North-South Korean Relations
(MTuWTh 9:00-10:40)

Cheon Seongwhun           Korea Institute for National Unification (KINU)
Office:                    North Korean Studies Division
Phone: 02-901-2571; 010-4768-5140
Fax: 02-901-2547
Email: swc339@kinu.or.kr
Assistant: ***
Phone: ***
Email: ***

A. Course Description

This course is an introduction to the contemporary bilateral relations between the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) or North Korea and the Republic of Korea (ROK) or South Korea. It covers many issues on North & South Korea, the bilateral relations and regional security issues, with an intention to increase understanding of the current situations and future prospects on the Korean peninsula.

The course begins with an overview of today’s North Korea, focusing on leadership change, recent military provocations, and possibilities of contingencies. Next, it explains Korea’s independence struggle, and the courses of division and the Korean War. Then, the course examines three periods when unification fever were aroused in Korea: in the early 1970s, 1990s, and 2000s, respectively. At each period, the course will cover major policies, agreements, initiatives, and other important issues in the contemporary North-South Korean relations. Finally, it covers the present and future inter-Korean relations focusing on the North Korean nuclear crisis, human rights, and illicit activities.

B. Course Requirements and Grading

Exams: Students will take in-class and closed-book midterm and final exams. The midterm exam will be on Monday, July 16, and the final exam will be on Wednesday, August 8.

Group Paper & Presentation: Beginning on Monday, July 24, four class sessions will be organized around student presentations on selected topics related to inter-Korean relations. Students will be organized into eight groups. Each group will choose its presentation subject out of suggested topics and do research for their presentation. Each class will have two presentations. Each presentation will be about 25 minutes long, plus a 20-minute Q & A session.

Prepare and bring a MS PowerPoint file (.ppt) for your presentation and written report...
of minimum 8 pages (single space). For a chosen subject, comprehensive research on backgrounds and identification of major issues (10), attentive analyses on the subject such as achievements, limitations, motivating factors, etc. (10), and critical lessons learned and thoughtful suggestions for the future (10) will be highly recognized. The written report must have footnotes whenever necessary and the references at the end. Both files of the MS Powerpoint and MS word written report must be sent to the instructor by an email.

**Class Attendance:** Class attendance will be formally recorded and incorporated into your final grade. Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class. In case of medical and other emergencies, make sure to notify the instructor in advance and submit relevant documents later.

**Grading:**

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Paper &amp; Presentation</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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**Cheating and plagiarism** are taken very seriously and are grounds for failure in this course. To plagiarize is to use another’s words as your own, without proper attribution given to the original author. If requested, students in this course must provide computer copies of their papers for examination by plagiarism detection software. Keep electronic copies (and backups) of all course work.

**C. Required Readings:**


**A Course Packet**


*United Nations General Assembly Resolution 112: A/RES/112(II)*
United Nations General Assembly Resolution 195: A/RES/195(III)

Resolutions Adopted on the Reports of the Ad Hoc Political Committee:
A/RES/293(IV)

Acheson (1950), Excerpts from Acheson’s Speech to the National Press Club, January 12, 1950.

UNSCR Resolution 82 (1950) of 25 June 1950 [S/1501]
UNSCR Resolution 83 (1950) of 27 June 1950 [S1511]
UNSCR Resolution 84 (1950) of 7 July 1950 [S1588]
UNSCR Resolution 85 (1950) of 31 July 1950 [S/1657]

UNGA Resolution of 7 October 1950 [A/RES/376(V)]


*Documentation on North-South Korean Relations*

D. Recommended Reading:


E. Class and Reading Schedule

Class schedule and contents are subject to change at the instructor’s discretion.

**Theme I**

**North Korea: Now and Future**

7/3(Tu)  **Death of Kim Jong-Il and Leadership Change in North Korea**

* Natural Death of Kim Jong-Il  
* 3rd Generation Power Succession  
* Secrets of the Kim Family

**Required Reading:**

* *Economist* (2011)

7/4(W)  **North Korea’s Military Provocation in 2010**

* Introduction of Individual Aims and Motivations Attending the Class  
* The Cheonan Corvette Sinking  
* The Yeonpyong Island (YP do) Shelling

**Required Reading:**

* Cheon Seongwhun (2010)

7/5(Th)  **Overview of Northeast Asia and Contingencies in North Korea**

* Presentation Team Grouping  
* Overview of Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia  
* Contingency Scenarios

**Required Reading:**

* Cordesman and Hammond (2011)  
* Michael Mazza (2012)

**Theme II**

**Liberation, Division, and War**

7/9(M)  **Brief History of Korea and Independence Struggle**
* More than 4,000 years of Korean History
* Japanese Imperialism and Korean Resistance
* The Three Leaders: Kim Il-Sung, Rhee Syngman, and Kim Gu

**Required Reading:**
* Oberdorfer (1997), pp. 1-8

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**7/10(Tu) Division and the Dawn of War**

* The World War II and Korean Division
* Political Upheavals in North and South Korea
* UN General Assembly Position on Korea

**Required Reading:**
* Oberdorfer (1997), pp. 1-8
* UN General Assembly Resolutions (1947, 1948, 1949)
* Acheson (1950)

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**7/11(W) War and Cease-Fire**

* The Korean War
* The United Nations Reaction to the War
* The Armistice System

**Required Reading:**
* Oberdorfer (1997), pp. 8-11
* UN Security Council & General Assembly Resolutions (1950)

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**Theme III First Wave of Unification Fever**

**7/12(Th) Inter-Korean Relations in the 1970s and 1980s**

* Emergence of General Park Chung-Hee (4.19, 5.16)
* President Park’s Government’s North Korea Policy
* The July 4th Joint Communiqué
* Nixon Doctrine and Carter Withdrawal
* Chun Doo-Hwan Government’s North Korea Policy

**Required Reading:**
* Oberdorfer (1997), pp. 11-160
* Documentation on North-South Korean Relations

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**7/16(M) MIDTERM EXAM**

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**Theme IV Second Wave of Unification Fever**

**7/17(Tu) President Rho Tae-Woo’s North Korea Policy**

* Dissolution of the Communist Bloc and German Unification
* The Last Military Government’s Nordpolitik & North Policy
* Korean National Community Unification Formula (KNCUF)
* North-South High-Level Talks
* The Basic Agreement of 1992

**Required Reading:**
* Oberdorfer(1997), pp. 161-178
* Documentation on North-South Korean Relations.

**Recommended Reading:**
President Kim Young-Sam’s North Korea Policy
* The First Civilian Government’s North Korea Policy
* National Community Unification Formula (NCUF)
* Inter-Korean Dialogues and Death of Kim Il-Sung

**Required Reading:**
* Ministry of Unification (1996)
* *Documentation on North-South Korean Relations*

**Recommended Reading:**

North Korean Nuclear Problem
* Nuclear Weapons and Testing
* Joint Declaration on Denuclearization
* North Korea’s Withdrawal from the NPT
* The Geneva Agreed Framework and the KEDO

**Required Reading:**
* *Documentation on North-South Korean Relations.*
* Cheon Seongwhun (2011a)

**Recommended Reading:**

**Theme V**
Third Wave of Unification Fever

Inter-Korean Relations under President Kim Dae-Jung
* First Liberal Government’s North Korea Policy
* Unification Formula: Official versus Personal
* Economic Cooperation
* The First Summit in 2000 and 6.15 Joint Declaration
* President Roh Moo-Hyun and the Second Summit in 2007

**Required Reading:**
* *Documentation on North-South Korean Relations.*

**Recommended Reading:**

Presentation #1

South-South Conflict in South Korean Society
* Pro-Alliance versus Anti-Alliance
* Pro-NK Regime versus Pro-NK People
* Quarrel Surrounding 6.15 Joint Declaration
* Dispute Surrounding 10.4 Joint Declaration

**Required Reading:**
* Cheon Seongwhun (2007)

Presentation #2
Theme VI
Inter-Korean Relations: Present and Future

7/30(M)  Lee Myung-Bak Government’s North Korea Policy
* Return to the Conservative Government
* Denuclearization/Openness/3,000 Formula
* Policy of Mutual Benefits and Common Prosperity
* North Korea’s Severe Opposition
Required Reading:
* Cheon Seongwhun (2008)
* Joint Vision (2009)

7/31(Tu)  Presentation #3

8/1(W)  North Korean Nuclear Crisis
* Extended Deterrence and Nuclear Umbrella
* North Korea’s Nuclear Weapon Capabilities
* North Korea’s Proliferation Activities
* South Korea’s Threat Perception
Required Reading:
* Cheon Seongwhun (2011a).
* Cheon Seongwhun (2011b).

8/2(Tu)  Presentation #4

8/6(M)  North Korea’s Human Right Situations
* Chronic Famine, Deforest, Natural Disaster
* Defectors and Refugees
Required Reading:
* KINU (2009)
* Ministry of Unification (2009)

8/7(Tu)  North Korea’s Illicit Activities and International Response
* Drug Smuggling, Counterfeiting,
* Weapons Export and Proliferation
* UNSC 1540, 1695, 1718, 1874, PSI, CSI
Required Reading:
* Paul Bernstein (2009)
* Bill Powell and Adam Zagorin (2007)

8/8(W)  FINAL EXAM

8/9(Th)  Course Warp-up
* Discussions on Final Exam
* Q & A on Korean Peninsula Issues

F. Presentation Topics


2. Leadership succession in North Korea and its impacts on the inter-Korean
relations.


4. The future of US-China relations and possible repercussions on the Korean peninsula?

5. “Responsibility to People” (R2P) and its application to Libya and North Korea

6. Building military confidence building between the two Koreas: research on the past and recommendations for the future

7. Seoul Nuclear Security Summit in 2012: its achievements and limitations

8. Other subjects relevant to the course