

Profile of Host and Partner Organizations



The Ateneo Initiative for Korean Studies (AIKS) was established in April 2012 to set up, grow and sustain Korean Studies in the Ateneo. Through the Korean Studies Incubation Program (KSIP) grant of the Academy of Korean Studies, AIKS was able to launch its flagship project in July 2012, which consists of a roadmap of activities organized under 4 key strategic areas: Academic Program and Research; Networking and Partnerships; Training and Capacity-Building; and Establishment of a Center for Korean Studies.

By embarking on diverse Korea-related initiatives, AIKS seeks to:

1. Promote the significance of Korean Studies and propel Korea-related research in the academe;
2. Propagate interest in activities that foster awareness on different aspects of Korea, and of Philippines-Korea relations;
3. Partner with leading universities, organizations and institutions in Korea and in the region for a wide range of academic and cultural exchanges relevant to the promotion of Korean Studies in the Philippines;
4. Provide research and training support to students and faculty;
5. Produce local experts in the field, qualified to advance Korean Studies in the Philippines not only as a major academic field but also as an important area of foreign policy.

The initiative is being led by the Office of the Vice President for University and Global Relations of the Ateneo de Manila University.

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The Academy of Korean Studies was established to revitalize the field of Korean Studies by conducting in-depth research and offering courses on Korea-related subjects.

AKS engages in a wide range of activities including conducting research on Korean culture from both humanities and social science perspectives; collecting, translating and publishing Korean classics; compiling and distributing major reference works such as the *Encyclopedia of Korean Culture* and the *Digital Encyclopedia of Korean Local Culture*; and engaging in cooperation and exchange activities with academic institutions in Korea and overseas, all of which aim at improving the international community's understanding of Korean culture.

Korean Studies Promotion Service – To help Korean Studies become a global academic discipline, AKS set up in May 2007 a division in charge of steering efforts to promote the said field with the support of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (then known as the “Ministry of Education and Human Resources”). The division was renamed as the “Korean Studies Promotion Service” in January 2009.

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The Ateneo Center for Asian Studies, established in April 2001, is a research center that aims to promote Asian Studies through disciplinary, interdisciplinary, and multi-disciplinary research and other related activities such as seminars, workshops, and lectures. Since 2013, it has offered thesis/dissertation grants to the faculty of the Ateneo de Manila whose research topic is on Asia. The Center engages in collection of materials on Asian Studies; hosting of research fellows; dissemination and promotion of research through publications. Primarily with the help of its international advisory board that consists of prominent scholars from Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, and Australia, it links with institutions both in the Philippines and abroad. It regularly offers language courses, specifically, Korean, Indonesian, Thai, and Russian to young professionals who need the language skills for research or work.

The Center's international conferences held every two years and its annual summer seminar primarily focus on the general topics of regional integration, culture, and environment. Through these conferences, seminars and other activities, the Center contributes to the enrichment of Asia-related courses in universities, helps in the formulation of policies and strategies, and cooperates with the private sector and civil society.

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