EALL 313
Reading and Translating Korean Poetry
Spring 2021

Instructor: David Krolikoski (dkroli@hawaii.edu)
Class Meetings: TR 9-10:15 am
Zoom Meeting ID: 925 5889 2938
Zoom Passcode: koreanlit
Office Hours: TR 2-3 pm (Zoom Meeting ID: 975 4289 8100, Zoom Passcode: koreanlit)

Course Description

This course is designed as an introduction to modern Korean poetry and translation for students with third-year level Korean abilities. During the semester, students will learn how to read and translate Korean poems into English. In the process, they will become familiar with a variety of major poems from the modern and contemporary periods in their original language, many composed in different forms that necessitate a specialized approach.

Students will also read a selection of critical writing about translation. In particular, these writings will help to consider the ethical dimensions of translation and the potential consequences of certain interpretive choices. The course will conclude with a translation project, in which students select a number of poems to translate and write a brief paper about their approach to the texts they have chosen.

KOR 313 is intended for students interested in deepening their knowledge of Korean literature, language, and translation. By studying poetry, students will expand their knowledge of Korea and become familiar with literary expressions and forms that constitute an important facet of its culture.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of the term, students will be able to:

1. Translate short literary texts from Korean to English.
3. Approach translation not merely as a technical exercise, but as a form of interpretation with potential ethical consequences.
4. Evaluate, critique, and defend translation choices in terms of linguistic, cultural, and ethical issues.
5. Identify and discuss major Korean poets and their work from the modern and contemporary periods.
**Course Materials**

All course materials will be distributed online through Laulima.

**Assignments**

Each week, students will be responsible for producing one translation of an assigned poem.

All translations are interpretations. The goal of these assignments is to push students beyond simply parsing the text on a technical level to additionally consider cultural and ethical issues. How might meaning be transformed in translation and what are the potential consequences of these changes? When it is not possible to preserve everything in translation, what elements will be sacrificed and why? Students should thoroughly consider these questions as they translate and be prepared to discuss their decisions during class meetings.

No makeup assignments will be provided.

**Midterm Project**

For the midterm, students are required to revise four translations that they previously completed for class assignments. In addition to revising these four poems, students will be asked to write a short translation statement for each one, outlining their process and explaining the changes they made from the first to second draft.

**Final Project**

Students will be responsible for creating a small translation chapbook as their final project. The chapbook will consist of five original translations, as well as an introduction and a separate statement for each poem that explains one’s translation process and creative choices.

A successful project will:

1. Contain five original translations, bereft of major errors, that demonstrate a thoughtful reading of the original texts.
2. Include a brief introduction that explains one’s choice of poems and provides any necessary background information needed to understand their content.
3. Include a translation statement for each poem that explains one’s process and the major interpretative choices made for each of the poems. These statements should address how the student has considered linguistic, cultural, and ethical issues in their translations.
Participation

KOR 313 is an online course. In order to participate, students must have:

1. A stable internet connection.
2. A device capable of running Zoom.
3. A functioning microphone and webcam.

Students are expected to devote their full attention to class proceedings. Points will be deducted from a student’s Participation Grade if they are unresponsive.

Attendance

Students are to arrive to class on time. Should a student have to miss class due to an illness or other official reason, the instructor must be contacted in advance of the class meeting in order to be excused. Exceptions will only be made in emergency circumstances.

Each absence will result in points being deducted from one’s Participation Grade. Five absences will result in a zero in this category. If a student misses eight or more class meetings, they will automatically fail the course.

Disability Policy

If a student has a disability that requires accommodation, they should inform the instructor as early as possible. Students may also contact the KOKUA Program, the UH Mānoa office for students with disabilities, at (808) 956-7511.

Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated and, at minimum, will result in a zero for the assignment in question. Please refer to the Systemwide Student Conduct Code for policies regarding plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty.

Late Policy

Assignments must be completed before the deadline. Work submitted after will be automatically dropped one letter grade. The letter grade will be further dropped once for every additional week the assignment is late. No late final projects will be accepted. Students with extenuating circumstances such as an unexpected illness may avoid late penalties if they provide substantial evidence of their condition to the instructor. In these cases, a new deadline will be provided.
**Grading**

Final grades will be calculated based on the following categories, according to the subsequent scale. **Students should periodically check their grades on Laulima, where they will be posted shortly after an assignment is submitted.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>30%</td>
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</tbody>
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A+ 100-98  
A- 97-93  
A- 92-90  
B+ 89-87  
B 86-83  
B- 82-80  
C+ 79-77  
C 76-73  
C- 72-70  
D+ 69-67  
D 66-65  
F Below 65

**Schedule**

Please note: schedule is subject to change.

**Week 1**

Reading:

Charse Yun – “How the Bestseller ‘The Vegetarian,’ Translated from Han Kang’s Original, Caused an Uproar in South Korea”  
노천명 – 사슴

**Week 2**

Reading:

Barnstone, Willis – An ABC of Translating Poetry  
김춘수 – 꽃
Week 3

Reading:
정호승 - 수련
정호승 - 고래를 위하여
정호승 - 달팽이

Week 4

Reading:
김선우 - 이런 이유
김선우 - 우리 말고 누가 이 밥그릇에 누웠을까
김선우 - 내 몸속에 잡든 이 누구신가

Week 5

Translation Workshop

Reading:
김기림 - 바다와 나비

Week 6

Reading:
Teddy, 선미, Joe Rhee, 24 - 가시나
무명 저자 - 가시리

Week 7

Reading:
황동규 - 잡보다는 길에서
황동규 - 조그만 사랑노래

Week 8

Reading:
강은교 - 우리가 물이 되어
강은교 - 우리의 적은

Week 9
Reading:
최승자 - 자화상
최승자 - 그리하여 어느 날, 사랑이여

Week 10

Spring break. No class.

Week 11
Reading:
김수영 - 눈
김수영 - 푸른 하늘을

Week 12
Reading:
윤동주 - 병원
윤동주 - 쉽게 썰어진 시

Week 13
Reading:
김소월 - 남에게
김소월 - 진달래꽃

Week 14
Reading:
한용운 - 알 수 없어요
한용운 - 나룻배와 행인
**Week 15**

Reading:
정지용 – 유리창 1
정지용 – 고향

**Week 16**

Student Presentations