

Korean Culture and Society through Films

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Goal:

- To generate interests in Korean Language program.
- To help the students better understand *self and them*.

Distribution Requirement: (Rice University)

- “Broad based, accessible to nonmajors, and representative of the knowledge, intellectual skills, and habits of thought that are most characteristic of a discipline or of inquiry across disciplines.”

The students will develop:

- A critical eye for the cultural points in the movies
- Ability to compare and contrast between the old and the new, intra-Asia, and the East and the West.
- A skill to read the subtle symbolic manifestations in various forms for better interpretation and understanding.

Demography :

- 19 female, 19 male students (38)
- 12 non-Asian, 26 Asian-heritage (8 Korean-heritage)

Format: 19 Movies, lecture in English

- Participation (Discussion)
- Term papers
- Team project

LANGUAGE
Korean

TITLE
Friend

TYPE
Quiz

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Friend

Section Instructions: Listen to the dialog carefully.

Friend (0 point) [Edit](#) [Delete](#)

Instructions

Listen to the dialog carefully. Why do you think he mentioned about the anniversary of his father's death? Think in terms of the cultural implication.



Friend

ED 1

LANGUAGE	TITLE	TYPE
Korean	Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, and Spring Again	Quiz

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SSAW e d

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SSAW

Section Instructions: Please explain the differences between the two scenes.

SSAW (0 point) [Edit](#) [Delete](#)

Instructions Compare the two scenes and explain how different they are and provide your interpretation.



Sitting on the statue

ED 1



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Division of Korea

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Author	Message
ChristineHwong Joined: 17 Jan 2007 Posts: 3	<p>Posted: Mon Feb 12, 2007 2:52 pm Post subject:</p> <p>I think this movie is a good representation of not only the Korean War, but wars in general. Wars, initially, seem to be started for just causes but then after awhile the focus is lost. The Taeguikgi does a good job of portraying war as not a "good" side fighting a "bad" side, rather the realities of it. The movie focuses on the lives of friends and families that are separated to fight for something they might or might not even believe in.</p> <p>quote edit IP</p> <p>Back to top profile pm email</p>
GeunSeok Joined: 17 Jan 2007 Posts: 2	<p>Posted: Mon Feb 12, 2007 3:02 pm Post subject: taeguki</p> <p>The movie <i>Taegukgi</i>, depicts the people who fought during the Korean War but tries to show a somewhat detached view of the war itself. Not only the civilians but also the soldiers do not seem to have a clear idea of different political beliefs of the North and South but try to draw a line in between so it'll be easier for them to figure out who they are supposed to kill and not to. However as we follow one of the main character, Jintae, who at first fights for the South then takes the North side but changes his mind as soon as he finds out that his brother is alive, it seems impossible to determine ally and foe. My grandfather who lost his leg during the Korean War and had to have my grandmother look after him all his life, used to tell me the only way he could keep on shooting was by considering the North Koreans as Par-geng-i(A red, literally translated, meaning communist in a negative way) but not as same Koreans who shared the same blood lineage.</p> <p>quote edit IP</p> <p>Back to top profile pm email</p>
ThienHoang Joined: 17 Jan 2007 Posts: 9	<p>Posted: Mon Feb 12, 2007 3:36 pm Post subject:</p> <p>One point of the story that really jumped out at me was the scene when the "Anti Communist Federation" flatly executed those suspected of being communists. In the beginning when Young-Shin signed up on some list for barley, she did not even know what she was signing up for. Furthermore, this was before the war even broke out. You have to wonder whether there were really Communist spies in the group or if they were innocent and just fighting to live.</p> <p>quote edit IP</p>

Survey Result:

End of the semester

1. This course was a good way to learn about the Korean culture and society. (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		31.2%	10
4		25%	8
3		37.5%	12
2		3.1%	1
1		3.1%	1
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

2. I now understand myself/themselves better with this course (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		21.9%	7
4		21.9%	7
3		28.1%	9
2		15.6%	5
1		12.5%	4
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

3. This course helped me with not only learning about the Korean culture but also expanding my world view/perspectives in terms of understanding Asian culture

3. This course helped me with not only learning about the Korean culture but also expanding my world view/perspectives in terms of understanding Asian culture in general. (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		25%	8
4		25%	8
3		34.4%	11
2		9.4%	3
1		6.2%	2
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

4. Considering that the movies were the 'text' for this course, the number of the movies was adequate for the course. (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		50%	16
4		18.8%	6
3		18.8%	6
2		9.4%	3
1		3.1%	1
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

5. The number of the movies to watch were one too many for a semester. (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		28.1%	9
4		34.4%	11
3		15.6%	5
2		6.2%	2
1		15.6%	5
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

6. The volume of the supplementary reading material was enough to support my understanding of the movies. (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		15.6%	5
4		18.8%	6
3		34.4%	11
2		28.1%	9
1		3.1%	1
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

(skipped this question) 0

7. There was an occasion (s) that I wished we had more time for discussion. (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		15.6%	5
4		21.9%	7
3		31.2%	10
2		28.1%	9
1		3.1%	1
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

8. If the class was smaller, the discussion could have been more in depth. (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		25%	8
4		25%	8
3		15.6%	5
2		21.9%	7
1		12.5%	4
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

9. The process of doing the project was helpful to understand the movie better, and ultimately the Korean culture. (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		46.9%	15
4		25%	8
3		25%	8
2		3.1%	1
1		0%	0
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

10. The short writing assignment for each movie was helpful for the general goal of this course. (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		18.8%	6
4		25%	8
3		31.2%	10
2		15.6%	5
1		9.4%	3
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

(skipped this question)

11. Learning about the Korean culture and society inspired me to learn Korean language. (5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		9.4%	3
4		21.9%	7
3		28.1%	9
2		28.1%	9
1		12.5%	4
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0

12. Learning about the culture and the society inspired me to want to go to Korea, if given an opportunity.(5- Strongly agree, 1-strongly disagree)

		Response Percent	Response Total
5		31.2%	10
4		34.4%	11
3		15.6%	5
2		9.4%	3
1		9.4%	3
Total Respondents			32
(skipped this question)			0