

## KOREAN LITERATURE

### Recommended:

- Chapters 3, 9 (section 2), 12 (section 2), 14 (section 3) and 18 (section 1) from Schirokauer, Conrad and Donald Clark's *Modern East Asia: A Brief History*. [Purchased book]

**Wednesday morning session: (1) Approaches to reading Korean literature  
(2) Korean literature from the Japanese colonial period (1910-1945)**

*In this lecture we discuss the ways in which Korean writers in the Japanese colonial period (1910-1945) make use of different strategies to contest Japanese rule. We read two texts from the mid-1920s associated with opposing literary camps, Yŏm Sang-sŏp's nationalist "The Rotary Press" and Yi Ki-yŏng's leftist "A Tale of Rats." We then consider colonialism in the 1930s, linking our discussion of Yi T'ae-jun's "An Idiot's Delight" to the emerging Japanese policy of assimilation.*

- YŎM Sang-sŏp, "The Rotary Press." In Kim Chong-un and Bruce Fulton eds. *A Ready-Made Life*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1998. p. 32-45. [R, 7]
- YI Ki-yŏng, "A Tale of Rats." In Kim Chong-un and Bruce Fulton eds. *A Ready-Made Life*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1998. p. 23-31. [R, 14]
- YI T'ae-jun, "An Idiot's Delight." In Kim Chong-un and Bruce Fulton eds. *A Ready-Made Life*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1998. p. 46-54. [R, 19]

**Wednesday afternoon session: South Korean literature in the postliberation period (1945-present)**

*This lecture focuses on major themes appearing in post-1945 South Korean literature. We discuss literary representations of the Korean War and national division in two short works by Hwang Sun-wŏn. We read Yi Mun-yŏl's *Our Twisted Hero* as an allegory exploring the psychology underlying authoritarianism in South Korea. Finally, we consider how Kim Min-suk and Ch'oe Yun work to reveal the ways in which the draconian anticommunism of successive military regimes has affected everyday life in South Korea.*

- HWANG Sun-wŏn, "Masks." In J. Martin Holman ed. *Shadows of a Sound*. San Francisco: Mercury House, 1990. p. 128-130. [R, 24]
- HWANG Sun-wŏn, "Cranes." In J. Martin Holman ed. *Shadows of a Sound*. San Francisco: Mercury House, 1990. p. 1-6. [R, 26]
- YI Mun-yŏl, *Our Twisted Hero*. Translated by Kevin O'Rourke. New York, NY: Hyperion, 2001. [R, 30]
- KIM Min-suk, "Scarlet Fingernails." In Bruce and Ju-chan Fulton eds. *Wayfarer*. Seattle: Women in Translation, 1997. p. 79-114. [R, 93]
- CH'OE Yun, "His Father's Keeper." In *Rainy Spell and Other Korean Stories*. USA: Korean National Commission for UNESCO, 1998. p. 248-270. [R, 112]