

Korea-Southeast Asia Relations (M2052.000400)

SNU GSIS, Spring 2024

Tuesday 2:00-5:00 p.m.
Building 140-1, Room 102

Instructor: Oh, Yoon Ah (yoonah.oh@snu.ac.kr)
Office Hours: Monday 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm
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Course Description

This seminar provides an intensive study of contemporary South Korea-Southeast Asia relations in economic, security, and cultural domains. In doing so, it pays great attention to how general theories of international relations, political economy, and development studies can be fruitfully applied to the study of the interactions between South Korea and Southeast Asia. Equally importantly, this course is also designed to equip students with abilities to work seriously with both qualitative and quantitative data while informed by historical understanding of these relationships. Students will be asked to gather, describe, and analyze data to gain insights on Korea-Southeast Asia relations.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

1	Class attendance and general participation	10 %
2	Weekly response discussion	20 %
3	Conference observation report	20 %
4	Research Paper	40 %
5	Mini-Conference performance (as a moderator and a discussant)	10 %

1. Attendance and general participation: Students are expected to do the readings before they come to class and engage discussions.

2. Weekly response group: Students will discuss the readings in a small group. Detailed instructions will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

3. Conference observation report: Students will observe a conference panel online and submit a report. Detailed instructions will be provided.

4. Research paper: Students will write a research paper on the topics related to Korea-Southeast Asia. Detailed instructions will be provided. At the end of the semester, students will present their research at a “mini-conference.”

5. Mini-Conference performance: Students will also perform the role of a moderator and a discussant for fellow students. Detailed instructions will be provided.

Course Reading

The majority of course readings will be made available through eTL.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious offense and will not be treated lightly. It will result in lowered or failing grades as well as the possibility of more serious punishments.

Use of Electronic Devices for In-person Classes

You may use electronic devices in class to take notes, consult readings or find information. Any other use of electronic devices is prohibited. Violating this policy will negatively impact your participation grade.

Recording Policy

Video and/or audio recording of any course activity is **prohibited** as a general rule. Students with approved accommodations from the Center for Students with Disabilities permitting the recording of class meetings must present the accommodation letter to the instructor in advance of any recording being done.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Event	Submission (due at 2 pm)
1	5-Mar		
2	12-Mar		
3	19-Mar		
4	26-Mar		
5	2-Apr		
6	9-Apr		
7	16-Apr		Paper topic
8	23-Apr		
9	30-Apr	Conference Week	
10	7-May		Conference observation report*
11	14-May		
12	21-May		
13	28-May		Research paper for the conference
14	4-Jun	Mini-conference	
15	11-Jun	Mini-conference	
	18-Jun		Research paper final version

*Submit all assignments online through eTL except for the conference observation report.

Week 1: Course Overview and Historical Background

Readings Not Required

* Recommended:

- Youn, Dae-Yeong. "The Loss of Vietnam: Korean Views of Vietnam In the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries." *Journal of Vietnamese Studies* 9, no. 1 (2014): 62-95.
- Polo, Lily Ann. "Philippine Involvement in the Korean War: A Footnote to RP-US Relations." *Asia Studies* 20, no. 1 (1982): 83-92.
- Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs of the Republic of Korea. *The External Partnership: Thailand and Korea: A History of the Participation of the Thai Forces in the Korean War*, 2010, Chapter 5.
- Kim, Se Jin. 1970 "South Korea's Involvement in Vietnam and Its Economic and Political Impact." *Asian Survey* 10(6): 519-532.
- Kim, Byung-Kook and Ezra F. Vogel. 2011. *The Park Chung Hee Era: The Transformation of South Korea*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Chapters 14. The Vietnam War: South Korea's Search for National Security.
- Steinberg, David I. 1984. "Burma in 1983: The Dilemmas of Neutralism and Succession." *Asian Survey* 24(2): 195-200.

Week 2: A Framework for Analyzing Korean Policy toward Southeast Asia

Snyder, Scott A. 2018. *South Korea at the Crossroads: Autonomy and Alliance in an Era of Rival Powers*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press. Chapter 1.

* Recommend:

- O'Neil, Andrew. 2015. "South Korea as a Middle Power: Global Ambitions and Looming Challenge." in Bradford, Colin I., Brendan M. Howe, Jill Kosch O'Donnell, Andrew O'Neil, and Scott Snyder. eds. *Middle-Power Korea: Contributions to the Global Agenda*. Council on Foreign Relations. (You can download the chapter from <https://www.cfr.org/report/middle-power-korea>)
- Easley, Leif-Eric, and Kyuri Park. 2018. "South Korea's Mismatched Diplomacy in Asia: Middle Power Identity, Interests, and Foreign Policy." *International Politics* 55(2): 242-263.
- Lee, Sook-Jong. 2012. "South Korea as New Middle Power Seeking Complex Diplomacy." EAI Asia Security Initiative Working Paper 25, no. 3.
- Kim, Sung-Mi. 2016. *South Korea's Middle-Power Diplomacy: Changes and Challenges*. London: Chatham House.

Week 3: South Korea's Relations with Southeast Asia up to 2010

Lecture Notes

Steinberg, David I. 2010. *Korea's Changing Roles in Southeast Asia: Expanding Influence and Relations*. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. Chapters 1, 3 and 4

* Recommend:

- Kim, Hyung Jong. 2016. "Korea-ASEAN Dialogue Partnership and ASEAN Norms: An Analysis of Diplomatic History in the Early 1980s" *The Southeast Asian Review*. 26(4): 39-76. (In Korean)

Week 4: South Korea's Southeast Asia Policy

Lecture Notes

Oh, Yoon Ah. 2020. "Korea's New Southern Policy: Progress, Problems and Prospects," *Asia Pacific Bulletin*, East-West Center, No. 513, July 16.

Oh, Yoon Ah. 2023. "Change or Continuity? Seoul's Approach to Southeast Asia under the New Southern Policy" *Korea Observer* 54(1): 103-126.

* Recommended:

Choe, Wongi. 2021. "New Southern Policy": Korea's Newfound Ambition in Search of Strategic Autonomy. *Asie. Visions* No. 118, IFRI, January.

Nicolas, Françoise. 2021. "The Economic Pillar of Korea's New Southern Policy." Center for Asian Studies, Notes de l'Ifri, *Asie. Visions* No. 120, IFRI, February.

Week 5: SE Asia's Reception of Korea's SE Asia policy

Pitsuan, Surin. 2010. "Perspectives on Korea's Role in ASEAN" in Steinberg, David I. ed. *Korea's Changing Roles in Southeast Asia: Expanding Influence and Relations*. Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. Chapter 2

Ha, Hoang Thi and Glenn Ong. 2020. *Assessing the ROK's New Southern Policy towards ASEAN*. ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute Perspective, no. 7. https://www.iseas.edu.sg/wp-content/uploads/pdfs/ISEAS_Perspective_2020_7.pdf

* Recommended:

Nilsson-Wright, John and Yu Jie. 2021. *South Korean Foreign Policy Innovation amid Sino-US Rivalry: Strategic Partnerships and Managed Ambiguity*. Chatham House.

Wong, Steven C.M. 2020. "Are the Economics of the New Southern Policy More Aspirational than Real?" In *The New Southern Policy: Catalyst for Deepening ASEAN-ROK Cooperation*, ed. Hoo Chiew Ping. Kuala Lumpur: Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia, 59-73.

Teo, Sarah, Bhuhindar Singh, and See Seng Tan. 2016. "Southeast Asian Perspectives on South Korea's Middle Power Engagement Initiatives." *Asian Survey* 56(3): 555-580.

Week 6: A Comparative View: China and Japan in Southeast Asia

Pressello, Andrea. 2014. "The Fukuda Doctrine and Japan's Role in Shaping Post-Vietnam War Southeast Asia." *Japanese Studies* 34(1): 37-59.

Emmerson, Donald K. 2020. "The Deer and the Dragon: Asymmetry versus Autonomy." In *The Deer and the Dragon: Southeast Asia and China in the 21st Century*, edited by Donald K. Emmerson Shorestein Asia-Pacific Research Center/ ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.

* Recommended:

Shiraishi, Takashi, and Takaaki Kojima. 2013. *ASEAN-Japan Relations*. Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. Chapters 2 and Skim Chapter 11, and 12

Chin, Gregory, and Richard Stubbs. 2011. "China, Regional Institution-Building and the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area." *Review of International Political Economy* 18(3): 277-298.

Smith, Stephen N. 2021. "Harmonizing the Periphery: China's Neighborhood Strategy under Xi Jinping." *The Pacific Review* 34(1): 56-84.

Chen, Ping-Kuei. 2020. "Taiwan's 'People-Centered' New Southbound Policy and Its Impact on US-Taiwan Relations." *The Pacific Review* 33(5): 813-841.

Oh, Yoon Ah. 2023. "Types of Geoeconomic Power and Competition over Myanmar Before and During the Reform

Era of the 2010s.” *The Journal of Asian and African Studies*. Online First.

Week 7: Korea-Southeast Asia Trade

Lecture Notes

* Recommended:

Kim, Kyunghoon. 2023 “Towards sustainable and resilient ASEAN-Korea economic integration 2.0.” *Asia and the Global Economy* 3(2): 100061.

Kim, Jong-Kil. 2010. “Korea’s Economic Relations with Southeast Asia” in Steinberg, David I. ed. *Korea’s Changing Roles in Southeast Asia: Expanding Influence and Relations*. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

Statistical data from IMF DOTS, ASEANstats and KITA

Week 8: Foreign Direct Investment in Korea-Southeast Asia Relations I

Lecture Notes

ASEAN Secretariat. *ASEAN Investment Report: 2016 Foreign Direct Investment and MSME linkages*, (Jakarta, Indonesia, 2016) Chapter 2 “Korean FDI and MNEs in ASEAN” https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/unctad_asean_air2016d1.pdf

* Recommended:

Lee, Keun. 1994. “Structural Adjustment and Outward Direct Foreign Investment.” *Seoul Journal of Economics* 7(2): 179-211.

Lindblad, J. Thomas. 2000. “Korean Investment in Indonesia: Survey and Appraisal.” *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies* 36(1): 167-184.

Statistical data from ASEANstats, UNCTAD, and Korea Exim Bank

Week 9: Conference Week

Students will observe a conference panel online and submit a report. Detailed instructions will be provided.

Week 10: Foreign Direct Investment in Korea-Southeast Asia Relations II

Conference observation report due at class time

Tong, Yee-Siong, Ari Kokko, Adnan Seric. 2019. *Linking FDI And Local Firms for Global Value Chain Upgrading: Policy Lessons from Samsung Mobile Phone Production in Viet Nam*. UNIDO Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development Working Paper Series WP 5. <https://www.unido.org/api/opentext/documents/download/15784588/unido-file-15784588>

Week 11: Development Cooperation in Korea-Southeast Asia Relations

Lecture Notes

*Recommended:

Kang, Sung Jin, Hongshik Lee, and Bokyeong Park. 2011. "Does Korea Follow Japan in Foreign Aid? Relationships between Aid and Foreign Investment." *Japan and the World Economy*. 23(1):19-27.

Statistical data from OECD, the Korea Economic Development Cooperation Fund, and the Korea International Cooperation Agency

Week 12: Korea-Southeast Asia Security Cooperation

Lecture Notes

Bae, Ki-Hyun. 2020. "Divergent Ideas, Distant Friendship: Assessing Korea's 30 Years of Political-Security Diplomacy with ASEAN" *Korea Observer* 51(4): 523-550.

Steinberg, David I. 2010. *Korea's Changing Roles in Southeast Asia: Expanding Influence and Relations*. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. [Chapter 4](#)

*Recommended:

Lee Jaehyon. 2016. "South Korea and the South China Sea: A Domestic and International Balancing Act." *Asia Policy* 21(1): 36-40.

Gaad, Adam. 2021. "Why South Korea Fell Behind Japan in Southeast Asia." *The Diplomat*. December 1, <https://thediplomat.com/2021/12/why-south-korea-fell-behind-japan-in-southeast-asia/>

Bae, Ki-Hyun. 2021. "Regional Security Order Transition and the ROK's Order Management: Critique and Suggestions." *Korean Journal of Defense Analysis* 33:4, 557-577.

Week 13: People-to-People Exchanges and Public Perceptions in Korea-Southeast Asia Relations

Lecture Notes

Statistical data from Statistics Korea, ASEANstats, and World Bank

* Recommended:

Yang, Dean. 2009. *International Migration and Human Development*. UNDP Human Development Research Paper 2009/29.

Raymer, James, Qing Guan, and Jasmine Trang Ha. 2019. "Overcoming Data Limitations to Obtain Migration Flows for ASEAN Countries." *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal* 28(4): 385-414.

Miralao, Virginia A. 2007. "Understanding the Korean Diaspora to the Philippines." In *Exploring Transnational Communities in the Philippines*. eds. Virginia A. Miralao and Lorna P. Makil. Philippine Migration Research Network (PMRN) and Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC). pp. 24-39.

Hahm, Sung Deuk, and Soho Song. 2021. "The Impact of the Korean Wave on South Korea-Taiwan Relations: The Importance of Soft Power." *Asian Survey* 61(2): 217-240.

The ASEAN-Korea Centre. 2023. *2022 Survey on Mutual Perceptions of ASEAN and Korean Youth*.

Week 14: Student Presentations I (Mini-conference)

Week 15: Student Presentations II (Mini-conference)

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