Program Overview

This one-credit course examines Seoul, Republic of Korea, as a case study in contemporary urban governance and management is open to graduate students in the School of Public Policy and Administration (SPPA) and other U.D. graduate degree programs. The course includes a one-week field trip to Seoul in addition to pre- and post-field-trip class meetings, research and writing assignments. The field trip to Seoul, October 20–29, 2017, 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 experts as well as daily visits to a variety of municipal facilities and programs. Our group will be there with groups from Portland State University, Cornell University, the University of Central Florida, and the University of Birmingham (UK). Graduate students (including matriculated 4+1) 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 7 to 8, subject to coordination with UoS.

For all participating students, the SMG will pay for academic program costs, meals, and seven days' hotel accommodations (double occupancy) during the site visit to Seoul. Out-of-pocket costs per student are estimated to total about $1,850 (for transportation to and from Seoul, one night's lodging and meals, and miscellaneous costs), plus the $250 mandatory SPPA administrative fee and tuition as applicable. SPPA study-abroad scholarships are expected to 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 to cover up to 50% of eligible and appropriately documented student expenses other than tuition and fees for eligible students.

Interest Meetings are scheduled to take place in 185 Graham Hall, on Monday, April 17, 2017 at two time: from 3 p.m. to 3:30, and from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00.

Course Requirements

(1) Prepare for and participate in four to five pre-field trip and one post-field trip class sessions,
(2) Participate actively in the Seoul Field Trip hosted by the University of Seoul, October 22-27,
(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 8, 2017: Application deadline. Applicants will be notified about their program-acceptance and scholarship status by May 23.
Tuesday, September 5: Deadline for 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. 20: Depart. We'll meet in the morning in Newark for a shared shuttle van if flying from a New York- or Washington-area airport, or at Philadelphia International if flying from that airport. 

Saturday, Oct. 21: Arrive at Incheon airport (ICN); ground transfer to hotel in Seoul. 

Sunday, Oct. 22: Orientation tour of Seoul's city center, led by our hosts from SMG and UOS. 

Monday, Oct. 23 – Friday, Oct. 27: 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. 28: A day on your own in Seoul, for sightseeing or other activities of your choice. 

Sunday, Oct. 29: Depart from Seoul (a.m.); arrive in the U.S. by late afternoon or evening. 

November – December, 2017: debriefing session(s); research reports due; public presentation. 

Application Guidelines

The application deadline is May 8, 2017. 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 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 one-credit course (UAPP 730), and meet all conditions specified in the Participation Agreement Form by Tuesday, September 5, 2017. 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., Tuesday, September 7, 2017. 

Forms and Further Information

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