

COURSE TITLE : DECOLONIAL FASHION THINKING & PRACTICE

Lecturer	Min Huh
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Class time	Afternoon

COURSE DESCRIPTION :

Over recent decades, fashion communities—including educators, students, designers, and consumers—have sought to embed ethical values like *diversity* and *inclusivity* into fashion’s unjust systems. Yet the industry remains complicit in reinforcing Western-centric, patriarchal, and (neo)colonial power structures. As a result, “ethical fashion” is often critiqued for offering superficial reforms rather than systemic change. Decolonial fashion discourse, by contrast, demands an ideological and aesthetic break from such structures by interrogating the fabricated values and tastes imposed by Western modernity and neoliberal globalization.

Decolonial Fashion Thinking & Practice, a cross-disciplinary course, invites students to develop counter-narratives and alternative aesthetics that *delink* from Western-centered models of modernity and globalization, challenging symbolic and systemic hierarchies they sustain. Through a research-based exploration of each student’s intersectional and/or political concerns, participants will create a *decolonial fashion portfolio* combining hand-drawn and AI-generated work. Field trips, organized with the *Fashion Entrepreneurship* course, will further situate these projects within critical studies of Korean fashion, art, and business through colonial and decolonial lenses.

MATERIALS/TEXT & REQUIREMENTS :

All course materials will be provided by the instructor.

No prerequisites. Students only need access to a laptop or tablet for assignments.

SCHEDULE :**Week 1**

Orientation - Jul 6

Class 1 - Jul 7 : Class Orientation / Critique of Modernity in the Context of Dress/Fashion

Class 2 - Jul 8 : Culture as a Social Construction / Film Viewing (The Royal Tailor, 2014)

Class 3 - Jul 9 : Field Trip (Pending)

Week 2

Class 4 - Jul 13 : Reflection on Field Trip / Presentation - Non-Western Dress Cultures 1

Class 5 - Jul 14 : Field Trip to Seokjuseon Memorial Museum (Pending)

Class 6 - Jul 15 : Presentation - Non-Western Dress Cultures 2 / Critique of K-Fashion

Class 7 - Jul 16 : Field Trip (Pending)

Week 3

Class 8 - Jul 20 : Reflection on Field Trip / Final Project Topic Announcement / How to Make a Decolonial Fashion Portfolio

Class 9 - Jul 21 : Final Project Narrative & Research Presentation

Class 10 - Jul 22 : Field Trip to Seongsu Area (Pending)

Class 11 - Jul 23 : In-class Practice - Final Project AI Visualization (a laptop or a tablet is required)

Week 4

Class 12 - Jul 27 : Final Project Mid-Critique

Class 13 - Jul 28 : Field Trip (Pending)

Class 14 - Jul 29 : Final Project Presentation - Decolonial Fashion Portfolio

Class 15 - Jul 30 : Class Reflection & Farewell

ASSIGNMENTS :

- Non-Western Fashion Research Project
- Decolonial Fashion Portfolio

EVALUATION :

CATEGORY	POINTS	CONTENT
Attendance	20	Three instances of tardiness will be counted as one absence. Three absences will result in the reduction of one letter grade, without exception. A total of four absences—regardless of reason, including sickness—will result in a failing (F) grade for the course.
Participation	40	Active In-class Engagement and Practice
Assignments	40	Research & Assignments for Final Project
Total	100	

EVALUATION CRITERIA :

A+	A	B+	B	C+	C	D+	D	F
95-100	90-94.99	85-89.99	80-84.99	75-79.99	70-74.99	65-69.99	60-64.99	0-59.99