COURSE NO.  345  
COURSE TITLE  Central Asia and World Affairs  (From 1880s to 1980s)  
INSTRUCTOR  A. Altstadt-Mirhadi  

The position of Russia in Central Asia is that of all civilized states which come into contact with half-savage, wandering tribes possessing no fixed social organization. If we content ourselves with chastising the freebooters and then retire, the lesson is forgotten, for Asiatics respect only visible and palpable force...The task has therefore to be performed over and over again...and the greatest difficulty is knowing where to stop."

- Prince Gorchakov, Russian Imperial Chancellor, Nov., 1864

For more than a century, the Russian then Soviet state has systematically moved southward into Central Asia, most recently entering Afghanistan, the traditional 'buffer state' between Russian-held territories to the north and British India, strategic counterweight to the south. After World War II, US influence gradually replaced British and a new strategic configuration gradually emerged. The 'Great Game' was complicated in the 20th c. by the emergence of a Communist power and 'Muslim Communists', by the creation of newly independent states, the exigencies of regional politics, the rise of 'Islamic fundamentalism', the demographic explosion of Soviet Muslims and other factors. These patterns of shifting influence and the myriad political, economic, ideological, cultural, and social factors that influenced them will be the focus of this course. We will strive to gain insights into this world area, its peoples and problems and to develop analytical skills.

LECTURES

Meetings (M, W, F: at 1:20) will be lecture-discussion, sometimes more lecture, sometimes more discussion.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

2 tiny, take-home map assignments (ea. 5% of grade) = 10%
 ''Article review'' (about 3-4 pp) 10%
 Critical/Analytical Paper (about 10-15 pp) 30%

Midterm exam (in class) 25%
Final exam 25%

GRADING SYSTEM

As indicated above: class participation can help not hurt borderline grades

REQUIRED READINGS

ARE TO BE DONE BEFORE THE CLASS AS INDICATED ON SYLLABUS

See instructor for readings, syllabus.
Central Asia and World Affairs:  
1880s - 1980s

History 345  
Prof. Altstadt-Mirhadi  
4117 Humanities Bldg.  
253-2528 
Office Hrs: MW 2:30-4  
Th 10-11:30

Fall 1985  
M, W, F 1:20 PM

GOALS OF COURSE: To study the geo-political significance and recent history of this little-known area of the world (Soviet Central Asia and the Caucasus, Afghanistan and Iran) with particular reference to political, socio-economic, and cultural problems over the past 100 years. Our goal is to foster deeper understanding of the problems themselves and of the natures of the indigenous societies -- an understanding crucial to sensible analysis. The underlying framework of the course is Great Power rivalry from the Anglo-Russian "Great Game" of the 19th to present US-Soviet competition in this area. We will look at the views and actions of the regional powers as well as the "Great Powers."

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, because we will not use the entire book, because it was very expensive, etc.

Available for Purchase (University Bookstore - Aisle 8):

READINGS PACKET (Designated as "Pack" in reading assignments) - Available at Kinko's (1201 Regent, near Charter St.)

Stanley Wolpert  Roots of Confrontation in South Asia
Henry S. Bradsher  Afghanistan and the Soviet Union
Richard Pipes  Formation of the Soviet Union
Alexandre Bennigsen and S. Enders Wimbush  Muslim National Communism in the Soviet Union
Nikki Keddie  Roots of Revolution: Interpretive Essays in the History of Modern Iran

Alvin Z. Rubenstein  Soviet Policy Toward Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan (required to read in part, but purchase is optional)

Other required and most optional readings are on reserve. Complete list of all readings follows weekly schedule. For your convenience and edification, I would strongly urge each of you to purchase AND USE ASSIDUOUSLY a dictionary, preferably a pocket-sized one which is small enough not to discourage you from using it.
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.

ASSIGNMENTS and GRADING:

Two (2) tiny, take-home map assignments (ea. 5% of grade) = 10%
"Article Review" (3-4 pages) = 10%
Critical/Analytical Paper (10-15 pp; grads - 20-25pp) = 30%
Midterm (7th or 8th week) = 25%
Final (Mon, 16 December) = 25%

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.

Reasonable class participation can raise a border-line grade at the end.

Weekly Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READING ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tr>
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<td>(Notice Occasional Choices!)</td>
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<td>(Parenthetical = OPTIONAL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Carce, Intro to 2nd ed. &amp; Introductory Survey: Wheeler, Ch.1 OR Bacon Ch.1 (Opt: Caroe Ch.2,3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>W (4.S)</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>F (6.S)</td>
<td>Land and People; Rise and Fall of Early Empires to 8th c.</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
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<td>Wolpert, Ch. 1-3</td>
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<td>M (9.S)</td>
<td>Muslim Conquest, 8th c.; Islam in Central Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>W (11.S)</td>
<td>Muslim CA, 8th-18th c: Rise and Fall of Empires</td>
<td>Wheeler, Ch.2, OR Caroe Ch.4; Kaddie, Ch.1; 1st MAP DUE</td>
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Week 3
M (16.S) Russia Takes Turkestan
W (18.S) British Expansion from south: the Great Game
F (20.S) Transforming Ideas: Pan-Islamism, Nationalism

Week 4
M (23.S) Iranian Revolution, 1905-11: Constitution and Great Game
W (25.S) Russia’s Muslims, 1900-1917: Islam, Socialism, Nationalism
F (27.S) World War, October Revolution, Civil War and the British Intervention

Week 5
M (30.S) Reconstitution of Soviet Russia
W (2.O) Muslim National Communism
F (4.O) Soviet Russia and Muslim Neighbors

Week 6
M (7.O) Muslim Communists as "Springboards" of Revolt; CP in Iran
W (9.O) Afghanistan: Reform w/o CP
F (11.O) Special Class: TBA

Week 7
M (14.O) Destruction of Muslim Natl Communists; Iron Curtain Falls
W (16.O) Socialist vs Non-Socialist Development: Soviet CA, Iran, Afghanistan
F (18.O) World War II and Central Asia

Week 8
M (21.O) --continued--
Wk. 8 (contd)
W (23.0) Crises in Aftermath of War
F (25.0) MIDTERM EXAM (tentative)

Wk. 9: CA and the Cold War
M (29.0) Overview; US Policy: Afghanistan
W (30.0) US and Soviet Policies: Iran
F (1.N) Soviet Policy: Afghanistan

Wk. 10
M (4.N) Afghanistan in 1960s; Soviet Friendship
W (5.N) Iran in 1960s; US Friendship
F (8.N) Islamic Opposition in Iran: Tradition and Revival of the Shah

Wk. 11: Iran
M (11.N) Islam vs Modernization
W (13.N) Islam vs Marxism
F (15.N) Revolution and Overthrow of the Shah

Wk. 12: Afghanistan
M (18.N) Before the Saur Revolution: Socio-economic picture
W (20.N) Role of Islam in Society
F (22.N) Afghan CP & Soviet ties up to 1979

Wk. 13
M (25.N) Soviet Invasion; What and Why
W (27.N) International Repercussions Russia's Muslims

--THANKSGIVING BREAK-- (Needed by all. Well deserved??)

Wk. 14: Soviet Central Asia
M (2.0) Socio-Economic-Political Profile Today
W (4.0) Soviet Muslim and Iranian Revolution and Afghanistan
F (6.0) Soviet Muslims and the Russians

Wolpert, Ch. 7
Wolpert Ch 8-9; Horrocks (Pack)
Keddie Ch.7 to 150; Yodfat, Ch.2; rest of Rubenstein, Ch.3,
Bradsher, Ch 2; rest of R'stein, 6
Atyeo (Pack)
Bardner
Dallin, Martin, Hayden (Pack)

Keddie Ch.7; Atyeo (Pack)

Keddie Ch.9; Essays
Ch.1, 2, 4

Yodfat, Ch.3; Keddie Ch.7

Keddie, Ch.8

Keddie, Ch.9, Conclusion;
Yodfat, Ch.4-5

R'stein, Ch.5, 9; Yodfat, Ch.6-8; Shalinsky (Pack)
Rywkin in Ro'i;
Choose one:
Rywkin, Challenge, Ch.6
Carrere d'Encause, Ch.7-8.

Bradsher, Ch.7-9; R'stein Ch.9
Bradsher, Ch.10 to end

Well deserved??)

Bradshert, Ch.3; R'stein, Ch.7

Connor (Pack); Bradsher, Ch.4

Phillips
Bradsher, Ch.5-6; R'stein, Ch.7

Bradsher, Ch.7-9; R'stein Ch.9

Bradsher, Ch.7-9; R'stein Ch.9

Mcauley, Henze, Burg in Ro'i

R'stein, Ch.5, 9; Yodfat, Ch.6-8;

Rywkin in Ro'i;

Carrere d'Encause, Ch.7-8.
PAPER DUE

PAPER DUE
Week 15: Current Problems

M (9.D) On-going war in Afghanistan
W (11.D) Iran and Question of
       Islamic Fundamentalism
F (13.D) Development, Western-
       ization and Nationalism

THINK!!

Girardet, Braker, Bony (Pack);
Weinbaum in Ro'i; Bennigsen (Pack)

Review articles in Ro'i book;
Possible new articles TBA

Course Readings

Required

READINGS and DOCUMENTS PACK Available at the Kinko's at 1201 Regent St.


CAROE, Olaf. The Soviet Empire: Turks of Central Asia and Stalinism (London: Macmillan, 1950)


RO'I, Yaacov (Editor). The USSR and the Muslim World (London: George Unwin & Allen, 1984)

RUBENSTEIN, Alvin Z. Soviet Policy Toward Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan (NY: Praeger, 1982)


WOLPERT, Stanley. Roots of Confrontation in South Asia (NY/Oxford:
Oxford U Press, 1984)

YODFAT, Aryeh Y. The Soviet Union and Revolutionary Iran (London: St. Martin's, 1984)

ZABIH, R. The Communist Movement in Iran (Berkeley: U of California Press, 1965)

Optional

AITMATOV, Chingiz. A Day Lasts Longer than an Age
The White Boat
"Jamile" or other short story from Collected Stories

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

BARAHENI, Reza. Crowned Cannibals
God's Shadow

SEHRANGI (Also BHRANGI), Samad. Little Black Fish (collected stories)

BENNIGSEN, Alexandre and Marie Broxup. The Islamic Threat to the Soviet State (London: St. Martin's, 1984)


COTTAM, Richard W. Nationalism in Iran (Pittsburg: U of Pittsburg Press, 1964) There is also a later, updated edition.


SAID, Kurban (pseud.) Ali and Nino (NY: Simon & Shuster, 1935)

