

Beth McKillop  
H-160: The History of Books and Printing in Korea  
28 July–2 August 2019

**Narrative Course Evaluations**

- 1) *Were the pre-course reading assignments useful? Are there any readings that you would like to see added or removed in future years?*
  1. Yes
  2. Yes. The required were just enough. The suggested were good but did not negatively affect class if unread.
  3. Essential. Would like recommendations for videos showing techniques or papermaking, typesetting, &c.
  4. I didn't read any prior to, but will read as much as I can after this course (sorry).
  5. Please have all readings available online.
  6. It would have been helpful to get the syllabus in advance to help prepare in a more organized way. Also, getting students in contact earlier to share resources would be a good idea.
  7. Yes, great source for background information. These have given me a deeper understanding prior to class.
  8. Useful.
  9. It would be helpful if specific readings were designated for each day.
  
- 2) *What are your thoughts on the course workbook and/or other teaching materials distributed during class? Was the content appropriate and useful? Will it continue to be useful for you after the course?*
  1. {no response}
  2. It was a little sparse. Slides were distributed, but just as additional things could have been covered in the class—so too with the workbook. It had a nice introduction, list of terms, and bibliography. Maps were not that necessary. List of type could have benefitted from illustrations.
  3. Please distribute this electronically, in computable (non-PDF) format.
  4. Very helpful and interesting! I thought all materials were fantastic. I'd like to know a bit more about poetry and calligraphy, though.
  5. Great and yes, will be very useful.
  6. The rare books pulled from the collection were amazing and the best part of the experience (also with the instructor's expertise).
  7. Yes.
  8. Content was appropriate, but I could not find all of the books on the list. If RBS or instructor would be able to share PDF files in advance, it would be great.
  9. Teaching materials handled during the course were great.
  
- 3) *How do you plan to use the skills and knowledge acquired during your RBS course? Did you walk away with any "aha!" moments, new ideas, or project plans?*

1. {no response}
2. I'm not sure there were "aha" moments, but I walked away with a better understanding of Korean books and book culture.
3. {no response}
4. Yes! I am inspired to learn much more about pre-modern Korean art and culture, and I already purchased some classic fiction to read. I want to consider and compare pre-modern Korea more actively in my research, even if it doesn't seem "directly" applicable at first.
5. I had more questions and want to know more about the Korean book history.
6. I was introduced to primary resource material I had never encountered and am definitely walking away with new research tools.
7. Great information to support my proposed research inquiry.
8. This course inspires me with many future projects. First, the course really helped me to build up a fundamental knowledge about Korean book history which will help me a lot in the future when I do research on books. It was very nice to hear and share other perspectives from classmates from different fields. I want to do research on illustrations of books in the future.
9. Sorry, I am not sure.

4) *Did the instructors help you to acquire all the skills and information promised in the course description? Did you learn what you had hoped to learn?*

1. {no response}
2. I learned a lot, but I would have preferred going more into details, such as typefaces. These were obviously important and there are quite a few; discussion of them and their variety would have been appreciated.
3. Yes.
4. Yes, and much more!
5. I learned a lot, not just from course content but from the interaction with other classmates.
6. Yes, the class had promised an overview of the history of books in Korea, but we covered so much historical material context (e.g., the making of paper and collecting history).
7. Yes.
8. The instructor helped students to look at each material/book and how we can consider these in historic/cultural contexts. The instructor encouraged students to engage in the class.
9. Sorry, I am not sure.

5) *Are there other ways in which the course could have been improved?*

1. {no response}
2. I enjoyed the course but felt there could be improvements regarding passing/showing books. For students with little experience with Asian books, an introduction to the physical form and parts would have been good. I learned a lot but imagine in the future the class structure will be tighter, and more material will

be covered. The last two days were the best as they were the most intense. The other days were good but could have benefitted from the same intensity as the last two days.

3. Would like bibliography of suggested reading in a computable format, not just a typed list.
4. I'd say 1 hour and 15 minute lunch, 15 minute afternoon break.
5. No idea. It was great. I miss this course already.
6. The only thing for me would be to have the syllabus and object lists in advance!
7. Technical workshop on early printing methodologies?
8. Visiting MFA Boston was good, but if they have a book collection, it would be great to examine their books or prints. I personally think learning more about paper making and ink making would be helpful to understanding book manufacture.
9. Sorry, I am not sure.

6) *Who might benefit the most from taking this RBS course?*

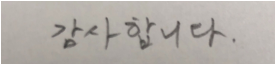
1. {no response}
2. Anyone interested in East Asian books.
3. Curators, special collections librarians, scholars.
4. PhD students studying pre-modern East Asia, even if not Korea directly.
5. Everyone!
6. Pre-modern art historians and historians of Korea (in addition to librarians).
7. Special collection librarians or anyone interested in rare books and manuscripts.
8. Librarians specializing in Asian collections. Art historians who are interested in Asian books/prints.
9. Sorry, I am not sure.

7) *Do you feel that you got your money's worth? Would you recommend the course to others?*

1. {no response}
2. Yes.
3. Absolutely!
4. Yes and yes!
5. How much did I pay? ☺ I'm very grateful to Beth for starting this.
6. Yes, if offered again next year, I will post to our Center for Korean Studies listserv.
7. Would be grateful for scholarship/bursary.
8. Yes! Especially since having hands-on experience is not easy, so I would say it is worth it.
9. Sorry, I am not sure.

8) *If your course made any trips outside of the classroom, do you feel that they were time well spent?*

1. {no response}

2. The conservation center was nice but had no direct bearing on the topic; this time could have been used for additional study of books. Museums were nice and it was a treat to see the objects with Beth, but I would have appreciated them more if they were book-related.
  3. Yes.
  4. Absolutely; I am also really grateful I got to go with the group to all these places—I learned so much more!
  5. Yes, a bit intensive but yes. Wish we were informed about the trips earlier, but not necessarily.
  6. Yes! The museum visits were a big highlight, especially the time spent with the conservators at the MFA.
  7. I liked the museum visits but I felt that once was enough. The trip to Boston was great but the content was only slightly relevant to the history of the book. At the end of the day, it was exhausting but there was so much that we wanted to see.
  8. Yes.
  9. The trips to the museums were great but not necessarily relevant to the course.
- 9) *Do you have any additional thoughts or advice for anyone considering taking this course in a future year?*
1. {no response}
  2. I learned a lot and had fun doing it.
  3. 1.) Start reading well in advance; 2.) Learn some basic Korean and Chinese; 3.) Share names of fellow students before start of course.
  4. Apparently, apply for scholarships early (in the fall!) for the RBS.
  5. Bring comfortable shoes.
  6. Take this course! This course has something for everyone no matter your specialization, language level, or background.
  7. Thank you for offering this course.
  8. I would recommend (or I myself want to) take related courses to have more thorough knowledge-building.
  9. The trips to the museums were great but not necessarily relevant to the course.
- 10) *If you had to sum up your RBS experience with a single sentence, phrase, or haiku, what would you say?*
1. {no response}
  2. {no response}
  3. So much history and culture in five days! Fantastic instructor and wonderful camaraderie in the whole group.
  4. Many connections—social, academic, artistic—all enjoyed and discovered in one week.
  5. Muchas gracias! 
  6. A wonderful end to the summer with thought-provoking books and amazing people whom I hope to keep in contact with...
  7. Awesome.

8. It was wonderful, memorable, and hot one week. Thank you!
9. {redacted for the web—RBS staff}

### **Student Data**

*Number of respondents: 9 (of 9)*

*How did you arrange for time off to attend this course?*

My institution/employer gave me professional leave time: 5 (56%)

My institution/employer did not give me professional leave; I used paid or vacation days: 3 (33%)

I am self-employed, and can arrange my own schedule:

I am a student or non-year-round employee, with a more flexible summer schedule: 1 (11%)

I am retired, and can arrange my own schedule:

My situation does not fit any of the options above:

*Who paid your RBS tuition costs?*

I paid 100% myself: 2 (22%)

My institution/employer paid 100%: 2 (22%)

My institution/employer paid part; I paid the rest: 2 (22%)

I used a scholarship/fellowship to pay/waive 100%: 1 (11%)

I used a scholarship/fellowship to pay/waive part; I paid the rest: 1 (11%)

My situation does not fit any of the options above: 1 (11%)

*Who paid your RBS housing expenses?*

I paid 100% myself: 4 (44%)

My institution/employer paid 100%: 2 (22%)

My institution/employer paid part; I paid the rest: 2 (22%)

I stayed with friends/family, or stayed in my own home and commuted: 1 (11%)

*Who paid your RBS travel expenses?*

I paid 100% myself: 3 (33%)

My institution/employer paid 100%: 2 (22%)

My institution/employer paid part; I paid the rest: 2 (22%)

I live locally, and had no travel expenses: 1 (11%)

My situation does not fit any of the options above: 1 (11%)

*Which of the following **best** describes your current occupation?*

### **Library disciplines:**

Cataloger/metadata librarian: 2 (22%)

Curator: 1 (11%)

Digital collections librarian: 1 (11%)

Subject specialist/bibliographer: 1 (11%)  
Other: 1 (11%)

**Student working toward a/n:**  
Ph.D./D.Phil: 2 (22%)

**Book trades:**  
Antiquarian bookseller: 1 (11%)