Dru C. Gladney and Eric Harwit
China’s Ties with Central Asia (Asian Studies 491g)
Syllabus for the course offered in Spring 2002
University of Hawaii
Asian Studies Department

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This new course will explore the historical, cultural, religious, political and economic ties between China and the major states of Central Asia. It will address issues of ethnic and national identities, Islamic social movements, border relations, and foreign exchanges in the wake of the demise of the Soviet Union. Contemporary topics of analysis include cross border trade, environmental conflict, economic development, and regional independence movements.

A course web page will be created at the following site: www.hawaii.edu/dru/courses.html.

Participation: As an advanced reading/discussion seminar course, students are required to complete all readings before coming to class, and two students will be assigned to discuss/debate the merits (or shortcomings) of the articles, chapters or book assigned. Students should prepare a 1-2 page outline of the major points of the reading, and include 3 or 4 discussion questions to frame the session’s presentation. The outline and questions should be delivered via e-mail to both instructors and fellow students at least one day prior (Thursday afternoon at the latest) to the class meeting (20%).

Short Research Assignment: Students will be asked to collect a digital archive of web-linked research articles, newspapers, and organizations related to the course syllabus, to be divided in consultation with the professors. Due the 6th week of class (20-30 items) (10%)

Research Paper - Rough Draft: A longer research paper will be required on a subject to be determined with the instructor, due in rough draft form in 12th week of class (10%, with proposal due earlier, worth 5%). Proposal is due Week 4.

Research Paper - Final Draft: A longer research paper will be required on a subject to be determined with the instructor, due last week of class (50%).

Final Examination/Readings Journal: A readings journal is due on the day of the final (10%) (1 page per seminar reading)

Required Books (additional articles to be made available):
Course Schedule:

Week 1. (Jan. 18): Introduction to Course [Gladney and Harwit lead session]

Week 2. (Jan. 25): The Great Game and Formation of Contemporary Inner Asia [Gladney]

Week 3. (Feb. 1): Historical Conflicts: Colonization and Resistance [Gladney]
Meyer and Brysac. Part II.
Gross and Allworth: Chapter 7-9

Week 4. (Feb. 8): Post-Colonization and the making of modern Central Asian Identities [Gladney]
Meyer and Brysac. Part III.
Muslims in Central Asia: Expressions of Identity and Change

Week 5. (Feb. 15): Identity in Inner Asia: Islam and Pre-Islam [Gladney]
Gross and Allworth: Chapters 1-6

Week 6. (Feb. 22): Islam and Ethnic Identity in Inner Asia: The Case of the Uyghur [Gladney]

Assignment: Research project for a digital archive of web-linked research articles, newspapers, and organizations related to the course syllabus, to be divided in consultation with the professors. (20-30 items) (10%)
Week 7. (March 1): The Uyghur and the Politics of “Cyber-Separatism” [Gladney]
Rudelson, Chapter 5-7

______. “Cyber-Separatism: The Case of the Uygurs” (forthcoming essay)

Week 8. (March 8): Environmental Adaption in Central Asia and China [Gladney]

Week 9. (March 15): The Nation-State and Sedentarization [Harwit]
Humphrey and Sneath, Chap. 6-8

Week 10. (March 22): The Environment and Nation-Building [Harwit]
[Additional reading TBA]

[March 29: Spring vacation]

Week 11. (April 5): Economics and Trade: China’s Expansion into Central Asia [Harwit]
Articles to be provided

Week 12. (April 12): Energy and Economy [Harwit]

Assignment: Research Paper rough draft due

Week 13. (April 19): The Politics of Petro-dollars [Harwit]
Ebel and Menon, Chapters 5-7

Week 14. (April 26): Nation-building and Expansionism [Harwit]
Ebel and Menon, Chapters 9-11

Week 15. (May 3): Student Presentations/Papers [Harwit]
Student research project presentations
NOTE: WRITTEN PAPERS DUE!!

Final Exam Day: Readings Journal/Final: Due on day of Final Exam