Modernization and the Transformation of Korean Society

Fall, 2019

Graduate School of International Studies
Seoul National University

Instructor: Prof. Ki-Soo Eun
Office: Building 140-1, Room 611
Email: modernizationsnu@gmail.com
Phone: 880-9220
Assistant: ISSAYEVA ZHANSULU (Room 620)

Grading:

1. Final Project: 50%
2. Presentation and Participation: 50%

Individual Project (Original research) by December 20:

A research on any topic of Korean modernization; A comparative research between Korea and any other country (your home country?) you choose is also fine;

15-20 pages in double space including tables, figures and reference, font 12.

Schedule:

Week 1 (9/3) Introduction

Week 2 (9/10) What is modernization?(Inglehart); Tradition vs. Modern


Week 3 (9/17) Theory of Korea’s Socioeconomic Success


**Week 4 (9/24) Korea’s Earlier Socioeconomic Success**


**Week 5 (10/1) Economic Performance of “The Rest”**


**Week 6 (10/8) Democratization in the 1980s and Afterwards (Kim)**


**Week 7 (10/15) Compressed Modernity**

Guest Lecturer: Professor Kyung-Sup Chang (Sociology Department, SNU)


**Week 8 (10/22) Economic Crisis in 1997 and Afterwards**


**Week 9 (10/29) Women’s Life Course Changes in Korea and Japan**

Guest lecturer: Sasano Misae (PhD Candidate, Sociology Department, SNU)

How do Japanese women’s life courses have in common with Korean women, and how are they different? We will read two papers that attempt to explain Japan’s demographic, family and women’s life course changes from different perspectives. Emiko Ochiai is looking for an explanation of East Asian demographic and family changes, focusing on the timing and speed of modernization based on the demographic transition theory. On the other hand, Toru Suzuki, a demographer, tries to explain from the viewpoint of cultural theory (explained by Confucianism and Feudalism), the appearance of the family before modernization. Comparing two perspectives, we will think comprehensively about the family and women’s life course changes in Korea and Japan.

  Chapter 3, *Low Fertility from a Comparative Perspective.* pp. 20-34

**Week 10 (11/5) Traditional Population vs. Modern Population: Lowest-Low Fertility and Aging in Korea**

**Why is Korea’s fertility so low?**


**Week 11 (11/12) Traditional Family vs. Modern Family**


**Week 12 (11/19) Traditional Gender vs. Modern Gender**


**Week 13 (11/26) Traditional Gender Preference for Children vs. Modern Gender Preference for Children**


**Week 14 (12/3) Traditional Values vs. Modern Values**


*Eun, Ki-Soo. 2013. ““Asian Family Values” in East Asian Societies: A Comparative Study” *Journal of Intimate and Public Spheres* 2(1): 105-125. (Kyoto University, Japan).

**Week 15 (12/10) Korean Wave: K-Pop, K-Food… Korean Uniqueness?**