

# KOREAN MIGRATION IN THE WEST

Dr Jihye Kim (University of Central Lancashire)

## I. COURSE AIM AND DESCRIPTION

This course examines the experiences of Koreans living in the Western Hemisphere, mainly the Korean communities in North and South America, Europe and Oceania. The course starts out with a review of the socio-historical backgrounds of Korean migration then to focus on (a) Korean migration in the US; (b) Korean migration in Argentina and Brazil; (c) Korean adoptees across Europe and Korean migration in Germany, Spain and the UK; and (d) Korean education migration to English speaking countries (US, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand).

Associated with the theoretical concepts of international migrations and diasporas, the course analyses these Korean communities from a comparative perspective, within the broader themes of their migration history; settlement patterns, modes of adaptation and integration into the host society; identity changes; transnational lifestyles; and relationship with their host societies and ethnic homelands; as well as international adoption of South Korean children. By exploring the historical, cultural, social, and political aspects of Korean migrants in the Western Hemisphere, the course aims to enhance students' understanding of the cultural and social transformations undergone by these Korean communities and the communities' connections with Korea and the West.

The specific topics to be explored in this course are: (1) theoretical understanding of international migrations and diasporas; (2) historical, social, economic, political, and cultural backgrounds of Korean migrations to the West; (3) their cultural, social, and economic adaptations and integration into host societies; (4) relationship between diasporic communities and their ethnic homelands; (5) recent trends in international migrations, including education migrations, international marriage migrations and ethnic return migrations; and (6) the sending societies' perspectives and policies toward their migrants overseas.

## II. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### 1. Class Discussion on the Assigned Articles: 30%

Students are required to actively engage in class discussions based on articles assigned for reading before each class. During discussions, students should identify the key arguments and ideas in each article and the authors' research methodologies and explain the main theoretical concepts, in ways that show what they have learned from the article and how the reading has helped them understand Korean diasporas. At the end of each session, the lecturer will check attendance and give grades on class discussions.

### 2. Course Reflection Essay: 70%

Students will be expected to reflect on what they have learned through this course, such as key concepts, theories, methodologies and write a reflection essay of 1,500-word essay (+/-100 words, excluding footnotes and references). The essay should be constructive and connected to lectures, class readings, and discussions. Plagiarised essays will not be given any marking points. The list of references should be included at the end of the essay.

- Students should submit their essays as WORD files via email ([JKim22@uclan.ac.uk](mailto:JKim22@uclan.ac.uk)) by 15 July 2022, 5:00 p.m. (CET). Printed copies will not be read. The essay must be submitted on or before the date and time stipulated. 20% from the total grade will be deducted for the late essay submission.
- Word limit: 1,500 words (+/- 10%). This means that your report will be no less than 1,350 words and no more than 1,650 words. Note that the word limit must be strictly adhered to. The word limit excludes the cover page and the reference list but will include in-text citation.
- Students will use Harvard Referencing.

- All files must be labelled in the following manner: Student ID, surname, given name, Korean migration essay (e.g. G2777333, González, Elena, Korean migration essay)
- Please provide a Cover Page where you list the following details and be mindful that the cover page will be marked too.
  - The title of your essay
  - Your name and student ID
  - Date of submission
  - Word count

\* Course Reflection Essay – Marking Guide

Student Name:

Student ID:

Below is the marking guide that will be used for the assignment.

1. Theories and Concepts
  - a) Draws on a range of relevant concepts, theories and literature
  - b) Integrates concepts, theories, literature into reflections
  - c) Acknowledges related literature appropriately
2. Case Studies, Examples and Methodology
  - a) Draws on a range of case studies and case studies
  - b) Integrates case studies and examples into reflections
  - c) Acknowledges related literature appropriately
3. Insights and Ideas
  - a) Identifies the key aspects or learning from the lectures, class discussions and literature
  - b) Integrates relevant insights resulting from the key aspects or learning
  - c) Summarises and synthesises insights and ideas

### III. CLASS SCHEDULE

#### **Session 1 (Monday 27 June 2022)**

Topics:

- Introduction to the course
- International migration theories
- Brief history of Korean migration
- Korean migration in the US

Readings:

- Yoon, In-Jin. "Migration and the Korean diaspora: A comparative description of five cases." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 38.3 (2012): 413-435.
- Koo, Sunhee, and Jihye Kim. "Introduction to the Special Section Unsettling Korean Migration: Multiple Trajectories and Experiences." *Korean Studies* 45.45 (2021): 1-8.
- Min, Pyong Gap, ed. "Korean Americans." *Asian Americans: Contemporary trends and issues*. Pine Forge Press, (2006).

#### **Session 2 (Tuesday 28 June 2022)**

Topics:

- Korean migration in Argentina and Brazil

Readings:

- Kim, Jihye. "Ethnicity, opportunity, and upward mobility: Korean entrepreneurship in the Argentine garment industry 1965–2015." *Asian Ethnicity* 21.3 (2020): 373-392.
- Kim, Jihye. "The Alienation of Second-generation Korean Brazilians from Ethnic Churches in São Paulo." *Seoul Journal of Korean Studies* 33.2 (2020): 519-543.

### **Session 3 (Wednesday 29 June 2022)**

#### Topics:

- Korean adoptees in Europe
- Korean migration in Germany, Spain and the UK

#### Readings:

- Hübinette, Tobias. "The adopted Koreans of Sweden and the Korean adoption issue." *Review of Korean Studies* 6.1 (2003): 251-266.
- Ahn, Yonson. "Samaritans from the East: Emotion and Korean Nurses in Germany." *Korean Studies* 45.45 (2021): 9-35.
- Kim, Young Jeong. "The gendered desire to become cosmopolitan: South Korean women's motivations for migration to the UK." *Women's Studies International Forum*. 33.5 (2010): 433-442.

### **Session 4 (Thursday 30 June 2022)**

#### Topics:

- North Korean migration in the UK
- Korean education migration to English speaking countries (US, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand)

#### Readings:

- Song, Jay Jiyoung, and Markus Bell. "North Korean secondary asylum in the UK." *Migration Studies* 7.2 (2019): 160-179.
- Koo, Hagen, and Yean-Ju Lee. "Wild geese fathers' and a globalised family strategy for education in Korea." *International Development Planning Review* 28.4 (2006): 533-553.
- Moon, Seonghye. "Expectation and reality: Korean sojourner families in the UK." *Language and education* 25.2 (2011): 163-176.