

ASHI s26: North Korea
Short Term, 2012
Mr. Grafflin

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Class: Pettengill 162
M-Tu-W-Th-F 9:00—10:55 a.m.

Catalog description: AS/HS26. North Korea. In the age of globalization, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the most conspicuous exception to almost every generalization about contemporary nation-states. Aggressive and vulnerable, defiant and isolationist, it manages to induce governmental nightmares in all of its neighbors and the United States. The aim of the course is to see how the DPRK makes sense on its own terms. Enrollment limited to 30. Normally offered every year. D. Grafflin.

Readings:

Bruce Cumings, North Korea: Another Country (The New Press, pb ed., 2004)
ISBN-13: 9781565849402

Bradley K. Martin, Under the Loving Care of the Fatherly Leader: North Korea and the Kim Dynasty (St. Martin's, paperback 2nd ed., 2006)
ISBN-13: 9780312323226

Barbara Demick, Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea (Random House, paperback, 2010)
ISBN-13: 9780385523912

Adam Johnson, The Orphan Master's Son (Random House, hardcover, 2012)
ISBN-13: 9780812992793

Class Schedule

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
23 April C #1 Orientation Wikipedia: “North Korea”	24 C #2 Cumings, pp. viii-xiii & pp. 1—102 <i>“Lifting the Curtain”</i>	25 C #3 Cumings, pp. 103—154 <i>KCNA website</i>	26 C #4 Cumings, pp. 155—207 <i>“Pyongyang Diaries”</i>	27 April NO CLASS
30 April C #5 Martin, pp. 1—68 <i>“Inside North Korea”</i> <i>“Bridges at Toko-Ri”</i>	01 May C #6 Martin, pp. 69—119 <i>“This is Korea”</i>	02 C #7 Martin, pp. 120—185 <i>“A State of Mind”</i>	03 C #8 Martin, pp. 186-234 <i>in the Life” (only about 1/4th)</i>	04 May C #9 Martin, pp. 235-289 <i>“NK: A Day</i>
07 May C #10 Martin, pp. 290—356 <i>“Pulgasari” (extracts)</i>	08 C #11 Martin, pp. 357—401 <i>“Shiri” (Pt. I)</i> Thought paper (due Monday)	09 C #12 Martin, pp. 402—481 <i>“Shiri” (Pt. II)</i>	10 --- gone to Union College --- NO CLASS	11 May NO CLASS
14 May C #13 Martin, pp. 482—542 Part I,	15 C #14 Martin, pp. 543—591 <i>“J.S.A.” (Pt. I)</i>	16 C #15 Martin, pp. 592—655 <i>“J.S.A.” (Pt. II)</i>	17 C #16 Martin, pp. 656—712	18 May C #17 Johnson, pp. 3—4 & DPRKmap pp. 5-175
21 May C #18 Demick, pp. xi-xii & pp. 3—102 pp. 177-443	22 C #19 Demick, pp. 103—197 <i>“Brotherhood of War” (Pt. I)</i>	23 C #20 Demick, pp. 198—294 <i>“Brotherhood of War” (Pt. II)</i>	24 C #21 Johnson, Part II,	25 May NO CLASS

The Movies

Serious:

1. “National Geographic - Inside North Korea”
2. “A State of Mind”
3. “North Korea: A Day in the Life”

Period Pieces:

1. “Lifting the Curtain”
2. “Pyongyang Diaries”
3. “This is Korea”
4. “Bridges at Toko-Ri”
5. “Pulgasari”

Recreational:

descriptions from Wikipedia

Shiri (Hangul: 쉬리; *Swiri*) is a 1999 South Korean action film, written and directed by Kang Je-gyu.

Swiri was the first Hollywood-style big-budget blockbuster to be produced in the "new" Korean film industry (i.e. after Korea's major economic boom in late 1990s).^[1] Created as a deliberate homage to the "high-octane" action film made popular by Hollywood through 1980s, it also contained a story that draws on strong Korean national sentiment to fuel its drama.^[1] ... The movie was released under the name *Shiri* outside of South Korea; inside Korea, the title was spelled *Swiri*. The name refers to *Coreoleuciscus splendidus*, a fish found in Korean fresh-water streams. At one point Park has a monologue wherein he describes how the waters from both North and South Korea flow freely together, and how the fish can be found in either water without knowing which it belongs to.^[3] This ties into the film's ambitions to be the first major-release film to directly address the still-thorny issue of Korean reunification.^{[3][4]}

Joint Security Area (Korean: 공동경비구역 JSA) is a 2000 South Korean drama starring Lee Young Ae, Lee Byung-Hun and Song Kang-ho. It was directed by Park Chan-wook and won Best Film at the 2000 Blue Dragon Awards. The film, which was shot on location in South Korea, concerns an investigation into the circumstances surrounding a fatal shooting incident within the DMZ, the heavily fortified border that separates North and South Korea. Within two weeks of its release the film had taken in one million admissions. By early 2001 *Joint Security Area* had become the highest grossing film in Korean film history,^[1] until it was passed by *Friend*, *Silmido* and ***Taegukgi: The Brotherhood of War***. A DVD of the movie was presented to North Korea's leader Kim Jong-II by South Korea's President Roh Moo-Hyun during the Korean summit in October 2007.^[2] In 2009, director Quentin Tarantino named it one of his twenty favorite films since 1992.

Taegukgi Hwinallimyo (Hangul: 태극기 휘날리며) is a 2004 South Korean war film directed by Kang Je-gyu. It tells the story about the effect of the Korean War on two brothers. The film's title is the name of the pre-war Flag of People's Republic of Korea, Flag of Provisional People's Committee for North Korea as well as the postwar Flag of South Korea. It was released in the United Kingdom as *Brotherhood: Taegukgi* and the United States as ***Tae Guk Gi: The Brotherhood of War***. Kang Je-gyu made a name for himself directing ***Shiri*** and was able to attract top talent and capital to his new project, eventually spending US \$12.8 million on production. The film became one of the biggest successes in Korean film history up to that time, attracting 11.74 million people to the theatre, beating the previous record holder *Silmido*.