

DRAFT

ENGH362, Global Voices

Modern and Contemporary East Asian Culture

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Fall 2022

Course Meeting Times: T 4:30 – 7:10 pm

Classroom: TBD

Office: G645

Office Hours: TBD, and by appointments

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Course Description and Learning Outcomes

ENGH 362: Global Voices is a course that studies cultures other than British or American in a comparative framework. This semester we will explore the modern and contemporary cultures of Korea, Japan, and, to lesser extent, China by examining various cultural products, from literary texts (in English translation), films, to artifacts of popular and everyday culture. Our discussions will be organized around themes such as “the regional cultural exchanges in East Asia,” “the traditional and the modern,” “individual, family and community,” and “women in East Asian cultures.”

The one thematic focus of the course will be the intertwined history and the ensuing cultural interactions between the three East Asian nations. We will examine the shared as well as different elements of these cultures. The other area of focus will be the modernization process in East Asia and the place of the traditional culture in contemporary society. We will investigate the ways in which various elements of traditional culture coexist with the modern elements in contemporary society and examine how (and whether) such traditional elements help to characterize a distinctly East Asian way of life and to shape cultural identities for individuals and for the nations. Through these critical inquiries, students will achieve a higher level of intercultural competencies and develop their ability to notice, analyze, and assess critically the cultural elements embedded in everyday life.

This course meets the Global Understanding Mason Core Requirements. “The goal of the global understanding category is to help students see the world from multiple perspectives, reflect upon their positions in a global society, and be prepared for future engagement as global citizens. While it may include a historical perspective, global understanding courses focus primarily on a contemporary understanding of one’s place in a global society.”

As a course in this category, at the completion of this course, students will have learned to

1. Identify and articulate one’s own values and how those values influence their interactions and relationships with others, both locally and globally.
2. Demonstrate understanding of how the patterns and processes of globalization make visible the interconnections and differences among and within contemporary global societies.

3. Demonstrate the development of intercultural competencies.

This course also counts towards the Global Affairs Major Concentration in Media, Communication, and Culture (MCC).

Readings and Viewings

All the required readings will be provided on Blackboard.

Students will need to screen the films on their own. Some of them are available free online through the GMU library and other resources; some of them are available in DVD format in the IGC library.

The rest of the films are available at Netflix, at Amazon Prime, and/or at YouTube movie. Most of them cost from one to four dollars for streaming.

Course Requirements and Grade Composition

	points	Life Happens Pass (LHP) Allowed
Class Participation (quizzes, writing exercises, discussion forum posts, etc.)	300 points	No
Research Presentations and Discussants		
Class Presentations	100 points	Yes
Serving as Discussants (two times)	50 points	Yes
Building-Block Tasks: Worksheets and Tests		
History of Modern East Asia Worksheet	50 points	Yes
Key Terms of East Asian Culture Worksheet	50 points	Yes
Key Terms of Critical Analysis Worksheet	50 points	Yes
Critical Analysis Essay		
Essay Outline and Introduction	50 points	Yes
initial Draft: Revised Intro and Two BPs	50 points	Yes
First Draft	50 points	No
Peer Reviews of the Critical Analysis Essay first draft	20 points	No
Final Draft	200 points	Yes
Field Trips (Virtual or Physical)	Extra Credits (TBD)	No

- **Attendance**

I expect you arrive on time and attend every class.

While the attendance is not assigned grade points, the attendance will serve as a gateway for active participation in learning activities of this class. If you miss class meetings, you also miss interactive learning activities carried out in class.

- **Classwork Participation:** You will be assigned various classwork activities, quizzes, discussion board postings, group collaborative activities, and individual writing exercises. You will get participation points for these activities, up to 20 points per a full week and up to 245 points over the course of the semester. You will get full participation for the course if your accumulated points are at or above 230.

When grading these low-stakes assignments, I do not penalize submissions a few dates late; however, to have optimal participation in class learning activities and maximize your learning, you are strongly encouraged to stick to these deadlines as best as you can.

- **Building-Block Tasks:** In addition to short writing exercises assigned as Classwork, you will have the following short writing assignments. These tasks will help you develop and practice the skills necessary for writing about literature.

1. **Terms of Critical Analysis Worksheet:** I will assign you a handout of literary terms. You will find out the definitions of the terms and explain them in your own words. Resources to check out includes Chris Baldick's *The Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms*. Follow the detailed instructions in the worksheet.
2. **History of Modern East Asia Worksheet:** You will complete a worksheet about the important phases and key events of the modern East Asian History.
3. **Key Terms of East Asian Tradition Worksheet:** You will complete a worksheet about the key terms of East Asian tradition.

- **Research Presentation:**

You will present once on the assigned topic. Following each presentation, two students will serve as discussants and ask questions to the presenters. Each of you will serve twice as a discussant. You will get a separate presentation instructions handout.

- **Critical Analysis Essay:**

This is the culminating assignment of this class. You will write an essay that analyzes one (or two) of the cultural artifacts (whether textual, visual, or audiovisual) in light of the contexts covered over the course of the semester, and/or in relation to the course theme. I encourage you to conduct some further research and draw upon the reliable sources (including but not limited to scholarly journal articles) as you develop your argument. 1500 – 2200 words (5-7 pages). To help you develop your topic, I will provide a list of sample prompts, but you are free and indeed encouraged to formulate your own essay question. You are encouraged to meet with me to discuss your essay topic as early as possible. In Week 13, you will be asked to submit the paragraph-by-paragraph outline of the paper (with the passages to be quoted) and a draft of introductory paragraph; in Week 14, you will submit the FULL first draft of the essay.

You will write multiple drafts, and you will get feedbacks both from your peers and myself during the writing process. This is a specific kind of argumentative essay in which you make an interpretive claim about one or two of the cultural artifacts from our class and support it with your observations of some aspects of the cultural artifact (s), relevant socio-historical contexts supported by reliable sources and data. Throughout the semester you will learn the techniques of literary-cultural analysis and will practice writing paragraphs.

Both the first full draft and final draft are required for this assignment. You will revise your first draft based on your peers' reviews, as well as my input provided during the individual conference. Final draft should show significant revision and improvement over the first draft, and you will attach 1. a self-check list (the form to be provided by the instructor) 2. a reflection on the feedback you have received and your revision. Throughout the writing process, you are encouraged to come and see me for consultations. I do not provide email commenting; you will have to meet with me either virtually or in my office.

More details on this assignment will follow in a separate handout.

- **Peer Reviews of the Critical Analysis Essay:**

Commenting and evaluating other people's writing is an integral part of getting trained to become a better writer. Evaluating your peers' performance will also be a key part of your work in your professional life. In this course, in addition to mini peer reviews that you will be asked to do as Classwork throughout the semester, you will read your peers' essay drafts and provide feedback using the peer review handout.

The peer review handout is designed to instruct you the critical expectations of a literary analysis essay. Read it carefully and apply those rules and guidelines to your own draft as you revise it. Your performance as reviewer will be graded.

Final Grades Percentage Break-down

Course Grade Range (100 percentile)	Letter Grade
99-100	A+
93-98.9	A
90-92.9	A-
87.5-89.9	B+
83-87.4	B
80-82.9	B-
77.5-79.9	C+
73-77.4	C
*70-72.9	C-
60-69.9	D

Below 60	F
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Procedures and Policies

1. Course Material and Recording Policy

- Students are not allowed to record class meetings.
- All the course materials are only for the members of the course. No course materials, including your peers' writings, should be distributed, or circulated outside the course.

2. Late Work Policy:

To help you manage your schedule and maximize learning in this course, I recommend that you follow the timeline that I have provided in the course calendar. When grading weekly classwork assignments, I do not penalize submissions a few dates late; however, to participate fully in class activities and optimize your learning, you will need to complete assignments by the due dates.

For weekly assignments late more than 3 calendar days and other assignments in this course, the following late work policies will apply. See the Course Requirements and Grading table on page 6 for information on which late work policy applies to which assignments.

- ✓ Late Penalty for major assignments: Late submission of a major assignment will result in a 5% grade (or up to 10-point) grade reduction for each calendar day it is late, including weekends and holidays.
- ✓ Classwork will not be accepted once the submission folder is closed.
- ✓ The quiz cannot be taken once it is closed.
- ✓ **Standard Deduction Policy (SDP):** Late submission of certain assignments will result in a flat 10% grade deduction if they are completed within 7 days of the [Course Requirements and Grade Composition](#) table.
- ✓ **Life Happens Passes (LHP):**

Since I know that "life happens" through no fault of your own, you will have **THREE Life Happens Passes** that you can use on certain assignments to secure an automatic extension without a penalty. Please see the table on pages 3-4 to check for which assignments LHPs are allowed.

Each LHP will give you a twenty-four-hour extension from the original deadline, no questions asked. When using a pass, you do not need to explain your reasons for using it.

Ground Rules for LHP:

- 1) As soon as you can, send me an email with the following subject line.
ENGH362 LHP: [Your Official Name], [the assignment name], [number of passes to be used]
- 2) The email will serve as the record. You don't need my approval; please note that I often do not reply the LHP notification email from students.
- 3) **In addition, indicate that you are using a LHP when submitting your assignment on**

Blackboard (using the memo function).

- 4) You may use LHP only for certain assignments (see the [Course Requirements and Grade Composition](#) table).
- 5) You can use LHP only for some drafts of the critical analysis essay (for details, see the [Course Requirements and Grade Composition](#) table).
- 6) You cannot use LHP retroactively (i.e., after receiving the assignment grade).

Other Late Policies

Technology Failures

While technology failures do happen, **they are not an excuse for late work**. Excuses such as a crashed hard drive, a corrupted file, common Blackboard glitches, and others are too difficult to verify. Accommodations for tech failures can be made only if there is a verifiable campus-wide technology problem. Otherwise, make sure you start your work early and use email to send your work if you can't upload it to Blackboard. You also have the option to use one of the LHP passes.

Situations leading to Extended Lateness

If you experience situations that will lead to submissions late more than 3 days, the best course of action is to contact me as soon as possible. Earlier you contact me, better the chance that I will be able to help you find a solution.

3. Academic Integrity: GMU Honor Code

It is expected that students adhere to the George Mason University Honor Code as it relates to integrity regarding coursework and grades. The Honor Code reads as follows: "To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this Honor Code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work." More information about the Honor Code, including definitions of cheating, lying, and plagiarism, can be found on the Committee of Academic Integrity's website at <https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/resources-and-services/cai/overview>.

4. English Department Statement on Plagiarism:

Plagiarism means using the exact words, opinions, or factual information from another source without giving that source credit. Writers give credit through the use of accepted documentation styles, such as parenthetical citation, footnotes, or end notes; a simple listing of books, articles, and websites is not sufficient. Plagiarism is the equivalent of intellectual robbery and cannot be tolerated in an academic setting.

Student writers are often confused as to what should be cited. Some think that only direct quotations need to be credited. While direct quotations do need citations, so do paraphrases and summaries of opinions or factual information formerly unknown to the writers or which the writers did not discover themselves. Exceptions to this include factual information which can be obtained from a variety of sources, the writers' own insights or findings from their own field research, and what has been called common knowledge. What constitutes common knowledge can sometimes be precarious; what is common knowledge for one audience may not be so for another. In such situations, it is helpful to keep the reader in mind and to think of citations as being "reader-friendly."

In other words, writers provide a citation for any piece of information that they think their readers might want to investigate further. Not only is this attitude considerate of readers, but it will also almost certainly ensure that writers will not be guilty of plagiarism.

5. GMU Nondiscrimination Policy and Diversity Statement:

George Mason University is committed to providing equal opportunity and an educational and work environment free from any discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or age. GMU shall adhere to all applicable state and federal equal opportunity/affirmative action statutes and regulations.

For the full statements of this university policy, visit

<https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/non-discrimination-policy/>

See [here for GMU Diversity Statement](#).

6. Notice of Mandatory Reporting of Sexual Assault, Interpersonal Violence and Stalking:

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason Korea’s Deputy Title IX Coordinator pursuant to University Policy 1202 and 1412. If you would like to speak confidentially with the Mason Korea counselor, please see <https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/resources-and-services/counseling-and-wellness> for more information. For more information about Title IX, please see <https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/resources-and-services/title-ix>.

IMPORTANT STUDENT RESOURCES

1. [The Mason Library](#) and [IGC Library](#)

As members of GMU community, you have full access to the library resources available online. You can also seek help with your research by contacting subject librarians. “Ask the Librarian” button on the library front page is a useful tool to explore. The library website is a gateway to a treasure trove of resources and tutorials, which I will encourage you to explore and exploit throughout the semester.

I also recommend you visit the IGC library at your earliest convenience and frequent it throughout the semester. I have ordered many resources (including DVDs of Korean films) relevant for our course and I expect they will continue to arrive. The library also offers a beautiful space for study. Please visit and explore.

2. [University Writing Center](#)

Even though you cannot visit the writing center on the main campus, you will want to frequent the Writing Center’s excellent website and take advantage of its wonderful collection of resources. In addition, you can sign up for an online tutoring service.

3. [Tutoring Services at GMU-Korea](#)

Writing tutoring is available at [the Academic Resources Center](#) located on the 6th floor. I expect submissions of your major assignments largely free from grammatical and stylistic errors. Sign-up for sessions and take advantage of this useful resource.

4. [GMU-Korea Counseling Service Center](#)

The Counseling Center provides comprehensive support services that promote the personal, social, and academic success of GMUK students. The Center is located in Multi-Complex Building 3052 (near the IGC Health Center). To reach them, you can visit the center, email wellness@gmu.edu, or call (032) 626-6142.

5. **Students with Disability**

Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you are seeking accommodations for this class, please first visit <https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/resources-and-services/disability-services> for detailed information about the Disability Services registration process. Then please discuss your approved accommodations with me.

IMPORTANT DATES

Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class.

Enrollment adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the [GMU Korea Academic Calendar](#). See the site for the most updated and accurate information.

- Last Day to Add Classes: Monday, August 29
- Last Day to Drop Classes (with 100% tuition refund): Monday, September 5
- Last Day to Drop Classes (with 50% tuition refund): Monday, September 12
- Unrestricted Withdrawal Period: Tuesday, September 13 – Friday, September 30
- Selective Withdrawal Period: Saturday, October 1 – Friday, October 28

CLASS SCHEDULE

Please see the separate class schedule documents for weekly learning activities, classwork assignments, and due dates.