

Syllabus (2025-Winter)

Course Title	Art in Seoul: City as a Living Mutation	Course No.	
Credit	2 credits	Hours	30 Hours
Class Time Classroom	Mon to Fri Classroom TBA		
Instructor	Name Kwon Minho	Department MEDIA ARTS & TECHNOLOGY	
	E-mail 00studio2009@gmail.com	Phone	
Office Hours Office Location	By appointment / on Zoom		

I. Course Overview

1. Course Description

Korea's history is one of rapid transformation, defined by the urgency of industrialization following Japanese occupation. After the Korean War, Seoul's cityscape had to be redrawn from the ashes. Most historical buildings and structures were lost, and even those that remained were often neglected. At the time, Koreans placed the highest priority on achieving prosperity and shedding the label of the world's poorest country. Efficiency became the guiding principle in nearly every decision, including construction. In this regard, Koreans owe a debt of gratitude to the pioneering modernist architects who shaped the nation's built environment.

As time passed, the world began to take notice—companies like Samsung and Hyundai became global leaders, and Korean artists started appearing on the Billboard Top 100 and winning Academy Awards. By then, we found ourselves surrounded by a cityscape shaped by decades of compressed development. This somewhat chaotic and hybridized landscape—whether intentional or not—can be beautiful to some and overwhelming to others. What is certain, however, is that it is rich, dynamic, and uniquely characterized.

This course invites you to explore this strange yet fascinating city with me. As we walk through its streets, we will encounter remnants of the past alongside newly built structures. You will be encouraged to observe the city through the lens of your own cultural background and to share your perspective with others from different walks of life.

The final outcome of this course will take the form of a moving image. Rather than following pre-existing genres, students are expected to push boundaries—not only through visual experimentation, but also by exploring the role of sound in shaping new possibilities.

2. Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this class except for the ability and willingness to observe, discuss, and create with your own eyes and hands. Additionally, a basic level of English proficiency is needed for communication in class.

3. Course Format

Lecture	Discussion/Presentation	Assignments	Activities	Other
10%	40%	40%	10%	%

4. Course Objectives

- Understand the historical layers of Seoul's urban landscape in relation to modernization and industrialization.
- Develop observational and analytical skills through fieldwork and discussions.
- Translate urban observations into visual/creative works.
- Compare Korean urban narratives with their own cultural contexts.
- Find clues for creating original images that align with each student's unique sensibility.
- Experiment with expressing the chosen themes and image-making methods through new and diverse media.

5. Evaluation Systems

☐ Relative evaluation ☒ Absolute evaluation (for Ewha International Summer College students only) ☐ Others

Midterm	Final	Quizzes	Presentatio n	Projects	Assignment s	Participation	Others
%	%	%	20%	40%	10%	30%	%

II. Course Materials and Additional Readings

1. Required Materials

All required materials will be guided by the instructor for each session.

2. Supplementary Materials

All required supplementary materials will be guided by the instructor for each session.

3. Optional Additional Readings

III. Course Schedule

Day	Date	Topics & Class Materials, Assignments
Day 1	(12/26)	Introduction to the Course
Day 2	(12/29)	Workshop 1: Making Marks with Your Body (college classroom)
Day 3	(12/30)	Field Trip 1: Buildings That evolve on Their Own_Alley ways in Ahyun-dong
Day 4	(12/31)	group tutorial
Day 5	(1/2)	Workshop 2: Writing, Making Noise and Bring Them to Life (college classroom)
Day 6	(1/5)	Field Trip 2: Buildings Covered by Typos_Ulgiro Printing Alley way & Iksun-dong
Day 7	(1/6)	group tutorial

Day	Date	Topics & Class Materials, Assignments
Day 8	(1/7)	Workshop 3: Sound and Moving image
Day 9	(1/8)	Portfolio Building
Day 10	(1/9)	Final Presentation
Makeup Classes 1	(mm/dd)	
Makeup Classes 2	(mm/dd)	

IV. Special Accommodations

* According to the University regulation section #57-3, students with disabilities can request for special accommodations related to attendance, lectures, assignments, or tests by contacting the course professor at the beginning of semester. Based on the nature of the students' request, students can receive support for such accommodations from the course professor or from the Support Center for Students with Disabilities (SCSD). Please refer to the below examples of the types of support available in the lectures, assignments, and evaluations.

Lecture	Assignments	Evaluation
. Visual impairment: braille, enlarged reading materials		
. Hearing impairment: note-taking assistant		
. Physical impairment : access to classroom, note-taking assistant		Extra days for submission,
alternative assignments	. Visual impairment: braille examination paper, examination with voice support, longer examination hours, note-taking assistant	
. Hearing impairment: written examination instead of oral examination		
. Physical impairment: longer examination hours, note-taking assistant		
- Actual support may vary depending on the course.		

* The contents of this syllabus are not final—they may be updated.