Program Overview

This one- to three-credit course examines Seoul, Republic of Korea, as a case study in contemporary urban governance and management. It is open to graduate students in the School of Public Policy and Administration (SPPA) and other U.D. graduate degree programs. The course requires a ten-day field trip to Seoul, October 18–27, 2019, in addition to pre- and post-field-trip class meetings, and research and writing assignments. The field trip to Seoul is hosted by the Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) and the University of Seoul (UoS). It will include several sessions each day with SMG officials, UoS faculty, and other subject-matter experts, as well as daily visits to a variety of municipal facilities and programs. We will be there with groups from Portland State University, Cornell University, and the University of Central Florida. Graduate students (including matriculated 4+1 students) only are eligible for the course and field trip, per SPPA's memorandum of understanding with SMG and UoS. The target number of participating U.D. graduate students is six to 10, subject to coordination with UoS.

For all participating graduate students, the SMG and UoS will cover academic program costs, most meals, and seven days' hotel accommodations (double occupancy) during the study trip to Seoul. Out-of-pocket costs per student are estimated to total about $1,800 (for transportation to and from Seoul, one night's lodging and meals, and incidental expenses), plus tuition and fees that include a $250 mandatory SPPA administrative fee. SPPA study-abroad scholarships may be available to eligible students enrolled in SPPA's graduate degree programs (including students matriculated in SPPA 4+1 programs), subject to SPPA policy and funds availability. In the past, funding has usually been available for scholarships for eligible students to cover up to 50% of eligible and appropriately documented student expenses other than UD tuition and fees.

Interest Meetings Two interest meetings are scheduled: the first on Monday, April 15 at 5 p.m., and a second on Tuesday, April 16 at 6:30 p.m. Both will be in 185 Graham Hall.

Course Requirements in brief (basic requirements are comparable to a two-credit course)

(1) Prepare for and participate actively in several pre-field trip and post-field trip class sessions,
(2) Participate actively in the Seoul Field Trip hosted by the University of Seoul, October 20–25,
(3) Prepare an individual research report based on pre- and post-field trip desk research as well as your field research during the Field Trip, and
(4) Work with your classmates to prepare and deliver a public presentation in late November or early December.

Approximate Program Schedule

Monday, May 6, 2019: Application deadline. Applicants will be notified about their program-acceptance and scholarship status by May 23.
Tuesday, September 3: Deadline to submit participation agreement and other forms, $250 deposit, and course registration. Register in the Institute of Global Studies database, purchase HTH travel insurance, and register for SOS emergency services. Begin securing any necessary visas, permissions and any other documents required for you to travel from the U.S. to South Korea and back. Each student is responsible for having a valid passport and obtaining his/her own appropriate travel documents.

September – October: class meetings and discussions.

Friday, Oct. 18: Depart from PHL or an alternate airport in the region.

Saturday, Oct. 19: Arrive at Incheon airport (ICN); ground transfer to hotel in Seoul.

Sunday, Oct. 20: Orientation tour of Seoul's city center, led by our hosts from SMG and UOS.

Monday, Oct. 21 – Friday, Oct. 25: Lectures, meetings, site visits, and events organized by UOS and SMG. Note that these will be very full days, running 10 to 12 hours each.

Saturday, Oct. 26: A day on your own in Seoul, for sightseeing or other activities of your choice.

Sunday, Oct. 27: Depart from Seoul (a.m.); arrive in the U.S. by late afternoon or evening.

November – December, 2019: debriefing session(s); research reports due; public presentation.

Application Guidelines

The application deadline is May 6, 2019. Deliver your completed application forms (one for the trip itself, another for scholarship assistance if you are an eligible SPPA graduate student) in hard copy to Professor Justice’s mailbox (183 Graham Hall, School of Public Policy and Administration, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716) OR as a single scanned PDF file to justice@udel.edu (be sure to use an informative subject line that refers to "Seoul Case Study"). Applicants will be notified of admissions and scholarship decisions by May 23.

Please note that only graduate students (including 4+1) are eligible for this program under the terms of SPPA's memorandum of understanding with SMG and UoS. If there are more well qualified applications than available spaces, preference will be given to returning graduate students and to students who have not previously participated in SPPA study-abroad programs.

Registration Procedures

In order to participate in the program, all accepted applicants MUST sign participation agreements, register for the designated course (this will be listed as a section of UAPP 730, Topics in Public Policy), and meet all conditions specified in the Participation Agreement Form by Tuesday, September 3, 2019. Deliver the required forms plus a program-fee check for $250, payable to University of Delaware, to the SPPA office by 4:00 p.m. on September 3, 2019.

Forms and Further Information

For additional information, forms, and updates, see https://www.sppa.udel.edu/grad-education/study-abroad or https://goo.gl/FprhNh. You may also contact the Seoul Case Study program director, Jonathan Justice (+1-302-831-1682 or justice@udel.edu) if you have questions.