Special Topics on East Asia Religion in Korean: Final Paper

**Paper Topics and Style Guidelines**

Write a 10-page research paper on any topic of interest to Korean religion. Your paper may be comparative, if you wish (i.e. comparing Korea to China or Japan). I would prefer a paper that focuses on *religious practice* rather than doctrine, although doctrine may be allowed. Your paper should be based on substantial reading beyond the required reading for the course, but should touch on some of the topics of the course either to explore them in more detail or present alternative viewpoints. Some possible book sources are below, but there are many others. Be sure to organize your paper around a *thesis* that can be right or wrong (see guidelines below).

Suggestions: General:

Baker, Donald (2008) *Korean Spirituality*. Honolulu, University of Hawaii Press.

Buddhism: Park, Jin Y. (2009) *Makers of Modern Korean Buddhism*. State University Press of New

Y ork. Christianity:

Choi, Hyaeweol (2009) *Gender and Mission Encounters in Korea: New Women, Old Ways.* University of California Press.

Chong, Kelly H. *Deliverance and Submission: Evangelical Women and the Negotiation of Patriarchy in South Korea.*

Lee, Timothy (2010) *Born Again: Evangelicalism in Korea*. University of Hawaii Press. Nam, Hyuck-jang (2004) *Shamanism in Korean Christianity.* Jimoondang International. Park, Chung-Shin (2003) *Protestantism and Politics in Korea*. University of Washington

Press. Shamanism

Howard, Keith (1998) *Korean Shamanism: Revivals, Survivals, and change*. Seoul, RAS Kendall, Laurel (1985) *Shamans, Housewives, and Other Restless Spirits*. University of

Hawaii Press. ------ (1988) *The Life and Hard Times of a Korean Shaman: Of Tales and Telling of*

*Tales*. University of Hawaii Press. ------ (2009) *Shamans, Nostalgias, and the IMF: South Korean Popular Religion in*

*Motion*. University of Hawaii Press. Kim, Chongho (2003) *Korean Shamanism: The Cultural Paradox.* Ashgate Press. Seo, Maria (2002) *Hanyang Kut: Korean Shaman Ritual Music from Korea*. Routledge



Walraven, Boudewijn (1994) *Songs of the Shaman: The Ritual Changes of the Korean Mudang.* Kegan Paul International.

**Style Sheet**

(1) Papers should be typed double-spaced with one inch margins on either side.

(2) Put your name and the title of the paper on a separate title sheet. Please don't use fancy binders. They just make it difficult to stack the papers together.

(3) List at the top of your paper the readings upon which your paper is based. Spend no more than one-third of your paper in a description of the most important content of your readings. Devote most of your paper to discussing the relationship of what you read to the concepts and institutions discussed in the course lecture and other readings. Try to attain a clear and unified point of view in your paper with a thesis followed by paragraphs which argue for this thesis.

(4) Be sure to reference quotes and ideas taken from others, whether these are textbooks, your readings, the internet, or other sources. Anything not referenced is expected to be original. You may use any standard reference style—for example, footnoting as in the MLA style sheet, or references in parentheses as is done in social science writing. If you chose the latter style you must append a bibliography.

(5) Foreign words should be underlined or put in italics. Korean words should be rendered in the McCune-Resichauer System, Japanese in Hepburn and Chinese in Pinyin.

(6) Papers are graded on the clarity of your exposition of the content of your readings, skill with which you relate your readings to the course, and the care and quality of the writing.

(7) Quality of writing and clarity of thought are inseparable, so use some care in your writing. Spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc. will all be taken into consideration in grading the paper. Some specific things I look for in papers are listed below.

1. Do you have a title and a thesis sentence which announce the theme of your essay?

2. Do your introduction and conclusion stand in some logical relationship? That is, does the last paragraph conclude the thoughts introduced in the first paragraph?

3. Does each paragraph in your essay develop some major point that contributes to your overall argument?

4. Do you have examples or evidence for each judgment or generalization you make, or have you logically demonstrated why this generalization should be true?

5. Do you have a clear style with grammatical sentences, and proper use of historical and other words?

6. Did you proofread your paper to correct typos, errors of spelling and the like?