American perceptions of Korean innovations range from high tech gadgets developed by corporations like Samsung to the addicting lyrics of K-pop and tasty kimchee as a healthy treat. Yet, the Korean peninsula enjoys thousands of years of history as a crossroads of culture and political importance. Though divided today into North and South, the two Koreas share many similarities, including strong national pride, emphasis on education, and high scientific achievement. **This survey course will cover three thousand years of Korean history, with our main focus on the politically tumultuous nineteenth century to the present.** Topics include: Confucianism and the family, women and the household, Korean cuisine, Japanese colonialism (1910-1945), the Korean independence movement (1919-1945), religion and education, the Korean War (1950-1953), international adoptions, nuclearization in North Korea, ordinary life in North Korea, and South Korean beauty culture.

Please email Professor Annika A. Culver (aculver@fsu.edu) with any questions.