Academic Bulletin for South Korea: Korea University
2023-24

Introduction

The Academic Bulletin is the CSU International Programs (IP) "catalog" and provides academic information about the program in South Korea at Korea University.

CSU IP participants must read this publication in conjunction with the *Academic Guide for CSU IP Participants* (also known as the "*Academic Guide*"). The *Academic Guide* contains academic policies which will be applied to all IP participants while abroad. Topics include but are not limited to CSU Registration, Enrollment Requirements, Minimum/Maximum Unit Load in a Semester, Attendance, Examinations, Assignment of Grades, Grading Symbols, Credit/No Credit Option, Course Withdrawals, and other policies. The *Academic Guide* also contains information on academic planning, how courses get credited to your degree, and the academic reporting process including when to expect your academic report at the end of your year abroad.

To access the *Academic Guide*, go to our website and click the year which pertains to your study abroad period. For general information about the South Korea Program, refer to the CSU IP website under "Programs".

Academic Program Information

CSU IP in South Korea is affiliated with Korea University located in Seoul. Korea University (KU) is a private University ranked amongst the top 70 universities in the world. CSU IP and KU have an exchange agreement by which students are "exchanged." This means that CSU IP participants who are selected to attend KU are considered "exchange students."

CSU IP participants are advised of their acceptance to KU around late May for the fall semester. Around late June or early July, KU emails students with the course registration schedule and instructions.

CSU IP participants who study for the academic year at KU attend two semesters, fall and spring. The first semester runs from late August/beginning September until mid to late December. The second semester starts at the beginning of March and ends mid to late June.

KU offers a winter session that runs in between the fall and spring semesters. The winter session is offered to CSU IP participants who enroll in the "Free Korean Language Course" which normally begins on the first Monday after the fall semester ends, This three-unit course consists of 12 teaching hours per week for four weeks. CSU IP participants are not permitted to enroll in other courses during the winter session as part of their CSU IP program.

All students at KU are required to take:
- A minimum of three units of Korean language course each semester, and
- Courses to total a minimum of 15 CSU semester units each semester.

Since Korean language courses may be competitive, students are advised to register as soon as possible. In the event that students are unable to enroll in Korean language, students are expected to enroll in the Korean language course during the winter break. This intensive course is optional for students who successfully enroll in Korean language in the fall semester.

Since a minimum of three units of Korean language is required per semester, students will need to enroll in two Korean language courses if one course is less than three units.

Korean language placement tests are given on the first day of class. Students may switch to another Korean language course if they are not placed at the correct level but there are no guarantees they can successfully enroll in the desired Korean language course due to demand. Students would need to first drop the course and try to add the Korean language course they want.

Any exceptions to the above schedule or to any academic policy must be approved by the CSU IP Office. To request an exception, email CSU IP at IPacademics@calstate.edu.

Course Codes and Levels
At KU, course codes for undergraduate courses are made up of four letters to represent a department or college, followed by three digits usually beginning with 1, 2, 3 , 4 or 5 to represent the level of the course. Graduate courses are made up of three letters followed by three digits. Undergraduate students are not permitted to enroll in graduate courses, but graduate students may enroll in undergraduate courses.

Course levels
The table below describes the course level for undergraduate course as designated by the three digits that follow the four letters of the course code.

100 – 199	Lower division. Foundation and introductory courses. Designed for first year university students.
200 – 299	Lower division with some exceptions depending on course content.
300 – 399	Upper division with some exceptions depending on course content.
400 – 499	Upper division.
500 – 599	Advanced upper division.

Depending on course content, some lower division courses may be designated as upper division and some upper division courses may be designated as lower division as exceptional cases.

Grading and Units

Below is the grade conversion table used to convert grades earned at KU to CSU grades.

100 Point Scale	KU Grade	CSU Grade
95-100	A+	A
90-94	A	A
85-89	B+	B+
80-84	B	B
75-79	C+	C+
70-74	C	C
65-69	D+	D+
60-64	D	D
59 and below	F	F
	I (Incomplete)	WU

Note that KU's grading scale does not always use a100 point scale and may vary depending on the course.

A minimum of 70% of attendance is required in order for a student to earn a passing grade.

The CSU grade of WU (Withdrawal Unauthorized) may be given in some circumstances, e.g., for uncompleted courses or dropped courses after the third week of instruction without CSU IP approval. A

grade of "WU" is equivalent to a grade of "F" and is used in calculating the grade point average. Refer to the *Academic Guide* for additional grade information.

Unit Conversion Guidelines
For every credit earned at KU, an IP student earns one CSU semester unit. To convert the value of CSU semester units into CSU quarter units, multiply the CSU semester units by 1.5.

Normally, KU assigns three credits for a course that has three hours of instruction per week for 16 weeks.

Course Load and Enrollment
Regardless of KU's enrollment policy, CSU IP requires that CSU IP students enroll in a minimum of 15 units each semester. While CSU IP requires that CSU IP students enroll in a minimum of 15 units per semester, it may not be possible for students at KU to meet this requirement due to variable units assigned to KU classes. Therefore, students at KU will be allowed to take a minimum of 14 units per semester without obtaining approval from CSU IP via petition.

CSU IP prohibits enrollment under 12 units, and under-enrollment may be grounds for dismissal from the program unless exceptional circumstances are involved.

While students may enroll up to 19 units at KU, students should be cautioned from taking excessive units defined at KU as taking more than 16 units.

CSU IP does not permit students to enroll in more than two physical education courses per semester.

Course Registration
Students must register during their assigned registration period to have the best chance of getting preferred courses. Students register for their preferred course listing in early August for fall and early Feb for spring.

Add/Drop Period
The period to add or drop courses is the first week of each semester. Although KU permits students to drop courses during the last week of November for the fall semester, and the last week of March for the spring semester, CSU IP does not permit students to withdraw from courses without CSU IP permission. Any unauthorized course withdrawals will be reported with a mark of WU which is equivalent to an F for GPA calculation purposes.

Course Information

Courses taught in English are offered throughout the various departments at KU. Students can use the course listings for the previous year as an example of what will be offered for the following year. Most courses are offered each year but are subject to change and availability.

Since it can be competitive to get access to various courses taught in English at KU, students must be flexible and be prepared to take other courses from different departments. Use the information below to guide course selection. Note that the information below is subject to change.

Competitive Subject Areas	Open Subject Areas	Restricted (Closed) Subject Areas
Business, Communication, Film, International Studies, Journalism, Media, Psychology	Architecture, Economics, Engineering (Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Mechanical), English Literature, Health Science, Political Science	Art and Design, Cybersecurity, Law, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Teacher Education. These areas are closed to visiting/exchange students.

Due to availability and course difficulty, students interested in taking courses from the "Competitive Subject Areas" list are strongly advised to take no more than two from the same subject area and take remaining courses from other disciplines to total 15 units.

Internships
Internships for academic credit may be possible but only in the second semester. Internships are subject to availability. Interested students must complete their first semester with at least a C average (2.0 GPA) and speak some Korean by the start of the internship. For more information, students are advised to contact   the International Office at KU in middle of fall semester.
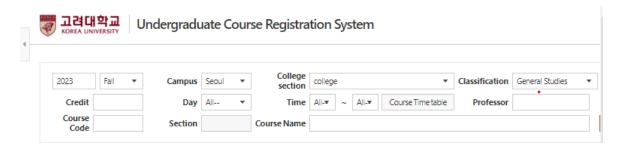
General Information
Refer to the following link to access general information:
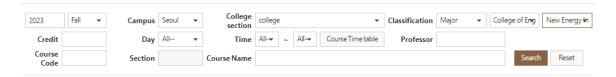https://gsc.korea.ac.kr/usr/exchange/overview.do.

Course Search, Descriptions and Syllabi
 To search for courses, click on the following link: https://sugang.korea.ac.kr/.
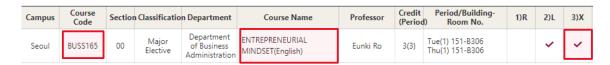
Korean language courses are offered by the Institute for General Education. To search for Korean language courses, follow the example below:

Search for courses by selecting "Major" for the "Classification" and selecting the School that is likely to teach the courses that you wish to take. For some colleges, you may need to select a department. Follow the example below.

Courses taught in English will be indicated as (English) next to the course title. If the course is available to exchange students, there will be a checkmark in the column, 3)X.

Campus	Course Code	Section	Classification	Department	Course Name	Professor	Credit (Period)	Period/Building-Room No.	1)R	2)L	3)X
Seoul	BUSS165	00	Major Elective	Department of Business Administration	ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET(English)	Eunki Ro	3(3)	Tue(1) 151-B306 Thu(1) 151-B306		✓	✓

To view the course description, click on the course code for the course. Once you open the course description, you may view the course syllabus for that course, if available, where indicated.

KU Opportunities
CSU IP participants are encouraged to sign up for the Korean University Buddy Assistant Program, or "KUBA." Students are paired up with KU and international students to help new students settle in. Students will be matched with their KUBA buddies upon enrollment and meet with their KUBA buddies during orientation.

Exchange students also have the opportunity to volunteer with the Korean University Institute for Sustainability (KUIS). This is wonderful way to integrate into the community, practice Korean language, get to know local people, and serve the community. Since it is more helpful if students know some Korean language, CSU IP students may wish to consider this for their second semester at KU. To learn more about this program, click on this link.

Contact Information
For questions specific to studying at KU, you may contact KU at Kize@korea.ac.kr after formal admission to KU. For academic questions about CSU IP policy, program requirements or academic issues, email ipacademics@calstate.edu or csuip@calstate.edu.