THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA | DEPARTMENT OF ASIAN STUDIES

This is an abridged sample syllabus. Information is subject to change. Full syllabus will be distributed to registered students when term begins.

ASIA_V 383 - Korean History Through Film

Ji-yoon An

In this course, we will explore modern Korean history through a cultural lens. Starting from the colonial period to the present day, each week will explore a moment in Korea's modern history through film, revealing a facet of how film as cultural product engages with contemporary issues or how film has remembered/redeployed past historical moments. Understanding how cinema's fictional freedom can affect the display of historical events: demonstrating the intersection of 'history' and 'collective memory' in filmic texts will be the focus. Each week, students will view one film alongside two compulsory readings: one historical overview and one article analysing the film. Examining the link between history and film, students will gain a thorough knowledge of key historical moments that have shaped modern Korea, with attention to formations of gender, class, and national identity as well as an understanding of the ways culture reflects/challenges/distorts history.

Mode of Delivery: Online

Sample Readings

Rosenstone, Robert (2006). History on Film Film on History. Pearson Education, p. 1-10.

Eckert, Carter. et. al. (1990). "The First Phase of Japanese Rule, 1910-1919," Korea Old and New: A History. Korea Institute, Harvard University, p. 254-275.

Yi, We Jung (2018). "The Pleasure of Mourning: Korean War Blockbusters in Post–Cold War South Korea, 1998–2008." Journal of Cinema and Media Studies, 58, 1, p. 118-40.

Assignments

Participation (Attendance & Quizzes) | 20%

4 Short-Answer Responses | 20%

Group Presentation (Video and Discussion) | 20%

Final Paper (Proposal, Discussion, & Research Paper) | 40%

Bonus Point: Active Speaking During In-Class Discussions | 3%

SAMPLE SYLLABUS