1. **Course Description**

   This course provides an overview of the history of the Korean Church from the time of its conception in early days of Protestant missions until today, spanning about 140 years. It highlights various challenges the young church faced during this tumultuous time, including the eclipse of old Korea (Joseon Dynasty), the rise of nationalism, the Great Revival (1904-7), Japanese imperialism and Shinto-crisis, divided nation and the Korean war, post-war industrialization and democratization, theological liberalism and schisms, church growth movement, Korean-diaspora and missionary expansion, etc. The course should stimulate both academic and ministerial interests in the study of the Korean Church as a remarkable 20th century phenomenon in the world Christianity.

2. **Learning Objectives**

   1) To build a working knowledge of the history of the Korean Church.
   2) To engage in critical discussions of the themes central to understanding the Korean Church.
   3) To discover insights for ministering effectively in Korean and/or Korean-American Church.

3. **Method of the Course**

   1) Classes will be conducted by lectures and class discussions.
   2) Each student is expected to complete the required reading for each day and bring a reading note (either type-written or hand-written) to each class as a tool for class discussion. The completion of the reading assignments will be self-reported along with the research paper submitted for grading purpose.
   3) Each student will be assigned to a discussion group and is required to engage in active discussion and reporting to the whole class.
   4) Each student is required to submit a research paper (minimum 15 pages in length, 12-pt font and double-spaced) on a topic of choice approved by the instructor.
5) Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6) RTS Grading Scale:

- **A** (97~100%) 4.00 (Grade Point)
- **A-** (94~96) 3.66
- **B+** (91~93) 3.33
- **B** (88~90) 3.00
- **B-** (86~87) 2.66
- **C+** (83~85) 2.33
- **C** (80~82) 2.00
- **C-** (78~79) 1.66
- **D+** (75~77) 1.33
- **D** (72~74) 1.00
- **D-** (70~71) 0.66
- **F** (Below 70) 0.00

4. Course Schedule

**Day 1 (7/13)**

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE: KOREAN CHURCH

- **HISTORY AND HOW IT INFORMS KOREAN CHRISTIANITY**
  - Text: Michael Breen, *The Koreans: Who They Are, What They Want, Where Their Future Lies* (pp.3~71)

THE QUESTION OF HISTORIOGRAPHY OF KOREA:
**MINJOK, MINJUNG, AND A NATION**
  - References: (1) Andre Schmid, “Narrating the Ethnic Nation”; (2) Henry H. Em, “Minjok as a Modern and Democratic Construct: Sin Ch’aeho’s Historiography”

EARLY MISSIONS AND NATION BUILDING

NEVIUS METHOD AND ITS IMPLICATIONS
  - Text: Charles Allen Clark, *The Korean Church and the Nevius Methods* (pp.16~35)
  - Group Discussion 1: What role should a missionary play in the work of nation building and social reform?

**Day 2 (7/14)**

THE GREAT REVIVAL AND ITS MEANING
• Group Discussion 2: How do you assess the missionary’s role in the Korean struggle for national independence?

MARCH-1 MOVEMENT AND THE FAITH OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS OF MODERN KOREA
• Texts: (1) The First Korean Congress; (2) Jacqueline Pak, “Cradle of the Covenant: Ahn Changho and the Christian Roots of the Korean Constitution”
• Reference: Channing Liem, Philip Jaisohn.
• Group Discussion 3: What is the meaning of “Christian Democracy” as understood by the founding fathers of modern Korea?

KOREAN CHURCH UNDER JAPANESE COLONIALISM & SHINTO CRISIS
• Texts: (1) Yang-son Kim, “Compulsory Shinto Shrine Worship and Persecution”; (2) William Blair and Bruce Hunt, “The Sufferings of the Korean Church” in The Korean Pentecost and the Sufferings Which Followed (pp.83~129)

THE SHAPE OF EARLY PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGY IN KOREA
• Text: Harvie Conn, “Studies in the Theology of the Korean Presbyterian Church” Part I

Day 3 (7/15)

EARLY THEOLOGICAL CONTROVERSIES
• Text: Harvie Conn, “Studies in the Theology of the Korean Presbyterian Church” Part II~III

RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS AND CHURCH DIVISIONS
• Text: Harvie Conn, “Studies in the Theology of the Korean Presbyterian Church” Part IV
• Group Discussion 4: How would you assess the condition of the Reformed faith planted in Korean soil?

THE KOREAN WAR AND HOW IS SHAPED KOREAN EVANGELICALISM
• Texts: (1) Blair & Hunt (pp.130~159); (2) Mahn-yol Lee, “Korean Protestants and the Reunification Movement”

CHURCH GROWTH AND ITS SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- Texts: (1) Donald N. Clark, “Christianity in Modern Korea”; (2) Donald N. Clark, “History and Religion on Modern Korea: The Case of Protestant Christianity”
- Group Discussion 5: What contributed to the rapid expansion of the Korean Church in the late 20th century? What are some positives and negatives of this development?

COMMENTS ON SOME CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN KOREAN CHRISTIANITY: (1) THE POLITICS OF OPPRESSION AND MINJUNG THEOLOGY, (2) WOMEN’S ROLE IN THE CHURCH, AND (3) KOREAN DIASPORA & MISSION
5. **Bibliography (English Text Only)**

This bibliography, by no means, is a comprehensive list of English texts available on the topic of Korea and Korean Church. It contains books that I personally found useful and interesting. (* means texts required to acquire to be used in the class.)


