Designed as a discussion-driven seminar, we will examine emerging scholarship and major debates in modern Korean history dealing with a variety of topics that include historiography, gender and women’s history, colonial modernity, the Korean War, and postwar developments in both North and South Korea. The course includes treats Korea beyond its geographic borders to include transnational movements of people, culture, and capital, such as the Korean diaspora and the Korean Wave. Although we will question concepts such as “modern” as opposed to “tradition,” modern Korean history generally refers to the “opening” of Korea in the late 19th century to the present. Readings will be drawn from a variety of disciplines and topics depending on recent publications in the field, but a solid grounding in historical methodology will drive analysis and discussion, in order to facilitate the completion of the final research project based on primary sources.