

Kyoto University Global COE  
 “Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres in 21st Century Asia”  
 Asian ERASMUS Pilot Program for Teaching Staff from Overseas Partner Institutions

Name (First, Middle, Last)	<b>CHANG Kyung-Sup</b>	City/Country of the Home Organization Seoul, Korea
Home Organization (University/Institute, Dept./Faculty, Position/Title)	Professor Department of Sociology, Seoul National University	
Invitation Period	From January 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2011 to February 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	
Counterpart Graduate School/Center at Kyoto University	Counterpart Professor: Prof. OCHIAI Emiko Counterpart Graduate School/Center: Graduate School of Letters	
Title of Research	Confucianism in the Making of Compressed Modernity: The South Korean Experience in a Comparative East Asian Perspective	
<p>1) Title of the lecture(s) if you gave any:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>“Comparative Sociological Understanding of Compressed Modernity”</b></p> <p>2) Title of your presentation(s) if you gave any at seminars/symposium/conference; Date and Place; Number of participants (approx.); Organizer</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>“Predicaments of Neoliberalism in South Korea's Post-Developmental Liberal Context”</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Room no. L521, Faculty of Letters Main Bldg., Kyoto University January 27, 2011, Organized by the GOCE (Participants: Approx. 30)</p>		

Please attach a written report evaluating your results/achievements from our GCOE Asian Erasmus Pilot Program.

(1) Please submit two separate reports, of approx. 350 words each, written from the aspects of “Education” and “Research”. (2) Attach reference materials if any. (3) Please email this report with a digital photo showing your education or research activities if available. (Photos should not infringe privacy right or copyright.)

The submitted materials will be posted on the web page of this program.

**[Education]**

In January 2011, the Kyoto University Global COE program on “Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Asia” gave me a highly special educational opportunity for teaching and discussing on two of my main scholarly specialties – namely, comparative modernity (compressed modernity) and sociology of developmental politics – with graduate students and young scholars at Kyoto University. I have been actively researching and writing on these topics as contextually innovative agendas in the Asian context, so the intensive lecturing opportunity in Japan under the GCOE program was invaluable in that it allowed me to examine my new research ideas and fresh observations before a diverse group of Asian students and scholars.

For the lectures, I was enabled to autonomously and flexibly design intensive classes without being constrained by the standard disciplinary curricula. I was blessed with highly attentive students and young scholars of diverse backgrounds and interests. While I sometimes give lectures on the above topics as part of regular classes at my home institution (Seoul National University), my teaching experience with the Kyoto GCOE program was particularly rewarding because I was as much learning as teaching thanks to the highly concentrative and interactive context.

The 21<sup>st</sup> century is often dubbed an Asian era by both Asians and non-Asians together. While this trend mainly reflects the changing political economic context (that is, the collective economic rise of Asian countries and their concomitant political and military empowerment), the civilizational, intellectual, and scientific repositioning of Asian countries in the world context is no less essential. In academia, Asian high education should be able to autonomously develop and teach theories, concepts, methods, and issues that directly and systematically reflect Asian realities. For this purpose, programs like the GCOE, as exemplified by its Kyoto University program, are of rapidly increasing value. My teaching experience at Kyoto University clearly attests to this fact.

The two main themes of my lectures – compressed modernity and sociology of developmental politics – were originally developed out of the South Korean context, but they have very strong comparative implications in respect to the experiences of Japan and many other Asian societies. My discussion with graduate students and young scholars from various Asian countries during the classes was therefore highly refreshing and inspiring. I do hope that my lectures on these topics helped stimulate them to develop other innovative yet

reality-driven research ideas and methods for advancing genuinely relevant Asian social sciences.

### **[Research]**

I originally proposed to research the topic of “Confucianism in the Making of Compressed Modernity: The South Korean Experience in a Comparative East Asian Perspective” during my visit between Jan 5 and Feb 4, 2011 with the Kyoto University GCOE program on “Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Asia”. While I kept working on this topic, I simultaneously carried out discussion, reading, and writing on two book projects – namely, (1) *Developmental Politics in South Korea: From Developmental Liberalism to Neoliberalism*, and (2) *The Configuration of Compressed Modernity: South Korea and Beyond*. During my seminars and lectures, I tried to introduce many ideas and observations to be used in these books in order to check their relevance and clarity as accepted by the audience and students at the above occasions. I would like to emphasize that I made significant progress in the preparation of the books thanks to, on the one hand, the very generous and considerate arrangement of research facilities offered by the GCOE program, and on the other hand, a wonderfully stimulating scholarly environment offered by Kyoto University scholars in conjunction with a group of active international scholars visiting Kyoto through various GCOE occasions.

The first book, *Developmental Politics in South Korea*, is now under publication contract with Palgrave Macmillan (full manuscript due to June 2013). The book analyzes South Korean developmental politics in terms of (1) the developmental state’s distinct social policy regime (developmental liberalism) and its neoliberal transition, (2) the extra-economic conditions and consequences of the country’s “IMF economic crisis” in the late 1990s, and (3) the roles and limits of the country’s democracy in socially governing the developmental capitalist system. During my GCOE visit, I was able to make significant progress on the first part, which has recently been published as “Predicaments of Neoliberalism in the Post-Developmental Liberal Context” in Chang Kyung-Sup, Ben Fine, Linda Weiss (eds), *Developmental Politics in Transition: The Neoliberal Era and Beyond* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012).

The second book, *The Configuration of Compressed Modernity*, is also about to be completed. This book analyzes compressed modernity in respect to (1) its various theoretical properties

Kyoto University Global COE  
“Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres in 21st Century Asia”  
Asian ERASMUS Pilot Program for Teaching Staff from Overseas Partner Institutions

of compressed modernity, (2) its inherent crisis tendencies, and (3) its universalizing nature. Various parts of the book manuscript were initially prepared during my visit with the GCOE program or for GCOE international seminars – that is, “Individualization without Individualism: Individualization without Individualism: Compressed Modernity and Obfuscated Family Crisis in East Asia” in *Journal of Intimate and Public Spheres*, pilot issue, pp.23-39 (2010), and “Compressed Modernity, Productive Amplification, Reproductive Meltdown: The South Korean Predicament” presented at the ISA-CFR Meetings, 14 September 2011, organized by the Kyoto University GCOE program.