

COURSE DETAIL

DESIGN IN KOREA

Country

Korea, South

Host Institution

Yonsei University

Program(s)

Yonsei University Summer

UCEAP Course Level

Lower Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Asian Studies

UCEAP Course Number

47

UCEAP Course Suffix

S

UCEAP Official Title

DESIGN IN KOREA

UCEAP Transcript Title

DESIGN IN KOREA

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This course introduces students to the unique history and contemporary landscape of design in Korea, tracing its evolution from traditional crafts and aesthetics to the vibrant modern and postmodern design culture of today. Through lectures, discussions, and extensive field trips to museums, galleries, design studios, and cultural districts, students will explore how Korea's rapid modernization and global engagement have shaped its design identity.

The course begins with an overview of design history, examining global developments that influenced the emergence of modernism in Korea. Students will then investigate traditional Korean art forms—such as ceramics, textiles, architecture, and calligraphy—to understand how enduring principles of form, material, and harmony continue to inspire contemporary design. Finally, the class turns to current trends in Korean design, from lifestyle products and branding to digital interfaces and fashion, highlighting the creative intersections of technology, sustainability, and culture.

This is an introductory-level course designed for international students from diverse backgrounds. While no prior knowledge of design is required, curiosity and active participation are encouraged. Through hands-on experiences, site visits, and reflective projects, students will gain a holistic understanding of how Korea's design reflects its past, embraces the present, and imagines the future.

Topics include Intro to basic design concepts, Overview of Korean history, Traditional arts and crafts in Korea, Modern Korea and the birth of Modernism, Everyday design in contemporary Korea, Global visibility of Korean aesthetics, Futures of Korean design.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

TBA-01

Host Institution Course Title

DESIGN IN KOREA

Host Institution Course Details

<https://summer.yonsei.ac.kr/summer/index.do>

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Course Last Reviewed

2026-2027

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