



Arizona State University

South Korea

ASU Charter

ASU is a comprehensive **public research university** measured not by whom it excludes but by **whom it includes** and how they **succeed**; advancing **research and discovery** of public value; and assuming **fundamental responsibility** for the economic, social, cultural and overall health of the **communities** it serves.

New American University

Arizona State University has become the foundational model for the **New American University**, a new paradigm for the public research university that transforms higher education. ASU is committed to **excellence, access and impact** in everything that it does.

**#1 in the U.S.
for innovation**
ASU ahead of MIT and Stanford
—U.S. News & World Report, 6 years, 2016–2023



**#1 in the U.S. and
#2 in the world
for global impact**
Ahead of MIT, New York University and Penn State
—Times Higher Education, 2022

Welcome

We are proud that ASU is the academic home of more than **320 students from South Korea** and that the university has impacted the lives of more than **2,130 alumni from South Korea**.

We are committed to helping our students succeed – not just academically, but throughout their lives – and be prepared for a rapidly changing world in which new careers are constantly evolving.

Our legacy of excellence in education grows because of the strengths of our award winning faculty who invest in collaborative, interdisciplinary and solution-focused approaches to research, education and entrepreneurship.

We look forward to working with you to empower the workforce and leadership through discovery and impact.

Warmest regards,

Julia Rosen

Vice President of Global Academic Initiatives
Office of University Provost



Student enrollment

2022



Enrolled students from South Korea were the fourth-largest international population at ASU in 2022.

327

students from South Korea enrolled at ASU in fall 2022

168

(51.4%)
undergraduate students

159

(48.6%)
graduate students

8%

student enrollment increase from fall 2021 to fall 2022

Jin Wook Chung

Chemistry, BS



Jin first studied in his home country of South Korea at Kangwon National University before making the decision to come to the U.S. to pursue his education goals. After studying for two years at East Tennessee State University, Jin decided he wanted to attend a larger school and transferred to ASU's School of Molecular Sciences to major in chemistry. His interest in science stems from his personal life. When he was a young child, Jin's mother was diagnosed with breast cancer and his grandmother developed Alzheimer's – two major influences in his desire to become a physician someday.

“ I decided to transfer to ASU for more opportunities to gain experience in the medical field. The Phoenix area has so many large hospitals, and I was able to get a job in the pathology lab at Banner Health in Mesa. Over last summer, I began to do an internship at Seoul National University Cancer Research Institute, utilizing the basic lab skills such as cell culture, immunohistochemistry and fluorescent microscopy that I learned studying in the Keck Bioimaging Lab at ASU. ”

Student support

The Korean language program at ASU

The Korean language program at ASU is the first and only program devoted to Korean language and culture at the university level in Arizona. The program, launched in 1995, has a history of engaging academic curiosity and nurturing students as they become increasingly fluent in Korean language and culture. More than 20 years later, the program continues to inspire and draw students to ASU.

Korean Students Association

The Korean Students Association is a student-run organization with the goals of strengthening the Korean and Korean-American community and increasing knowledge of Korean cultural and ethnic attributes at ASU.

International Students and Scholars Center

ASU's International Students and Scholars Center helps students maintain compliance with visa regulations and provides programming and advising to enrich the ASU experience.

The ISSC staff members are experts in assisting international students, and provide guidance on visa compliance, immigration advising and employment authorizations. The ISSC helps students adapt to academics at ASU, adjust to cultural differences like language assistance, and engage with university and community activities.

Through these resources, the ISSC helps students explore what it means to be a global citizen and engage with others who share a world-community mindset.



Support for students

On ASU's Tempe campus, the Korea Space in the School of International Letters and Cultures is dedicated to Korea and the Korean language and funded by the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea. Here, students can enjoy Korean culture, including K-pop, which is widely popular in the U.S. and throughout the world. Students also have access to historical and cultural items, informational databases and multimedia tools. Aaron Moore, an associate professor of history, says, "The biggest challenge for a teacher is to make Korea more than an abstract place in a book or a language drill. We envision Korea Space as an open, lounge-like space that encourages collaboration, where classes can meet and students can immerse themselves in the subject."

Student stories



Jai Choi (Korean-born American citizen)
Global management, MGM

Korean by birth and American by citizenship, Jai has always looked at the world from multiple perspectives, and that is the reason a Thunderbird School of Global Management degree appealed to him. He also received both the Thunderbird Alumni Scholarship and Dave Fisher and Mitch Kanai Scholarship.

“The global mindset that Thunderbird aspires for, drew me to the program and its people. I wanted to learn from others who had success in creating economic engines in different global contexts and challenges.”



Jihye Jung
Political science, PhD candidate

“I joined the PhD program in political science at ASU in fall 2018. My interest lies in exploring the relationship between religion (Christianity) and politics in East Asia, more specifically the religious influence on politics and political intention to marginalize and maximize the influence of religion.”



Jung Yul Kwon
Social psychology, PhD candidate

Jung studies prosocial behavior from cultural and evolutionary perspectives. He is interested in how different ecological factors contribute to divergent beliefs and norms regarding cooperation as well as how impressions of unfamiliar others as potential cooperative partners. His most recent study, completed with Associate Professor Michael Varnum in the Department of Psychology at ASU, explored how people would react to hypothetical announcements about the discovery of extraterrestrial life. They queried 1,000 Americans and about 2,000 people across the world and found their responses were almost uniformly positive, whether it was the discovery of microbial or intelligent life.

“I was interested in the American fascination with extraterrestrial life. We really didn't know what the results would be outside of the U.S. I'm from Korea, and I don't think Koreans would respond in quite the same way. I'm really interested in what people from other cultures would have to say.”

Student stories



Joonwon Lee (Korea)

Linguistics and applied linguistics, PhD

During his studies and research at ASU, Joonwon learned about learning transfer and thought that it would be a key concept in developing Korean English-as-a-Foreign-Language, or EFL, learners' listening comprehension. He also worked as an assistant managing editor for the Journal of Asia TEFL. He will take these skills forward to teach EFL, as an educator at a university.

“ No one knows how your academic journey will go. However, without trying, you will not have a chance to see how your academic journey ends.”



Heejoo Min

Sustainability, BS

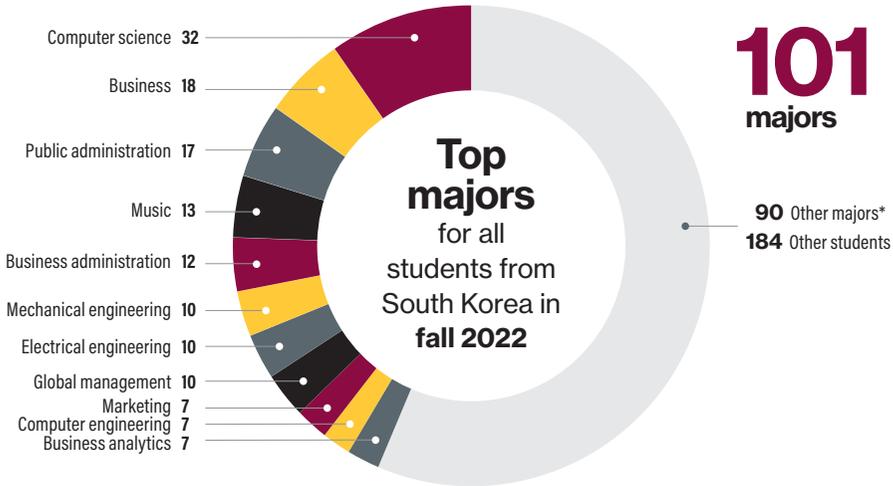
Heejoo considers sustainability a new way of thinking. Originally from Seoul, Korea, she's pursued her degree at ASU with a focus on the economics of sustainability.

“ ASU was the only school that had a dedicated department for sustainability. I looked more into it and I thought it was a very well-designed program. Other schools offered it as an environmental science degree, but I thought sustainability is so much more than just science.”

Student enrollment

2022

Top ASU programs chosen by students from South Korea in 2022



* **The remaining 90 majors** include psychology, linguistics and applied linguistics, biochemistry, supply chain management, business data analytics and architectural studies.

Studied abroad in Korea



Thomasina Dinehdeal

Elementary education, BAE

Thomasina joined the exchange program with Yongsei University to study the Korean language. As a Navajo raised in Tuba City (a rural reservation town located on the Navajo lands in Arizona), she immediately felt culture shock, but she found that throughout her experience she was embraced by the people.

“ I learned that Korean students were just as nervous about English as I was about Korean. I had a cultural epiphany: we were there to help each other, learn about each other's cultures and get ourselves out of our comfort zones. ”

Alumni



#6

country of origin

for international alumni of ASU

2,122

alumni

between 1981 and 2023

7867

alumni

between 2012 and 2023

ASU alumni chapters

The Thunderbird School of Global Management Alumni Association and ASU Alumni Association maintain chapters in South Korea.

Hae (Helen) Rim Jin

Psychology, BS and Criminal justice, BS



Hae's success illustrates how hard work, intellectual curiosity and commitment can make a positive impact on society. She completed bachelor's degrees in psychology and criminal justice at ASU in 2010. Her research focused on victimization, sexual assaults and sexual homicide. Her senior thesis for Barrett, The Honors College was titled "It was your fault! How jurors blame assault victims in the sex industry." Hae went on to earn her MA at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York studying forensic psychology, and completed her doctorate in criminal justice at Sam Houston State University. She is now an assistant professor of criminology at University of Houston-Clear Lake.

“ We know the sacrifices our parents made, and the reason we are so driven and determined is to ensure those sacrifices weren't made in vain. I know that in America, as long as an individual is determined to succeed, study hard and do well in school, there is always a way to get a higher education. To me and my family, America truly is a land of opportunity. ”

Alumni



Junkee (Justin) Ahn

Sustainability, BS

Junkee studied sustainability with a focus on sustainable energy, materials and technology. In the summer of 2018, he took his skills abroad to South Korea to work in the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. He worked in the East and North East Asia office located in Incheon, Republic of Korea. He is now pursuing his MBA at Cornell University that focuses on environmental finance and environmental sustainability policy.

“As a transfer student, I have experienced very innovative projects and took very useful and interesting courses during my time in ASU, which not only changed my perception of the world but also shaped my specific interest within sustainability and my future career path.”



Simon Huynh

Preprofessional health sciences, BS

Simon was a Barrett, The Honors College student who discovered what growth and energy mean. He pursued his honors thesis project, supported through the Korean language program, one of the fastest growing programs in ASU's School of International Letters and Cultures (SILC). He also completed a minor in Asian Pacific American studies. Simon credits his thesis studies with helping him become more aware of other cultures and more empathetic of cultural differences. After graduation from ASU, Simon went on to intern with the nonprofit Asian Pacific Community in Action and assist in projects focused on culturally competent and linguistically appropriate community health efforts. He will complete his degree at the University of Colorado's School of Dental Medicine in 2024 and plans to continue his work in underserved communities.

“I originally got involved with SILC on a recommendation to find an honors thesis director. SILC has a very open faculty, willing to help you. Their level of expertise is very high.”



Hye Young Yun

Drawing, BFA; Painting, BFA

A musician in South Korea, Hye came to ASU to pursue a second career in the arts. She excelled in the School of Art, received five scholarships, and her passion made her an outstanding student and artist. She felt encouraged to try something new that pushes her beyond her limits.

“All my professors were great mentors, but the most valuable thing I've learned was how to deliver expression through my art.”

Academic partnerships in South Korea

4

General collaboration agreements
University-to-university agreements

4

Collaborative degree programs
International accelerated degree programs

1

Direct enrollment partnership
ASU students study abroad for one semester or one year, and pay a program fee that includes host institution tuition

8

Student exchange agreements
International bilateral exchange agreements

University partners

1. Hanyang University
2. KDI School of Public Policy and Management
3. Korea University
4. Pai Chai University
5. Pohang University of Science and Technology
6. Sejong University
7. Seoul National University
8. Sogang University
9. Sungkyunkwan University
10. Woosong University
11. Yonsei University



Academic partnerships and programs

Hanyang University

Hanyang University is a private research university that has grown from its original focus on engineering and technology to become a comprehensive university with two campuses: The main campus is in Seoul; the satellite location is the Education Research Industry Cluster in Ansan. Hanyang is ranked No. 4 for students successfully completing the public administration civil service exams in South Korea. ASU and Hanyang have an exchange program that allows students to spend a semester or year abroad to excel in their fields.

Korea University

Korea University, founded in 1905, is widely acknowledged as one of the oldest, largest and top-ranked universities in Korea. With a large number of course options that fit directly into ASU's W. P. Carey School of Business majors and the international business certificate, this is a perfect option for business students looking to study in one of Asia's largest cities.

Korea University International Summer Campus

Korea University's International Summer Campus serves as an international hub for academic dialogue during summer. For Korean students, it is a gateway that leads them to experience quality education that prepares them for global leadership. For international students, it is an opportunity to learn about Korea and Korean culture, politics, economy and history. Students get to spend six weeks in one of Asia's most dynamic cities.

Pohang University of Science and Technology Exchange

POSTECH is devoted to cutting-edge research and education with the purpose of directly contributing to the betterment of society through science and technology. With a population of 500,000, Pohang is the largest city in Gyeongsangbuk-do. Pohang hosts

the nation's largest steel company, Posco, which makes it a great location for this STEM-focused university. Students may take a variety of courses from different departments as long as they meet each course's prerequisite requirements and the courses are not full. Sixty percent of classes at POSTECH are taught in English.

Seoul University Exchange Programs

ASU students can complete a one-year or one-semester academic exchange at Seoul National University. For SNU students studying in the Global Master of Public Administration program, there are two active 1+1 international pathway articulations with Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions. SNU students can pursue dual master's degrees in either the Master of Public Administration or Master of Public Policy programs at ASU. Seoul National University ranked No. 56 in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings for 2023.

Sogang University

Sogang is the oldest and most highly respected private university in Korea. The areas of study are foreign languages, global studies, humanities and political studies. Eligible students are degree-seeking and enrolled full time at ASU (minimum 12 credits). Applicants must have already completed one semester at ASU (minimum 12 credits), with all grades posted at the time of the application.

Sung Kyun Kwan University Business Exchange

Sung Kyun Kwan University has been a leading Korean institution since 1398 and has recently partnered with Samsung to become a driving force in the technological revolution. Students can take a variety of business courses, Korean culture courses or Korean language courses as long as they meet each course's prerequisite requirements and the courses are not full. Courses are taught in English and Korean. The program is available as a semester or year-long program.

Academic initiatives and collaborations

Biodesign Institute and Pohang Accelerator Laboratory

The Biodesign Institute at ASU and Pohang University of Science and Technology in Pohang, South Korea, announced a partnership catalyzing discoveries with a major impact on health care and clean energy applications. Scientists at both universities will work together to outfit a powerful new facility, the X-ray free electron laser at the Pohang Accelerator Laboratory, to discover and understand important biological molecules for new health care and renewable energy research.

Korean TV highlights ASU's research on autism

ASU professors James Adam and Rosa Krajmalnik-Brown collaborated on research projects pertaining to people with autism and gastrointestinal problems. A Korean television documentary for the Educational Broadcasting System featured the results of the research, which explores new treatments.

Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College and Daegu National University of Education

Located in Daegu Metropolitan City – South Korea's third-largest metropolitan city – Daegu National University of Education is one of the nation's leading institutions that focuses exclusively on educating elementary school teachers and is one of the most recent partnerships forged by a university with ASU's Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College. Students from both universities gain a broader perspective of educational practices through international camps focused on cutting-edge technology-based instructional methods. For example, Daegu students visited STEM schools in Madison Elementary and Tempe Elementary School Districts.

Thunderbird Korea Office

The ASU Thunderbird School of Global Management's Korea Office is located in Myeongdong, the center of Seoul and the financial and shopping hub of the city. It was established in January 2019 with focus on student recruitment and promoting Thunderbird's global leadership programs.



YoungJu Shin
ASU
Associate
Professor

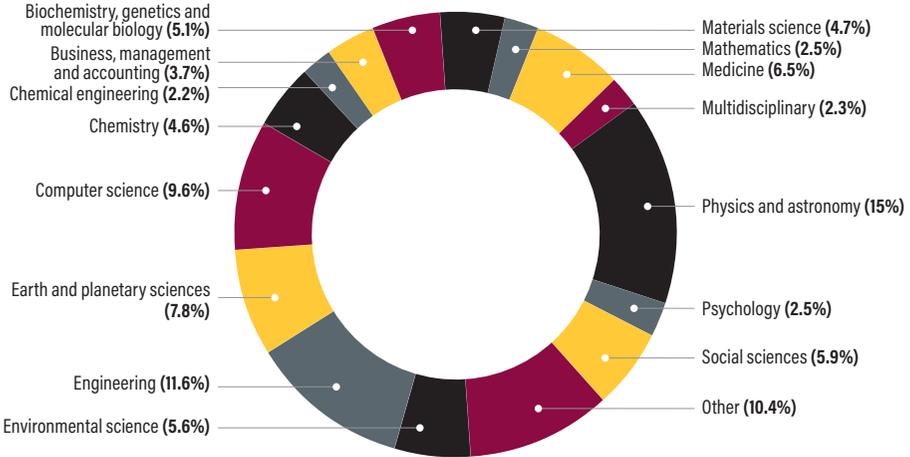
U.S.-Korea NextGen Scholars Program

The U.S.-Korea NextGen Scholars Program is an initiative of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, the Korea Chair of the Korea Foundation, and the University of Southern California's Korean Studies Institute. The program's goal is to mentor the next generation of Korea specialists in the U.S. who will make long-term contributions to the U.S.-Korea relationship. YoungJu Shin, an associate professor and health and intercultural communication scholar with the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication, is one of 11 people selected in a national competition for the U.S.-Korea NextGen Scholars Program. She had the opportunity to discuss effective communication with U.S. and Korean diplomats, policymakers and journalists.

Research funding

2018–2022 papers co-authored by ASU and South Korea researchers

Papers can be mapped to multiple subject areas.



433

papers were co-authored with 92 collaborating institutions between 2018 and 2023. The majority of these publications were in the fields of physics and astronomy, engineering and computer science

Top 10 universities and institutions for co-authored papers



55
Yonsei University



40
Kyungpook National University



21
Chungnam National University



47
Seoul National University



28
Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology



21
Hanyang University



17
Sungkyunkwan University



41
Korea University



24
Kyung Hee University



15
Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology

Research awards

**24 ASU faculty members have garnered
38 grants totaling more than
\$5.2 million.**

ASU faculty members received grants primarily from Korean foundations in partnership with Korean institutions. Key partners included Soongsil University, Samsung Industries and Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology, the Academy of Korean Studies, LG Chem, Inc. and LG Energy Solution, Korea Institute of Science and Technology, Korean Studies Promotion Programs and the Electronics and Telecommunication Research Institute.

Research endeavors were as diverse as innovations in cybersecurity, AI and neural networks, electronics and the study of literature and translation, Buddhism and health care.

Featured faculty



Gail-Joon Ahn

Professor, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

Ahn is in the School of Computing and Augmented Intelligence and is senior advisor for the Center for Cybersecurity and Trusted Foundations at ASU. Ahn's principal research and teaching interests are in information and systems security. His studies include security analytics and big data driven security intelligence, vulnerability and risk management, identity and privacy management, cyber crime analysis, security-enhanced computing platforms, and formal models for computer security devices.



Yunseon Choe

Assistant Professor, Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions

Choe is with the ASU-Hainan University Joint International Tourism College. Her research is at the nexus of people, parks, tourism and sustainability. She transfers U.S. models to various settings in Asia, to examine multiple themes (visitor behavior, urban parks, residents' perceptions of impact of tourism and events, community development), utilizing the latest technological advances within this context.

Featured faculty



Robert LiKamWa

Associate Professor, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
Associate Professor, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

LiKamWa is in the schools of Arts, Media and Engineering and Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering at ASU. He directs the Mobile Experiential Technology through Embedded Optimization Research (METEOR) studio, which explores the research and design of software and hardware for mobile augmented reality, virtual reality, mixed reality, and visual computing systems, and their ability to help people tell their stories.



Pori Park

Associate Professor, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Park is in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies and a member of the ASU's Center for Asian Research. She teaches religious traditions of Korea and East Asia and Buddhism. Her research focuses on the interplay among Buddhism, modernity, gender and globalization. Examining the transformation of Buddhism in modernity, Buddhism and politics, and Buddhism's involvement in social life, her scholarship provides a broad understanding of modern Korea as well as of the interplay between religion and politics.



Jae-sun Seo

Associate Professor, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

In the School of Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering, Seo studies circuit and system design for neuromorphic computing and bio-inspired emerging applications in pursuit of energy-efficient artificial intelligence. Power-efficient mobile platforms, like smart drones and autonomous robots, can boost new markets. He believes that a self-learning chip that learns in near real-time and consumes very little power can be integrated into biomedical devices, truly personalizing health care.



Dosun Shin

Professor, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts

Shin believes that design is a powerful force that can be life-changing. His interests center around the humanization of technology with a specific focus on assistive devices for people with physical limitations. He has received more than 15 design awards, including International Design Excellence Awards and Medical Design Excellence Awards.

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