

# INFO SHEET

## - Korean



### Why you should study Korean

The Korean language and culture has been experiencing a surge in popularity in recent years, a surge so remarkable it even has its own name: the “Hallyu Wave”. Fueled by the meteoric rise of K-Pop music, Korean dominance in e-sport gaming, and the adaptation of more and more Korean television series to Western television, the trend seems likely to continue.

Interest in Korean classes at Carleton too has surged with record enrolments in our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year classes. Learning the Korean language opens opportunities to share in a wonderful and inclusive culture and become part of the vibrant Korean community.

Originally created by the Great King Sejong in the 15th century as an adaptation of Chinese, Korean is spoken by more than 72 million people living on the Korean peninsula and throughout the many countries of the Korean diaspora. There are about two million people in China who speak Korean as their first language, another two million in the United States and Canada, 700,000 in Japan, and 500,000 in the Russian regions of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

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