

Course Syllabus

ANTH 3323 East Asia in Motion

V 1.0 -- SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Course Meetings: MWF, 3-3:50pm

Dedman Life Sciences 132

Professor: Nicolas Sternsdorff-Cisterna

Office: Heroy Hall 453

Email: nsternsdorff@smu.edu

Office hours: Mondays 1-3pm, or by appointment (subject to change)

Course description & goals

This course covers contemporary themes in the anthropology of East Asia, including topics such as family, intimacy, economic transformation, popular culture and the body. The sections are united by two overarching themes: The first is a consideration of change in East Asia. We will ask how cultures change, and the role globalization, economic development and political systems play in that process. The second is to set the anthropology of East Asia in conversation with larger themes that span the discipline of anthropology. Rather than seeing the region as a stand-alone unit, we will investigate its connections within and to other regions of the world. By the end of the course, students will be familiar with key concepts in the anthropology of the region, develop critical reading and research skills, critically evaluate the literature about East Asia, and gain an understanding of processes of cultural formation and transformation.

SLOs

Pillar Individuals, Institutions & Cultures (Level 2) (UC 2012)

- 1) Students will be able to analyze different theoretical or interpretive perspectives in the study of individuals, institutions, and cultures that shape economic, political and social experiences.
- 2) Students will be able to evaluate critically the research outcomes, theory, and/or theoretical applications in the study of individuals, institutions, and cultures that shape economic, political and social experiences.

Global Engagement

Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the material culture, underlying values, beliefs, or practices that are central to the culture(s) being visited or studied.

Human Diversity

Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the historical, cultural, social, or political conditions of identity formation and function in human society, including the ways in which these conditions influence individual or group status, treatment, or accomplishments.

UC2016: Depth/History, Social, & Behavioral Sciences

B1a. Students will analyze and evaluate critically research outcomes and different theoretical or interpretive perspectives in the study of individuals, institutions, and cultures that shape economic, political and social experiences.

Required texts

- Yano, Christine. *Pink Globalization* Duke University Press
- Hathaway, *Environmental Winds*. California University Press
- Kendall, Laurel. *Shamans, Nostalgias, and the IMF: South Korean Popular Religion in Motion*.
- Demick, Barbara. *Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea*.

The books have been ordered through the SMU Bookstore. If the SMU Bookstore is unable to make texts available in a timely manner, it is the student's responsibility to obtain the required texts (search for online merchants or other local bookstores—should be no problem to find these books either new or second-hand). Additionally, three of the texts have been placed in the reserves of the Fondren Library and the other one is available as an e-book through the SMU library. Students should have no problem accessing the texts and no excuses will be admitted. If you run into trouble accessing the books, speak to me.

Course Format

The course will consist of a combination of lectures and discussions. On occasion, films will be shown.

Requirements

Critical essays: 45%

Map Quiz: 5%

Participation: 15%

Research Essay: 35%

Critical analysis essays (3x15%). Write a 3-4 page, double-spaced essay on the questions listed below. These are not research essays, so while you may incorporate appropriate material that is not covered by this class, your primary focus should be a close analysis of the texts we have read. These essays are not meant to be a summary of the readings; they should advance an argument about the material and provide a critical reading of the issues at hand. If in doubt, consult with the professor.

1) Due September 18, 3pm.

Families, relationships and people are held together by bonds of intimacy, affection and emotion. At the same time, there are other forces—political, economic, etc.—that may also play a role in how relationships and boundaries emerge between people. Based on the readings done thus far on the course, provide a critical analysis of how relationships and intimacy are created, maintained or altered. You must include at least three readings in your discussion.

2) Due October 18, 3pm.

Globalizing forces have had a profound, if uneven, impact on the countries of East Asia. The movement of people, goods, finance and ideas has transformed the region into a hub of activity. Give a critical reading of how globalizing forces have unfolded and their effects, either in terms of people and/or ideas in the region. You must utilize either “Ghetto at the center of the world” or “Environmental winds” in addition to at least two other readings, one of which can be the other book.

3) Due November 20, 3pm.

East Asian countries have become exporters and trendsetters of popular culture and media. Based on the readings provided, give a critical analysis of the processes that underlie the growth and spread of these cultural products. You must include at least three readings, one of which must be “Pink Globalization.”

Map Quiz (5%) —to be done in class on August 28.

Research paper (35%). Pick a topic of your interest that touches on the themes of the course and write a research paper about it. The topic is open, but you must run your topic by me before embarking on substantive research. We will talk during class about the research paper, grading criteria, and strategies to narrow a topic to a manageable size. A one-page research proposal is due on October 3. The proposal is not graded, but late submissions will be penalized and points taken off the final paper. Approximately 10-12 pages in length excluding the bibliography, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman, one-inch margins.

Proposal: Due October 4, 3pm.

Final Paper: Due December 11, 5pm.

Participation (15%). Students are expected to attend and come prepared for class meetings to discuss the readings. This course depends on the active participation of students and instructor in making it a fruitful experience. Class participation grades will be based on the frequency, pertinence, creativity, and clarity of contributions in class. Comments must reflect critical thinking and engage the course material; comments that are general or personal in nature will not contribute significantly toward your participation grade. Active participation is volunteered participation through discussion of assigned material. Students who have great difficulty speaking out in class are encouraged to come up with other ways to meet this requirement (e.g., creating handouts, puzzles, posters relevant to the discussion) – these must be discussed with the professor and approved for credit.

Students will be asked to present once over the course of the semester about something that they find interesting about the region. This is a short presentation -- no more than five minutes -- and it can be on anything that is related to the goals of the course. It could be recent news, a cultural phenomenon, a certain object/item, etc. Be thoughtful in what you would like to share with the class, and what others would be interested in learning about.

Turning in assignments

The map quiz will be done in class.

Critical essays, research paper proposal and research paper must be submitted via Canvas. **No papers via email!** Canvas is the only accepted form of submission and I will not grade papers that are submitted in a different way. If a student is submitting after the deadline, it is the student’s responsibility to follow up their submission with an email to notify me.

Please include your name on each written assignment. Make-up quizzes and extensions on deadlines are offered only to students with written documentation (i.e., by healthcare provider,

parent, funeral director, Resident Advisor) of a debilitating illness, extenuating circumstances or death in the family.

Back-Up Copies: It is the student's responsibility to maintain (1) a backup copy and (2) a printout of the Properties page which shows the production date and size of any document. In the event of lost documents, the student can produce these to avoid late penalties.

Missed Class/Assignments

Absences are only excused for a debilitating illness or death in the family, religious holidays, and sanctioned university functions. Notify the professor *before* you are absent. Written documentation (i.e., by healthcare provider, parent, funeral director, Resident Advisor) must be presented to the professor upon your return in order to make up any missed work. Missed assignments or tests receive a 0 (zero), *not* an F or 50%. I do not give out copies of lectures notes. Students should obtain the notes of one or more classmates and can sign up for office hours to consult with the professor.

Late Assignments

Assignments are due in Canvas by the times listed above. Assignments submitted late will be graded down by three percent for each day (24-hour period) that they are late. Thus, assignments submitted 15 minutes after the deadline will be graded down by three percent. Emailed assignments are not acceptable.

Absences

Attendance and participation are important. Absences, excused or unexcused, do not excuse students from submitting assignments on time. Students should review notes, handouts, and assignment instructions from a classmate or the professor for days missed, as you will be held responsible for this material. Absences for holiday air travel, oversleeping, etc. will not be excused.

Dedman College Attendance Policy: If you have more than three unexcused absences in a MWF section or two in a TTH section, your grade will suffer a penalty of up to a full letter grade. And if you have more than six unexcused MWF absences or four in a TTH class, you should expect to fail the course.

Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism, cheating, inappropriate consultation of peers or their work, any other form of academic misconduct, and failing to report evidence of others' misconduct are all Honor Code violations. Penalties are outlined in the Honor Code and may include anything from a zero for the assignment to dismissal from school. Students are expected to prepare work independently, cite any work (quotes or ideas) that is not their own, submit original work (i.e., not already submitted for any other class), and to neither give nor receive assistance in examinations. If you are uncertain about whether an activity or piece of work compromises your academic integrity, you should speak to the professor before turning it in.

Computers and Cell Phones

Computers may be used in class for note-taking only. Conducting any other business on your computer or phone is rude, distracting, and reason for expulsion from the room. Furthermore, internet use is not only distracting to you but also to those around you. I reserve the right to ban laptop/tablet/phone use for everyone if this policy is not being followed. It goes without saying that cellphones should be silenced during class time.

Canvas

Course documents, announcements, and other materials will be posted on the Canvas page for this course. Please consult that page regularly and inform me of any problems you encounter.

Disability Accommodations: Students needing academic accommodations for a disability must first register with Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies (DASS). Students can call 214-768-1470 or visit <http://www.smu.edu/Provost/ALEC/DASS> to begin the process. Once registered, students should then schedule an appointment with the professor as early in the semester as possible, present a DASS Accommodation Letter, and make appropriate arrangements. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and require advance notice to implement.

Religious Observance

Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence. (See University Policy No. 1.9.)

Excused Absences for University Extracurricular Activities

Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity should be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination or other missed assignment for making up the work. (University Undergraduate Catalogue)

Campus carry law

“In accordance with Texas Senate Bill 11, also known as the “campus carry” law, following consultation with entire University community SMU determined to remain a weapons-free campus. Specifically, SMU prohibits possession of weapons (either openly or in a concealed manner) on campus. For more information, please see: http://www.smu.edu/BusinessFinance/Police/Weapons_Policy

Course Schedule

Week 1

Aug 21

Introductory lecture to the course

Note: the readings below are meant as a reference and resource for you throughout the semester.

They are a good place where to find materials for your research paper and will give you an idea of the kinds of topics that have been discussed in the anthropology of East Asia.

OPTIONAL

Kelly, William. 1991. Directions in the Anthropology of Contemporary Japan. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 29: 395-431. *New Directions in the Anthropology of Japan*

Pieke, Frank. 2014. Anthropology, China, and the Chinese Century. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 43: 123-138

Aug 23

Alexy, Allison. 2011. Intimate Dependence and its Risks in Neoliberal Japan. *Anthropological Quarterly* 84 (4): 895-917.

Aug 25

Park, Seo Young. 2012. Stitching the Fabric of Family: Time, Work, and Intimacy in Seoul's Tongdaemun Market. *Journal of Korean Studies* 17 (2): 383-406.

Week 2

Aug 28—Map Quiz

Yan, Yunxiang. 2003. *Private Life under Socialism: Love, Intimacy, and Family Change in a Chinese Village, 1949-1999*. Stanford University Press. Chapter 2-3.

Aug 30

Film Screening: *The Great Happiness Space*.

No reading

Sep 1

Takeyama, Akiko. 2010. Intimacy for sale: Masculinity, Entrepreneurship, and Commodity Self in Japan's neoliberal situation. *Japanese Studies* 30(2):231-246

Week 3

Sep 4 — Labor day, no classes

Sep 6

Allison, Anne. 1991. Japanese mothers and obentōs: The lunch-box as ideological state apparatus. *Anthropological Quarterly* 64 (4): 195-208.

Sep 8

Film Screening: *First Person Plural*

Kim, Eleana. 2007. Our Adoptee, Our Alien: Transnational Adoptees as Specters of Foreignness and Family in South Korea. *Anthropological Quarterly* 80(2)497-531

Week 4

Sep 11

Watson, James L. Emigration and the Chinese lineage: The Mans in Hong Kong and London. University of California press. 1-53

Sep 13

Faier, Lieba. 2007. Filipina migrants in rural Japan and their professions of love. *American Ethnologist* 34(1)148-162

Optional (but recommended)

Kim, Minjeong. 2014. South Korean Rural Husbands, Compensatory Masculinity, and International Marriage. *Journal of Korean Studies* 19(2)291-325

Sep 15

Louie, Andrea. 2000. Re-territorializing transnationalism: Chinese Americans and the Chinese motherland. *American Ethnologist* 27(3)645-669.

Optional

Ong, Aihwa. Flexible citizenship among Chinese cosmopolitans.

Week 5

Sep 18 — PAPER DUE

Mathews, Gordon. 2007. Chungking mansions: A center of 'low-end globalization'. *Ethnology* 46 (2): 169-183

Sep 20

Bach, Jonathan. 2010. They come in peasants and leave citizens: Urban villages and the making of Shenzhen, China. *American Ethnologist* 25(3)421-458

Sep 22

Kwon, June. 2015. The work of waiting: Love and money in Korean Chinese transnational migration. *Cultural Anthropology* 30 (3): 477-500

Week 6

Sep 25

Watson, James (ed). 2006. Golden Arches East: McDonald's in East Asia. Stanford University Press. Read chapter on Hong Kong.

Sep 27

Lii, Ding-Tzann. 2017. The cultural politics of food: Rice as an anti-globalization project. *Gastronomica: The Journal of Critical Food Studies* 17 (3): 24-35

Optional

Han, Kyung-Koo. "The "Kimchi Wars" in Globalizing East Asia: Consuming Class, Gender, Health, and National Identity." In *Consuming Korean Tradition in Early and Late Modernity: Commodification, Tourism, and Performance*. Edited by Laura Kendall. University of Hawai'i Press, 2011

Sep 29

de St. Maurice, Greg. 2017. Kyoto cuisine gone global. *Gastronomica: The Journal of Critical Food Studies* 17 (3): 36-48

Week 7

Oct 2

Hathaway, Michael. *Environmental Winds*. Intro - Ch. 1

Oct 4 -- Paper proposal due

No reading

Oct 6

Hathaway, Michael. *Environmental Winds* Ch. 2-3

Week 8

Oct 9 — Columbus day, no classes

Oct 11

Hathaway, Michael. *Environmental Winds*. Ch. 4 - Conclusion

Oct 13

Adrian, Bonnie. 2003. Framing the Bride: Globalizing Beauty and Romance in Taiwan's Bridal Industry. University of California Press. Read Introduction.

Optional

Read Chapter 1 of Framing the Bride.

Week 9

Oct 16

Kendall, Laurel. *Shamans, Nostalgias, and the IMF*. Read Intro, Ch 1-2

Oct 18 -- Paper due

No Reading

Oct 20

Kendall, Laurel. *Shamans, Nostalgias, and the IMF*. Read Ch 3-4.

Week 10

Oct 23

Kendall, Laurel. *Shamans, Nostalgias, and the IMF*. Read Ch 5-7

Oct 25

No reading

Oct 27

Nakamura, Karen. 2013. *A Disability of the Soul: An Ethnography of Schizophrenia and Mental Illness in Contemporary Japan*. Cornell University Press. Read Introduction. "Rika's story" is optional.

Week 11**Oct 30**

Yano, Christine. *Pink Globalization*. Introduction and chapter 1

Optional

Iwabuchi, Koichi. 2002. "Soft" Nationalism and Narcissism: Japanese Popular Culture goes Global. *Asian Studies Review* 26(4):447

Nov 1

No reading

Nov 3

Yano, Christine. *Pink Globalization*. Chapters 2-4

Week 12**Nov 6**

Yano, Christine. *Pink Globalization*. Chapters 5-7

Nov 8

Lee, Sangjoon. 2015. A decade of Hallyu scholarship: Toward a new direction in Hallyu 2.0. In *Perspectives On Contemporary Korea : Hallyu 2.0 : The Korean Wave in the Age of Social Media*, edited by Sangjoon Lee and Abé Markus Nornes. University of Michigan Press. Pages 1-16

Optional

Shin, Hyunjoon. 2009. Have you seen the Rain? And who'll stop the Rain?: The globalizing project of Korean pop (K-pop). *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* 10 (4): 507-523.

Nov 10

Allison, Anne. 2003. Portable monsters and commodity cuteness: Pokemon as Japan's New Global Power. *Postcolonial Studies* 6(3):381.

Week 13**Nov 13**

Pham T, Minh-Ha. 2015. *Asians wear clothes on the Internet: Race, Gender, and the Work of Personal Style Blogging*. Durham and London: Duke University Press. "Introduction"

Nov 15

Condry, Ian. 2009. Anime creativity: Characters and Premises in the Quest for Cool Japan. *Theory, culture & society* 26(2-3)139-163

Optional

Galbraith, Patrick. 2013. Maid cafes: The affect of fictional characters in Akihabara, Japan. *Asian Anthropology* 1:22

Nov 17

Warning: This reading discusses explicit materials and sexuality.

Allison, Anne. 2000. Public Veilings and Public Surveillance: Obscenity Laws and Obscene Fantasies in Japan. *In Permitted and Prohibited Desires: Mothers, Comics and Censorship in Japan*.

Week 14

Nov 20—PAPER DUE

No reading (start reading *Nothing to Envy*)

Nov 22

No Classes, University Holiday. Begin reading *Nothing to Envy*

Nov 24 — Thanksgiving holiday, no classes

Week 15

Nov 27

Dermic, Barbara. 2009. *Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea*. Random House. Chapters 1-10

Nov 29

Dermic, Barbara. 2009. *Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea*. Random House. Chapters 11-20

Optional

Kim, Eleana. "Toward An Anthropology of Landmines: Rogue Infrastructure and Military Waste in the Korean DMZ." *Cult. Anthropol.* 31, no. 2 (2016)

Dec 1 -- no class (American Anthropological Conference). Work on your papers.

Week 16

Dec 4

TBD

Paper due Dec 11