COURSE NO. | COURSE TITLE | INSTRUCTOR
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106 | Invasions and Empires: Central Asia from Genghis Khan to Stalin | A. Altstadt-Mirhadi 4117 Humanities

COURSE DESCRIPTION

"Samarkand is a noble city, adorned with beautiful gardens, and surrounded by a plain, in which are produced all the fruits that man can desire" - Marco Polo (13th c.)

"The Mongols had a curious and methodical way of numbering the slain. When a thousand dead had been completed, they placed one body with its head buried in the ground and its feet upwards, so that the thousands might be conveniently counted." - C. E. Stewart (19th c.)

There is little to say about Central Asia that is not implicit in these quotations -- the conflict between the nomadic and settled ways of life, the contrasts between destruction and cultivation, between unrestrained bloodshed and magnificent culture. This course will be a broad survey of this part of the world incl. areas that are today in Soviet Central Asia and the Caucasus, Afghanistan, and Iran. We will cover mainly the 8th to early 20th centuries focusing on patterns of invasions and the rise and fall of Empires as well as the cultures of nomadic and sedentary peoples from Shamanism to Sufism, from tribalism to nationalism. We will strive not only to learn about Central Asia but also to become aware of diverse modes of thought, to see historical patterns, and to analyze information from a variety of sources.

LECTURES

Class meetings (M W F, 9:55) will be lecture-discussion, sometimes more of one, sometimes more of the other.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

2 tiny take-home map assignments (ea. 5% of grade) = 10%
2 "article reviews" (5-7 pages) (ea. 15%) = 30%
Midterm (in class) = 30%
Final = 30%

as indicated above; class participation can help not hurt for border-line grades

REQUIRED READINGS

ARE TO BE DONE BEFORE CLASS PERIOD INDICATED ON SYLLABUS

Text Packet will be available at Kinko's (1201 Regent), plus other readings as indicated in syllabus.
Invasions and Empires: 
Central Asia from Genghis Khan to Stalin

History 106 
Fall 1985 
MWF 9:55 AM 

Prof. Altstadt-Mirhadi 
4117 Humanities Bldg. 
263-2528 
Office Hrs: MW 2:30-4 
Th 10-11:30

GOALS OF COURSE: To expose students to information and materials about a world area that is probably in whole or in part unknown to them; to enhance understanding of Central Asia and its problems in historical perspective; to lay a groundwork for future work in this or related areas and disciplines; to develop analytical skills through critical reading, class discussion, and writing assignments.

READINGS: There are a variety of required and optional readings; some are available for purchase, others are on reserve in the College Library (Helen C. White). Please note that some REQUIRED readings are not required purchases, either because we will not use the entire book, because it was expensive, etc.

Available for Purchase (University Bookstore - Aisle 8):

TEXT PACKET - Available at Kinko's (1201 Regent, near Mills St.)
Mircea Eliade, Shamanism
Reynold A. Nicholson, The Mystics of Islam (there are several used copies, more are reportedly on the way; can substitute Annemarie Schimmel, Mysticism in Islam; it is on reserve)
Muriel Atkin, Russia and Iran, 1780-1828 (required to read, but purchase is optional)
Marco Polo, Travels of Marco Polo (required to read, but purchase is optional)
Koran (required to read, but purchase is optional)

Other required and most optional readings are on reserve. Complete list of all readings follows weekly schedule.

NOTE: We will try to have a lecture-discussion format which depends as much on your preparedness as on mine. Please do your best to have readings completed for each class, to attend each class, and to be on time. Do not be afraid to raise questions about readings or lectures -- if you have questions, other people may very well be wondering about the same things. I would STRONGLY URGE all of you to buy and USE REGULARLY a dictionary -- pockets dictionaries are cheap, small and you are more likely to use them.
ASSIGNMENTS and GRADING:

Two (2) tiny, take-home map assignments (ea. 5% of grade) = 10%
Two (2) article reviews (3-4 pp) (ea. 15%) = 30%
Midterm (6th or 7th week) = 20%
Final (Tues. 17 December, 12:25 PM) = 30%

Assignments must be handed in ON TIME unless you (1) have a very good reason AND (2) get my ok before the due date. Unapproved late assignments will be graded down one grade (i.e. from A to AB) for each day late.

Weekly Schedule

| WEEK | TOPIC | READING ASSIGNMENT
|------|-------|-------------------|
| 1    | M (4.S) Introduction | Text Packet, Ch 1.3
|      | F (5.S) Land and People | |
| 2    | W (9.S) Early Empires to 8th c. | Text, Ch. 3, pp. 22-24, 38-48, Ch. 4 (Opt pp. 123-139)
|      | F (13.S) Nomadic Culture | Eliade, pp. 161-259 (Opt Ch. 8, Ch. 13) FIRST MAP DUE
|      | KORAN: Suras 6, 8, 10, 55, 67, 69, 71, 73, 99, 107, 108
|      | 37-89, 91-93, 99, 101-104 |
|      | F (20.S) Arab Invasion of CA (8th c) | Text, pp 89-100, Grousset*, pp. 116-126

*Grousset is marvelous, but has MANY names of people and places; you need not memorize. But accustom yourself to the major people, places, etc.
Week 4
M (23.S) Islam in CA
W (25.S) Development of Sufism
F (27.S) Sufism - cont'd

Week 5
M (30.S) Enter:the Mongols Under Genghis Khan (13th c.)
W (2.0) Life in Mongol Empire
F (4.0) Golden Horde; Timur (14th c.,)

Week 6
M (7.0) CA Under Timur; Shaybanids
W (9.0) Review
F (11.0) Mid-Term (Tentative)

Week 7
M (14.0) Great Dynasties (Origins)
W (15.0) Great Dynasties (Political and Military Development)
F (18.0) Great Dynasties (Religion, Culture)

Week 8
M (21.0) Expansion of Muscovy (15th c.) and Tsar's Muslim Subjects
W (23.0) Decline of Great Dynasties
F (25.0) Rise of the West (17th c.)

Week 9
M (23.0) Empire in Russia and Muslim Lands (18th c.)
W (28.0) CA in Flux
F (3 N) Creation of Afghanistan

Week 10
M (4.N) Russia Moves into the Caucasus (19th c.)
F (8 N) Russian Conquest of the Steppe and Turkestan

Grousset, pp. 141-170; Bosworth, Frye articles ("Readings")
Nicholson, all OR Schimmel, Ch.1, 2.5 (Opt: Schimmel)

Text, pp:03-107,409-446
Grousset pp. 199-225
 Odyssey, Hambly, Ch.7
FIRST REVIEW DUE
Text, pp:107-116, Marco Polo, Bk.I
(Opt: Clavijo travel's)

Hambly, Ch 11 09 Grousset, pp. 409-433

Text, 115-121, 229-235
(Opt to p.244)
Ch.12 OR Grousset Ch. 13
Jenkins, Ducket articles in "Readings": SECOND MAP DUE

Text II:201-214 (Opt to 221)
& Grousset. Ch.12
Hambly, Ch. 12
Hodgson III:134-161 (w/o Ottoman)

Text II:291-214 (Opt to 221)
& Grousset. Ch.12
Hambly, Ch. 12
Hodgson III:175-222, Hambly, pp.187-197; Atkin, TBA

Text II:32-28
Fraser-Tytler, pp.47-70 (Opt 1-47)

Text II:251-256, Fraser-Tytler, pp.70-120; Layard("Read")
Hambly, pp. 197-207; McGahar
Hedin in "Readings"
Week 11
M (11.N) Kazakhstan and Turkestan under Tsarist Rule
W (13.N) Kazakhstan and Turkestan under Tsarist Rule
F (15.N) The Great Game in CA

Week 12
M (18.N) Pan-Islamism, Pan-Turkism
W (20.N) Industrialization, Nationalism, Socialism
F (22.N) Russo-Japanese War; and 1905 Revolution

Week 13
M (25.N) Muslim National Movement
W (27.N) Revolution in Iran and Russia's Muslims

---THANKSGIVING BREAK---(Much needed; well deserved??)

Week 14
M (2.D) Great Game in Iran and Afghanistan
W (4.D) The World War and the Muslim World
F (6.D) Bolshevik Revolution and Civil War

Week 15
M (9.D) Reconstituting Soviet Russia
W (11.D) Reform in Iran and Afghanistan, Nation-Building?
F (13.D) National Identity in CA

Hambly, Ch.15 OR Wheeler, pp 18-95 (Opt: Becker)

Choose ONE of the following traveller’s accounts and read about 50-100 pages:
Vambery, MacGahan, Marvin, Boulger, O’Donovan, de la Costa, Curzon.

Fraser-Tytler, pp. 129-150

SECOND ARTICLE REVIEW DUE

Keddie “Pan-Islamism” (Readings) (Opt: Lemercier in CAS Vol.1)
Bennigsen, Pt. 1; Kohn (Readings)
Connor (Readings)
Spector, Ch 2-3

Benigsen, Pt.1; Kohn (Readings)
Connor (Readings)

Hodgson III: 303-313; Fraser-Tytler, pp. 150-180
Zenkovsky, Ch. 9, Hambly Ch 16

Zenkovsky, Ch. 10 (Opt: Ali and Nino)

Bennigsen, Ch. 6, 8, 14 (Opt: Ch. 15)

And Choose one of the following: Rywkin, Ch. 5, Carrere d'Encause, Ch. 7-8, CAS Vol 1, articles by Shalinsky or Girardet.
Course Readings

Required

TEXT and READINGS PACKET- available at the Kinko's at 1201 Regent St.

ATKIN, Muriel. Russia and Iran, 1780-1828 (Minneapolis: U of Minn Press, 1983).


CENTRAL ASIAN SURVEY (CAS): Periodical Room of Memorial Library OR on reserve in the History Library, Humanities 4249.)


HAMBLY, Gavin. Central Asia


KORAN - Any edition (several on reserve; one on sale)

POLO, Marco. Travels of Marco Polo (Any edition)


Optional

AITEMATOY, Chingiz. A Day Lasts Longer than an Age.

--------- The White Boat

--------- "Jamile" (And other stories in collections)

BAXTER, Wm. England and Russia in Asia

BINGHAM, Woodbridge, Hilary Conroy, and Frank W. Ikle. A History of Asia (2 vols.)

BOULGER, D. Central Asian Question in Essays
--- England and Russia in Central Asia ---

BOUILLANE DE LA COSTA Around Afghanistan

CARRERE d'ENCAUSE, Helene. Decline of an Empire

CURZON, Lord George. Russia in Central Asia in 1889

MACGAHAN, Campaigning on the Oxus

MARVIN, Charles. Reconnoitering Central Asia

--- The Russian Advance Toward India ---

O'DONOVAN, Merv Oasis

RYWKIN, Michael. Moscow's Muslim Challenge

SAID, Kurban (pseud.) Ali and Nino

VAMBERY, Arminius (Herman). The Adventures of Arminius Vambery Written By Himself

--- Travels in Central Asia ---