

Call for Applications - Korean Studies Summer School 2023

Encountering Korean History and Culture in Kwangju and near area

A course in SS 2023 and Fieldtrip (Aug. 17-25, 2023)

The deadline for applications: 19th of March 2023

The Institute for Korean Studies FU Berlin, Germany, is pleased to invite applicants for the 2023 Korean Studies Summer School which will be held from 17th of August to 25th of August, 2023 in Kwangju (Gwangju) and Seoul, South Korea. The Summer School will bring together students enrolled in BA and MA programs in Korean Studies at Free University Berlin/Germany, as well as other European Universities.

The summer school is an academic program with field trip supported by the *KDI-School*, the *Institute of Unification Education* and the *Research Institute of Buddhist Cultural Heritage*. The objective of the Summer School is to provide students with an expert-lead, on site training in Korean history, culture, politics, and North-South Korean relations, in cooperation with *History D – Asia Peace and History Institute* (Dr. Lee Sincheol), Seoul. The program provides a great opportunity to expand knowledge on the diverse fields of Korean Studies.

The **main theme** of the 2023 program is **Encountering Korean history and culture in Kwangju and near area**. Kwangju and the region all around have played an outstanding role throughout the history of Korea; especially May-18th Uprising in Kwangju (1980) was a milestone on the way to democracy and human rights in South Korea. From the perspective of art and cultural heritage, Kwangju and near area have abundant treasures: the city of Gwangju hosts a contemporary art biennale since 1995. Near Kwangju, there are several places of historical meaning such as anti-colonial struggle, as well as significant cultural sites with ceramic art and other diverse handicrafts, Confucian and Buddhistic heritage, traces of writers and intellectuals, etc.

This program consists of two parts: the first part is a regular course during the Sommer Semester 2023 (Wednesday 16:00-18:00) focusing on the history and culture in Kwangju and near area. The second part refers to the field trip, which is composed of three sections:

1. August 17 – 21: Visits of historical and cultural sites in Kwangju and near area

2. August 21 – 22: Temple Stay probably in Songgwang-sa
Experience of Korean Buddhism, heritage of Buddhist culture.
3. August 22 - 25: Workshop on national division and unification; visit to DMZ or places of national division

Each participant receives:

- Subsidy for flight ticket: € 500
- accommodation and meals free for the whole duration of the summer school
- travel expenses and entrance fees (museum etc.) during the field trip in Korea
(Participation fees for some cultural experiences should be paid by the participants: approximately € 30 in total.)

CREDITS

The Free University Berlin acknowledges the Summer School course and activities with **10 Credit Points** (Korean Studies, Vertiefungsmodul). Full participation in all the activities is obligatory. Partial participation is not accepted. The following requirements are essential to obtain the credit points.

(1) Participation in *the Summer School course in SS 2023 including Orientation Workshop* (Wednesday 16:00-18:00, April 19-July 19, 2023)

(2) Group presentation at the end of the field trip (August 24 in Seoul)

Power-point presentation or video presentation (10 min) is possible.

(3) Final Paper

- For FUB students: academic paper on a theme from the Summer School (8-10 Pages)
- For all other students: Report on the summer school activities (3 pages)

Number of Participants

The total number of students will be limited to 15 (10 students from FUB, 5 students from Bochum, Paris, Prague, Copenhagen, Venice). The students of FU Berlin, who do not participate in exchange student program (Auslandsjahr), are especially encouraged to apply, since this program offers an opportunity to be exposed directly to experiences in South Korea.

Eligibility

The students of Korean Studies (major) at the FU Berlin who completed “Aufbaumodul” and passed the language course “Koreanisch I” can apply.

Application

Applicants are asked to submit the following documents (**in a single file** with the applicant’s family name as file name) to Dr. Choe Hyondok (hyondok.choe@fu-berlin.de) no later than **March 19, 2023**. Please use the following subject line: Application for Korean Studies Summer School 2023.

- CV in English
- Motivation letter (one page) in English outlining the reasons for interest in attending the summer school
- The latest transcript of records (Campus Office)
- Grade of Korean language courses

For further details or inquires please contact Dr. Choe Hyondok.