

**HIS 290: Modern Korea History / HIS300 Modern History of Korea (Since 1945)**

**Spring Term 2009: Mon. & Wed. 14:00-15:15**

**Instructor: C. Kenneth Quinones, Ph.D.**

**Office: C-9**

**Office Hours: Tuesday 13:00-14:00**

**15:30-16:15:30-16:45**

**Wed. 10:30-11:45**

**Telephone: 5941**

**Email: [ckquinones@aiu.ac.jp](mailto:ckquinones@aiu.ac.jp)**

**1. Course Goals**

The course has three primary goals:

- improve ability to use the English language to acquire new information;
- develop critical thinking by learning how to assess the importance and validity of information; and
- use their English skills and newly acquired information to define and defend a personal point of view on controversial issues in Korean history.

**2. Course Description**

The Korean Peninsula is the political and geographical center of Northeast Asia. Historically it has served as the cultural bridge between China and Japan. Since the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the peninsula has been the setting for numerous wars: the 1894-5 Sino-Japanese War, 1904-05 Russo-Japanese War, the 1950-53 Korean War and the Cold War. Today, peace and stability in Northeast Asia hinges on the situation on the Korean Peninsula. Korea's division into two rival states and North Korea's continuing pursuit of a nuclear arsenal sustain the possibility of another Korean War.

This introductory course will outline the key developments and trends on the Korean Peninsula since 1945 until 2000. Particular attention will be paid to the origins of Korea's division, the Korean War, its consequences and the formation of South and North Korea as rival states. Also, South Korea's emergence as a prominent player in the world economy and North Korea's development of a nuclear weapons capability will receive particular attention.

**3. Classroom Activities**

Basic information will be provided during lectures, but students will be expected to engage frequently in discussions and debates, and to demonstrate their knowledge of the course materials in quizzes.

**Prior Academic Preparation**

None

**4. Evaluation**

Written Quizzes 90%: There will be three short written examinations to test students' ability to identify important persons and dates in Korean history. Students will be provided a list of key terms and dates to study. Students will be graded according to

ACCC: Accuracy of information, Clarity of written and verbal English, Conciseness and Comprehensiveness of each answer.

Class Participation 10%: Students are to attend all classes and to engage in asking questions and expressing their views on controversial issues.

### **Course Materials**

All reading materials will be on reserve in the library. Selected materials will be distributed in class.

## **5. Class Schedule and Reading Assignments**

### **Week 1 - Course Introduction**

#### **Week 2 - Japan's Colonization of Korea**

- A. Traditional Korea 1876-1910
- B. Colonial Korea 1910-1945

#### **Week 3 - Korea Divided – 1945-1950**

- A. From Cairo to Yalta
- B. Super Power Rivalry on the Peninsula
- C. ROK vs. DPRK

#### **Week 4 – Korean War – Setting the Stage - 1949-50**

- A. Soviet Priorities – New China's Rise
- B. US Indecision and Withdrawal
- C. ROK Suppression of Communism

#### **Week 5 – Korean War – Limited vs Global War**

- A. North Korea's Invasion of the South – June – September 1950
- B. United Nation Intervention – September – November 1950
- C. People's Republic of China Intervention – Nov. 1950 – Feb. 1951
- D. Stalemate

#### **Week 6 –**

- Review**
- Quiz #1**

#### **Week 7 – Korean War's Consequences**

- A. The Korean War Armistice
- B. Korea's Lose and Japan's Gain
- C. Containment and Confrontation – 1953-1990

### **Week 8 – Rival Regimes**

- A. Kim Il Sung's DPRK
- B. Syngman Rhee's ROK  
Anti-Japan, anti-communism, anti-Americanism
- C. Post War Reconstruction
  - a. USSR-DPRK Alliance
  - b. PRC-DPRK Alliance
  - c. US-ROK Alliance
  - d. *Chosen soren*

### **Week 9 –**

- A. Review
- B. **Quiz #2**

### **Week 10 - Park Chung Hee Era**

- A. Student Revolution – April 19, 1960
  - Chang Myon – Democracy's Failure
  - Military Coup – 1961 and Park Chung Hee

### **Week 11 - Park's Economic Strategy**

- A. Raising Capital
  - Relations with Japan
  - ROK troops to Vietnam
- B. Command Economy
  - Economic Planning Board
  - 5 year economic plan
  - Chaebol
- C. Infrastructure and Heavy Industry
  - Seoul-Pusan Expressway
  - Roads and Railroads
  - Steel, ships and cars

### **Week 12 - The Shift to Engagement**

- A. US Withdrawal from Southeast Asia
  - North Korean Hostility – 1968
  - US troop withdrawal from Korea
- B. US-PRC Normalization
  - North-South Talks
  - Park's Nuclear Ambitions
- C. *Yushin Constitution* and Rise of Political Opposition – 1971-75
  - Kim Dae-jung
  - Kim Yong-sam
  - Mrs. Park's Assassination

### **Week 13 – Park Era’s Traumatic End**

- A. US-ROK Friction – 1976-79
  - Park’s Nuclear Program
  - President Carter’s Human Rights Policy
  - Park’s Assassination – 1979
- B. Rise of Chun Doo-hwan and
- C. Kwangju Chun’s Authoritarian Regime and Economic Success

### **Week 14 – Democratization**

- A. Roh Dae-woo and the Three Kims
- B. *Nordpolitik* and the 1988 Olympiad
- C. National Reconciliation or Nuclear Arsenal

### **Week 15 –**

#### **Review**

#### **Final Quiz #3**

#### **Biography:**

Dr. Quinones currently is the Dean of Research and Professor of Global Studies at AIU. He received his Ph.D. in History and East Asian Languages from Harvard University in 1975. His areas of study were: Modern Japan, early modern China and Korea, plus he studied classical Chinese, modern Chinese, Japanese and Korean. From 1974-1980 he was an assistant professor of East Asian History (Japan and China) at St. Michael’s College (Vermont), Tufts University (Boston) and Trinity College (Hartford, CT.). In 1980, President Reagan appointed him a Foreign Service Officer in the US diplomatic corps. He was the first US diplomat to visit North Korea, and the first to serve in both South and North Korea. He also served at the US Embassy in Japan and helped negotiate an international agreement regarding refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. In 1997 he retired with 22 years of US government service.

Before coming to AIU in April 2006, he worked at think tanks in Washington DC (U.S. Institute of Peace and the International Center), with the Asia Foundation in South Korea and the humanitarian organization Mercy Corps. Between 2001 and 2005 he wrote three books which were published in Japan, South Korea and the United States.

His publications can be viewed on his web site at: [www.ckquinones.com](http://www.ckquinones.com).