

## KOREAN LITERATURE

### ***(1) Approaches to reading Korean literature;***

### ***(2) Korean literature from the Chosŏn dynasty (1392–1910)***

We begin our Korean literature workshop by discussing general approaches to teaching Korean literature in the U.S. classroom. We also go over materials currently available for classroom use, reviewing a list of translations of literary works, internet resources, and films. We then begin a survey of pre-twentieth century Korean literature and focus on the vernacular forms of poetry and fiction. We will engage in a discussion of sijo, the three-line elastic form of vernacular poetry often expressing the worldview of the class of learned Confucian gentlemen; we will then spend the remainder of our time focusing on the representative fictional work of the dynastic era, “The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch’unhyang,” set during the reign of King Sukchong (1671–1720). Special attention will be given to the traditional relationship between poetry and prose, as well as the thematic overlaps found in the two forms, such as loyalty within the context of a given social hierarchy.

- Peter H. Lee. “Sijo.” *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 69–70. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- U T’ak, “The wind that melted the spring hills...” In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 71. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- YI Chonyŏn, “The moon is white on pear blossoms...” In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 72. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- YI Saek, “Rough clouds gather around the valley...” In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 73. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- CHŎNG Mongju, “Though this frame should die and die...” In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 74. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- YI Chono, “That clouds have no intent...” In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 75. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- KIL Chae, “I return on horseback...” In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 76. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.

- WŎN Ch'ŏnsŏk, "Fortune determines rise and fall..." In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 77. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- MAENG Sasŏng, "Four Seasons by the Rivers and Lakes" In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 78. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- HWANG Hŭi, "Are chestnuts falling..." In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 79. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- YI Kae, "The candle burns in the room..." In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 80. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- SŎNG Sammun, "Were you to ask me what I'd wish to be..." In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 81. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- YU Ŭngbu, "Do you say the wind blew last night..." In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 82. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- King Sŏngjong, "Stay..." In *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Korean Poetry*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 83. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.
- Anonymous. "The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch'un-hyang." In *Anthology of Korean Literature*, edited by Peter H. Lee, p. 257–284. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1981.

### ***Korean literature from the Japanese colonial period (1910–1945)***

In this lecture we discuss the different ways in which Korean colonial writers deal with the changing historical and sociopolitical situation during which they are writing. Examining two works of short fiction published in the mid-thirties, Yi Sang's "Wings" and Chu Yosŏp's "Momma and the Boarder," we relate the political predicament of colonialism with the rise of the theme of romantic love. We also discuss how the argument for individual choice found in the idea of freedom associated with romantic love lay in tension with the political realities of the time.

- YI Sang. "Wings," translated by Walter K. Lew and Youngju Ryu. In *Modern Korean Fiction: An Anthology*, edited by Bruce Fulton and Youngmin Kwon, p. 65–84. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005.

- CHU Yo-sop. "Momma and the Boarder." In *A Ready-Made Life: Early Masters of Modern Korean Fiction*, translated by Kim Chong-un and Bruce Fulton, p. 89–106. Honolulu: University of Hawaii, 1998.

### ***Korean literature in the postliberation period (1945–present)***

This lecture focuses on some recurring themes which appear in literature written after the war. With a close reading of "Winter Outing," we discuss literary representations of the Korean War and the subsequent national division. In this story, the reconstruction of a nation is told through the story of a family being reconstructed after the war. The trauma of war and the recovery from its ruins will be discussed in light of South Korea's growing prosperity and the increasing global awareness and belonging of its citizens.

- PAK Wanso. "Winter Outing." In *Land of Exile: Contemporary Korean Fiction*, translated and edited by Marshall R. Pihl, Bruce Fulton, and Ju-Chan Fulton, p. 150–164. Armonk: M. E. Sharpe, 1993.
- YI Mun-yol. *Our Twisted Hero*. Translated by Kevin O'Rourke. New York, NY: Hyperion, 2001. [In Required Korean Reading Supplements]
- KIM Yŏng-ha. "Whatever Happened to That Guy Stuck in the Elevator?" In *Photo Shop Murder*, translated by Jason Rhodes, p. 55–90. Seoul: Jimoondang, 2003. [In Required Korean Reading Supplements]