** An Agricultural Village and Lineage: History and Social Organization ( A Few Slides of the Village)
- **Read:** Janelli and Janelli, Chap. 1 & 2
- **Due:** One-page synopsis of week's readings (i.e., Osgood, pp. 54-91) and one question for class discussion (#1).

**Sep. 14 R** Funerals and Mourning; Video Clip: (Festival)
- **Read:** Janelli and Janelli, Chapter 3, pp. 58-70

**Sep. 19 T** Geomancy and Elders, Ancestors, and Domestic Rites
- **Read:** Janelli and Janelli, Chapter 3, pp. 71-85, & Chapter 4, pp. 86-106
- **Due:** One-page synopsis of week's readings (i.e., Janelli & Yim , pp. 58-106) with one question for class discussion (#2)

**Sep. 21 R** Domestic Rites; Video Clip: (Korean Ancestor Rites)
- **Read:** Janelli and Janelli, Chapter 4, pp. 106-121

**Sep. 26 T** First Examination
Sep. 28  R  Tradition and Modernity in Korean Ancestor Rites; (a few slides)
Read: Janelli and Janelli, Chap. 5, pp. 123-129; Chapter 6, pp. 148-167

Oct. 3  T  Continuities and Transformations of Family Relationships in Modern South Korea
Due: One-page synopsis of (i.e., Janelli and Yim. pp. 123-129, 148-167 and Eunhee Kim Yi) with one question for class discussion (#3)

Oct. 5  R  Continuities and Transformations of Family Relationships in Modern South Korea

Performing Arts

Oct. 10  T  P'ansori: The Song of Shim Ch'ŏng; Video: P'ansori
Due: One-page synopsis of Oct. 5 and 10 reading assignments, with one question for class discussion (#4)

Oct. 12  R  Representations of Folklore in a Pansori in Popular Film; Video clips: (Sŏp'yŏnje)

Oct. 17  T  General Features of P'ansori; Gender; Video of Chan Park's performances
Read: (1) Chan E. Park , "P'ansori: The Ancient Art of Korean Storytelling" (Available via electronic reserves); and
Due: A one-page synopsis of Oct. 12 and 17 reading assignments, with one question for class discussion (#5).

Oct. 19  R  P'ansori - Negotiating with Audiences

Oct. 24  T  P'ansori Performance beyond South Korea; Mask Dance Dramas; Video Clip: (Hahoe Mask Dance-Drama)
Due: A one-page synopsis of Oct. 19 and 24 readings, with one question for class discussion (#6).

Oct. 26  R  Second Examination
### Ritual and Ceremony in 1980s South Korea: Weddings and Gender

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| Oct. 31 | Weddings in South Korea "Old" and "New: Video Clip of Weddings (1924); Video: *Wedding Through Camera Eyes: Trilogy of Wedding Photography in Korea* (CC6111, VH)  
    Read: Kendall, pp. ix-xi; 1-24 |
| Nov. 2  | A Case Study;  
    Read Kendall, pp. 27-51 |
| Nov. 7  | Debates over Modernization and Tradition; Transformations of Courtship  
    Read: Kendall, pp. 52-119  
    Due: A one-page synopsis of Nov. 2 and 7 reading assignments, with one question for class discussion (#7) |
| Nov. 9  | Matchmaking and Dowries; Video: *Good for Her* (CC6438)  
    Read: Kendall, pp. 120-175 |
| Nov. 14 | Gift Exchange & Delivery of the Gift Box (A few slides)  
    Read: Kendall, pp. 175-210  
    Due: A one-page synopsis of Nov. 9 and 14 reading assignments, with one question for class discussion (#8). |
| Nov. 16 | Class does not meet  
    Read: Kendall, pp. 211-230 |

### Preservation and Invention of Folklore in Contemporary Korea

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| Nov. 21 | New Shamans and Old Personalities? Video: *An Initiation Kut for a Korean Shaman*  
    Due: A one-page synopsis of Nov. 16 and 21 reading assignments, with one question for class discussion (#9). |
| Nov. 28 | Folklore "Preservation"; Video Clip: Samulnori  
| Nov. 30 | Confucian Traditions?  
| Dec. 5  | Folklore Preservation in North Korea Video: (Seasonal Folklore of Korea);  
    Folklore and the "New Generation"  
    Due: One-page synopsis of Nov. 30 and Dec. 5 reading assignments, with one question for class discussion (#10) |
Dec. 7 R Folklore, Globalization, Diaspora, and Identity; Video: Our Nation: A Korean Punk Rock Community (RC1874) CA 2001
Optional book reviews due
Optional: An informative web site about Korean Americans has a number of photos, brief documentary videos, and short narratives <www.arirangeducation.com>

Dec. 14 R 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. Third Examination

A building on the northeast corner of 9th Street and Fess Avenue, 504 North Fess Avenue, looks like a private house. The offices of the departmental secretaries are located there. The adjacent building, 506-508 North Fess Avenue, looks like two attached houses and contains faculty offices. Enter through the south entrance of 506-508 North Fess Avenue, go up a flight of stairs as soon as you enter, walk through the opening at the top of the stairs, turn right, walk a few steps, and turn left. You should then be facing an office doorway. Go into that office and enter the doorway on its left wall. The doorway looks like an opening for a closet, but it's the entryway to another staircase. Walk up the staircase and enter the office at the top of the stairs.