

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History

Course no. 106, Fall 1994, (3 credits, TR, 9:30-10:45,
270 Soils)

Invasions and Empires. History of
Central Asia from Gengis Khan to Stalin.

INSTRUCTOR : Vincent Fourniau, 4122 Humanities, tel.:263-5424

OFFICE HOURS (Instructor) : Tue. 11:00-12:00 am, Fri. 2:00-3:00 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will deal with Central Asia during three historical epochs-late medieval, modern and contemporary. By investigating the emergence of new political orders in the area, around 1220, then in 1500, later in the 1870's, again in 1920, and since 1990, we will try to establish the balance between the two sets of causes shaping this history : structural forces and events themselves. In order to discuss the latter, we will conduct a survey of the sequence of peoples, states and rulers in the area of Central Asia. When appropriate, slides will be used.

LECTURES AND SECTIONS

The class meeting will include both lectures and discussions. For the latter to be useful instead of mutually frustrating, the assigned readings must be done on time.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMINATIONS AND GRADING SYSTEM

- . In class : 1 map quiz, and two exams.
- . Home work : 1 paper, 6-10 pages.

The essays are based on your choice out of several assigned topics. There are not research papers, but essays relating to the regular assigned readings and the lectures. The grade distribution will be as follows :

5% : map quiz; 30% : mid-term; 35% : final exam; 30% : paper

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

I. INTRODUCTION TO THE FIELD OF STUDY

1. Sept. 1 Inside Central Asia
 - The notion of Central Asia
 - Climate and environment
2. Sept. 6 The Muslim factor Central Asia
 - Muslim areas of the former Soviet Union
 - Present day populations of Central Asia

II. THE CONFRONTATION OF FORCES

3. Sept. 8 Sedentary and nomadism
 - Definition of the terms
 - The nomadic-sedentary contacts in Central Asian history
 - The pre-Islamic crossroad
4. Sept. 13 The great pre-Islamic empires
 - Greek, Iranian and Turkic empires
 - The Silk Road

Portrait 1 : Alexander the Great
5. Sept. 15 The Islamization of Central Asia
 - Arab conquest of Central Asia
 - The conversion to Islam
 - The urban way of life
6. Sept. 20 Medieval Central Asia as Islamic center
 - The classical Islam of Central Asia
 - Central Asia and the Muslim world

Portrait 2 : Farabi
7. Sept. 22 From Turk to Mongol
 - The steppe politics before the Mongol wave
 - The first Altaic invaders: the Turks
 - Central Asia as frontier of Islam
8. Sept. 27 Gengis Khan, founder of the Mongol Empire
 - The unification of the Mongol nation
 - The military superiority of the Mongols

Portrait 3 : The Seljukids
9. Sept. 29 Ethnic changes and integration : the Mongol legacy
 - The partition of the Mongol empire
 - Mongol factor in ethnicity
 - Civilization and economy

III. THE AGE OF MATURITY

10. Oct. 4 Chagatay and Timurid dynasties : a period of transition
- The Chagatay century
- The Timurid new political order
Portrait 4 : Rubruquis
11. Oct. 6 The Timurid Renaissance
- Samarkand, capital of the Islamic world?
- Central Asia as a political unit
- Some major changes in Eurasia
12. Oct. 11 Towards the foundation of the present-day parameters
- The end of the human migrations
- The Uzbek migration-conquest
Portrait 5 : Ulugh Beg
13. Oct. 13 The setting of different ethno-polical areas
- The new territorial distribution
- Changes in ethnicity
- The Uzbek supremacy
14. Oct. 18 MID-TERM EXAMINATION
15. Oct. 20 Slides and discussion
16. Oct. 25 The civilization of Central Asia before the Russian colonization
- The continuation of the Timurid model
- The Turco-Iranian crossroad in perspective
Portrait 6 : Abd Ullah II

IV. THE RUSSIAN FACTOR IN CENTRAL ASIAN HISTORY

17. Oct. 27 The reasons of the Russian expansion before 1700
- Russia, an Asian power
- The political vacuum of Siberia
- Russia and Central Asia before the Russian conquest
18. Nov. 1 The subjugation of the Kazakh ethno-political area
- The Bashkiria encircled
- Russia pauses in the Steppes
Portrait 7 : Philip Efremov
19. Nov. 3 The conquest of the Uzbek khanates
- The facts
- The question of the Anglo-Russian rivalry
- Gubernias and protectorates
20. Nov. 8 The stabilization of the mobile frontier
- The submission of the Turkmens
- The last territorial annexations
Portrait 8 : Chokan Valikhan

21. Nov. 10 The colonial society
 - The transformations in agriculture
 - The European settlement
 - The local reactions
22. Nov. 15 The changing forces from within : Jadidism
 - The Islamic reformism
 - Cultural and National awakening in connection with pan-Islamism and pan-Turkism
 Portrait 9 : Ahmed Donish
23. Nov. 17 The Muslim elites and the new government
 - The revolutions in the Russian Empire
 - Jadids and Bolsheviks
 - The basmatshi rebellion
24. Nov. 22 Nation building processes within the Soviet frame
 - The Great Delimitation
 - The Nationality policy of the center
 Portrait 10 : Fayzullah Khojaev
25. Nov. 24 Thanksgiving day
26. Nov. 29 Stalinism in the economic and social spheres
 - The collectivization of the agriculture
 - The stalinist society
 Portrait 11 : The last nomads of Central Asia
27. Dec. 1 The Soviet Central Asian nations consolidated?
 - A new legitimacy for the national feelings
 - The limited recognition of the Muslim legacy
 - The demographic factor

V. CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

28. Dec. 6 Soviet Central Asia before the Perestroika
 - The economic crisis
 - The consequences of the Afghan war
 Portrait 12 : Kunaev
29. Dec. 8 Which destiny for Central Asia?
 - The present-day governments
 - The integration to the world market
 - The internal situations
30. Dec. 13 The latest events. Recapitulation and review
 Portrait 13 : Islam Karimov