

## **Contested Terrain: Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Korean Culture**

**AP/KOR 4200**

### **Course Description**

This course examines how social, political, and cultural changes intersect with gender and sexuality in contemporary Korean society. It explores modern gendered identity among practices of sexuality, marriage, family, parenthood, labour, consumption, media, and movement. Over the last five decades, Korea has undergone a rapid societal and cultural change. The course investigates the impact of such development on the life of men and women in Korea, as well as on the formation of femininity and masculinity in various sectors. In addition, discourses and representations of gendered body images and cultural practices will be used to understand important structures of power that have dominated South Korea, such as capitalism, militarism, imperialism, urbanization, sexism, and patriarchy. Through readings, lectures and in-class discussions, the course provides an opportunity to explore differences in the articulation of gender between Korea and Canada. In addition, students will form insights into the situation of women and/or marginalized population in contemporary Korea, extending it to understanding the dynamics of gender in the contemporary world.

### **\*Course Format and Organization**

This course is conducted in the blended format, in which some classes are conducted on campus in-person, while the remaining classes are held online. Students are expected to attend the in-person classes scheduled for lectures and other in-class activities. When the course is scheduled to be held online, they are required to submit assignments and participate in activities on the eClass website by the due dates. Each class will consist of group presentations on the readings with discussions, followed by lectures and in-class discussions.

### **Language of Instruction**

English

### **\*Course Evaluation**

Assessment	Weight %
Weekly Response to Discussion Questions	20
Group Presentation	20
Midterm Essay (media portrayal of gendered identity)	20
Interview Report (with a Korean community member)	20
Final Response Paper	20
	100%

### **Required Course Materials**

There is no required textbook for this course because all reading materials are posted to the eClass course webpage.

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\* The ratio of online and in-person meetings and evaluation criteria can be changed depending on the academic year and/or the instructor.