<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Subject Title</strong></th>
<th>Introduction to Korean Law: an overview from a legal historic perspective</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lecturer</strong></td>
<td>Marta Zimbardo</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Period</strong></td>
<td>4th (15:40 ~ 17:30)</td>
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<td><strong>Remarks</strong></td>
<td>Field Law</td>
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### Course Summary

**Synopsis & Purpose**

Korean Law, from its roots to the influences of continental legal traditions filtered through Japan, to the Anglo-American legal systems’ influence, has its own unique features which can be difficult to understand without reading legal materials in Korean, without a thorough knowledge of Korean history, and without a sound comprehension of comparative law. Hence the scope of this course is: to provide a basic overview of the Korean law and its history to non-law undergraduate students in plain English. The historical perspective is designed to give a more accessible approach to legal topics to non-law major students and a deeper understanding of the complexities of the system. The historical development of law, from before and during the Joseon Dynasty to current law, will be introduced through its distinct features, in order to provide a basic understanding regarding Korean Law and the legal system, focusing on constitutional law, the judicial system, civil law (with particular attention paid to family law), criminal law, with some mentions of civil and criminal procedures. The objective of this course is to provide comprehensive knowledge and tools to be eventually used by the students in the future in their Korea-related studies. As for this objective, Korean legal materials available to English speakers will be introduced in detail throughout the course.

### Required Textbooks

No textbooks are required. Reading materials will be distributed in class.

Reference books are all available in the HUFS library (only excerpts needed for the course) and are listed in alphabetical order of the authors:

- Seoul National University Law Research Institute, *Journal of Korean Law*.

### A manner of Lecturing

Besides the lectures, there will be discussions in class, which are important elements of the course. In order to do so, brief readings will be assigned to the students. Attendance and participation in class discussions will be considered as a part of the final evaluation.

As for the materials listed in this syllabus, only excerpts will be given as assignments. Simpler handouts will be provided during each class to facilitate understanding. The reference materials, however, will be essential in the preparation for the major requirements of the course: a final research paper on a legal topic of interest of the students.

Two days (8th and 15th days of the course) will be spent to review the materials previously studied and to answer all the eventual questions or doubts not yet resolved.
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<th>Evaluation (100%)</th>
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### Further Information

No prerequisite is required.
The final research paper should be approximately 7~10 pages, double-spaced lining, normal margins, Times 12-point font. In case of plagiarism, severe measures will be taken.

The Syllabus might be subject to changes depending on the students’ needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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| 1   | Introduction of the Course. Why Study Korean Law? What We Already Know About Korean Law? What Are We Trying to Learn? Reference readings (excerpts):
| 2   | A First Step Towards Korean Law: Korean Legal Tradition and Law Before and During Joseon Dynasty. Reference readings (excerpts):
| 4   | Encounter with Western Law and Legal Systems under Japanese Rule. Reference readings (excerpts):
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<td>8</td>
<td>Review of the first part of the course.</td>
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| 12 | Introduction to Korean Civil Law and Civil Procedures. Reference readings (excerpts):  

Overview of Korean Family Law. Reference readings (excerpts):  

| 13 | Basic Principles of Korean Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure. Reference readings (excerpts):  

| 15 | Review of the second part of the course.  

| 16 | Final paper submission |