Syllabus, GSIS, Sogang University

GISF 001: Theories of Area Studies
(3 Credits, Autumn 2015)

I. Instructor
Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Kyu Young LEE  Class Hour: Monday, 09:00-11:50
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Phone:  02) 705-8952  Office Hour: Mon, Tues, Wed, 13:00-14:50
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II. Course Description and Objective
This course aims at improving the logical understanding and analysis capabilities regarding concepts and methodologies about area studies and the related research status. In Korea “area studies” are unfamiliar and not so well-known research theme in social sciences, but they are emerging as a important discipline from the viewpoint of the contemporary globalization not only in Korea but also abroad.

III. Prerequisites and Background

IV. Textbook, References and Reading Assignment
The lectures will be based on seminars. All participants are expected to read the reference books and materials in advance and prepare for discussions in regard to the topics to be dealt with in each class. The professor will provide with supplementary lectures on the related topics when necessary.

Students shall make a presentation on one of the relevant topics and also present a report in a thesis format before the final exam. The presentation materials should be distributed to the professor and students one week prior to the presentation. Students should also submit all summaries about reading assignments every week.

Refer reading materials listed on each topic. During the Class, reading materials will be bounded according to topics.

V. Grading Policy and Evaluation
* Mid-term and Final Exam.: 60%
* Term paper: 20%
* Class participation: 10 % (presentation, discussion and question raising)
* Article summary and its understanding: 10%

VI. Course Schedule
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Presentation arrangement</td>
<td>Lecture, Q &amp; A</td>
<td>31.08.15</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Preliminary Understanding regarding Area Studies (1): Globalization and Area Studies</td>
<td>Lecture, Q &amp; A</td>
<td>07.09.15</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Preliminary Understanding regarding Area Studies (2): the Global vs. the Local</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
<td>14.09.15</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Preliminary Understanding regarding Area Studies (3): Region and Regionalism</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
<td>21.09.15</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>No Lecture: Chusuk Holiday</td>
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<td>28.09.15</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>What is Area Studies? - Concept and Meaning of Area Studies</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
<td>05.10.15</td>
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<td>Why Area Studies? - Necessities of Area Studies</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
<td>12.10.15</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Mid-Term Exam.</td>
<td>Written Examination</td>
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<td>Development of Area Studies as an Academic Discipline</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Interaction and Confrontation bet. Area Studies and Disciplines (1) - Orientalism, Occidentalism and Area Studies</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
<td>02.11.15</td>
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<td>Interaction and Confrontation bet. Area Studies and Disciplines (2) - The Rational Choice Theory ?</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
<td>09.11.15</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Approaches to Area Studies (1): A Preliminary Step for a Systematic Research</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
<td>16.11.15</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Approaches to Area Studies (2): Conducting Field Work</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Approaches to Area Studies (3): Participant Observation and Interview</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>Approaches to Area Studies (4): Case Study and Comparative Method</td>
<td>Presentation, Q &amp; A</td>
<td>07.12.15</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Final Exam.</td>
<td>Written Examination</td>
<td>14.12.15</td>
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**Week 1 31.08.15:** Introduction & Presentation arrangement  
* Explanation on class schedule including assigned themes

**Week 2 07.09.15:** Preliminary understanding relating Area Studies (1) – Globalization and Area Studies


Week 3 14.09.15: Preliminary Understanding relating Area Studies (2): the Global vs. the Local


Week 4 21.09.15: Preliminary Understanding relating Area Studies (3): Region and Regionalism from the viewpoint of Geography


Week 5 28.09.15: No Lecture: Chusuk Holiday

Week 6 05.10.15: What is Area Studies? - Concept and Meaning of Area Studies


Week 7 12.10.15: Why Area Studies? - Necessities of Area Studies


Recommended reading

Week 8 19.10.15: Mid-Term Exam.

Week 9 26.10.15: Development of Area Studies as an Academic Discipline


Recommended Reading


**Week 10 02.11.15: Interaction and Confrontation bet. Area Studies and Disciplines (1) - Orientalism, Occidentalism and Area Studies**


**Week 11 09.11.15: Interaction and Confrontation bet. Area Studies and Disciplines (2) - The Rational Choice Theory ?**

Johnson, Chalmers. “Preconception vs. Observation or the Contribution of Rational Choice Theory and Area Studies to Contemporary Political Science.” PS: Political


Week 12 16.11.15: Approaches to Area Studies (1): A Preliminary Step for a Systematic Research


Week 13 23.11.15: Approaches to Area Studies (2): Conducting Field Work


Recommended Reading

**Week 14 30.11.15:** Approaches to Area Studies (3): Participant Observation and Interview


**Recommended Reading**
Welcott, H. F. *The Art of Fieldwork*, 1995, Chs. 4-5. (pp. 63-121).

**Week 15 07.12.15:** Approaches to Area Studies (4): Case Study and Comparative Method


Recommended Reading


**Week 16 14.12.15: Final Exam.**