

«Central Asian Studies World Wide»
Course Syllabi for the Study of Central Eurasia
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Eugene Huskey
The Unknown Asia: Politics and Society on the Russian, Chinese and Middle Eastern
Borderlands (Political Science 338C)
Syllabus for the course offered in Fall 2000
Stetson University
Dept. of Political Science

Eugene Huskey
Department of Political Science
Stetson University
316 Eliz. Hall
421 N. Woodland Blvd. Unit 8301
DeLand, FL 32720-3757
U.S.A.
ehuskey@stetson.edu

**THE UNKNOWN ASIA:
POLITICS AND SOCIETY
ON THE RUSSIAN, CHINESE AND MIDDLE EASTERN BORDERLANDS**

Political Science 338C
E. Huskey

Fall 2000
TTh 1:00-2:15

In the vast heartland of Asia lie cultures and political systems that have attracted little attention in East or West. Occupying territories along the Silk Road, which was once controlled by Genghis Khan and Tamerlane, the countries of Central, or Inner, Asia are just awakening from centuries of domination by the great states and civilizations that surrounded them.

The primary focus of the course is on the creation of new states in Central Asia in the wake of communism's collapse. After surveying the cultural, historical, and geographical landscape of the region, the course will analyze in detail the international and domestic factors shaping political and economic development in five countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Afghanistan and the Turkic regions in Western China will also receive attention. In the cauldron of political change in Central Asia one finds a fascinating, and volatile, mix of Islamic revivalism, ethnic and linguistic pluralism, communist legacies, a demographic explosion, and a struggle over natural resources, most notably oil and water. The course challenges students to master the basic literature on this fascinating region while engaging the critical debates over the prospects and policy choices that face Central Asian leaders and societies.

Student progress in the course will be assessed on the following basis:

Attendance/participation	25%
Midterm examination	25%
Research paper	25%
Final examination	25%

I am available in my office Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11:00 to 12:15 and Tuesday and Thursday from 10:45 to 11:30. Students are encouraged to make an appointment if these times are inconvenient. You may also contact me by e-mail (ehuskey@stetson.edu) or phone (x7576).

The following books should be purchased in the bookstore:

Dawisha and Parrott, *Conflict, Cleavage and Change in Central Asia and the Caucasus*
Poliakov, *Everyday Islam*
Calming the Ferghana Valley
Rashid, *Taliban*

Other readings may be found on reserve in the library and, where an * appears, online.

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I. THE HEARTLAND OR THE FRONTIER?

1. Geography

Readings: Map exercise; M. Hauner, *What is Asia to Us?*, pp. 135-146; 216-237.

2. History

Readings: E. Allworth, *Central Asia*, pp. 151-188.

3. Demography and Ethnography

Readings: S. Zenkovsky, *Pan-Turkism and Islam in Russia*, pp. 1-11; E. Allworth, *Central Asia*, pp. 60-74, 81-91; M. Rywkin, *Moscow's Muslim Challenge*, pp. 92-106.

4. Religion

Readings: M. Rywkin, *Moscow's Muslim Challenge*, pp. 84-91; S. Poliakov, *Everyday Islam*, pp. 95-137; A. Tabyshalieva, *The Challenge of Regional Cooperation in Central Asia*, pp. 10-13.

II. THE RISE AND FALL OF COMMUNISM IN CENTRAL ASIA

1. The 20-Year Revolution

Readings: M. Rywkin, *Moscow's Muslim Challenge*, pp. 19-43; S. Zenkovsky, *Pan-Turkism and Islam in Russia*, pp. 269-282; S. Sabol, "The Creation of Soviet Central Asia: The 1924 National Delimitation," *Central Asian Survey* (1995), pp. 225-241.

2. Sovietized (and Russified) Central Asia

Readings: E. Allworth, *Central Asia*, pp. 527-572.

3. The Reluctant Transition to Statehood

Readings: M. Olcott, *Central Asia's New States*, pp. 3-37.

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III. COMPARING FIVE REGIMES IN TRANSITION

1. Conceptualizing Postcommunist Politics

Readings: Dawisha and Parrott, *Conflict, Cleavage, and Change...*, pp. 40-65; G. O'Donnell, "Delegative Democracy," *Journal of Democracy*, pp. 55-69; P. Kubicek, "Authoritarianism in Central Asia: Curse or Cure," *Third World Quarterly* (March 1998), pp. 29-44*; K. Alimov, "Are Central Asian Clans Still Playing a Political Role?," *Central Asian Monitor*, no. (1994)*.

2. Kazakhstan

Readings: Dawisha and Parrott, pp. 201-241.

3. Kyrgyzstan

Readings: Dawisha and Parrott, pp. 242-276.

4. Uzbekistan

Readings: Dawisha and Parrott, pp. 360-408; H. Clarke, "An American View of Uzbekistan," *Central Asian Survey* (September 1999), pp. 373-383*.

5. Turkmenistan

Readings: Dawisha and Parrott, pp. 312-359.

6. Tajikistan

Readings: Dawisha and Parrott, pp. 277-311.

7. Elections and Political Development

Readings: E. Huskey, "The Rise of Contested Elections in Central Asia," *Europe-Asia Studies*, no. 5 (1995), pp. 813-833 ; J. Anderson, "Elections and Political Development in Central Asia," *Journal of Communist Studies and Transition Politics*, no. 4 (1997), pp. 28-53; CSCE, Report on the Parliamentary Election in Kyrgyzstan (1995), pp. 1-2; 7-14; CSCE, Report on the Parliamentary Election in Turkmenistan (1994), pp. 1-2, 6-8.

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MIDTERM

IV. INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCES ON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:
A NEW GREAT GAME?

1. The Politics of Oil

Readings: N. Lubin, "Pipe Dreams," *Harvard International Review*, (Winter 2000), pp. 66-69*; Rashid, Taliban, pp. 143-182.

2. The Taliban and the Politics of Islam

Readings: Rashid, pp. 1-140; 183-216; "Central Asian Unrest Shows Region's Vulnerability," Reuters, 11 August 2000*.

3. International Development and Economic Assistance: A Case Study of the Ferghana Valley

Readings: A. Tabyshalieva, *The Challenge of Regional Cooperation in Central Asia*, pp. 19-29; *Calming the Ferghana Valley*, pp. 3-136.

4. Competing Approaches to National Security: Unilateral, Bilateral and Collective

Readings: M. Olcott, *Central Asia's New States*, pp. 139-179; A. Tabyshalieva, *The Challenge of Regional Cooperation in Central Asia*, pp. 30-40; "Prepared Statement of Stephen Sestanovich, Ambassador at Large," Federal News Service, 17 March 1999*; "Joint Declaration on Security Signed," BBC Monitoring, 26 August 1999*.

V. DOMESTIC CHALLENGES

1. The Politics of Water, Land, and the Environment

Readings: B. Rumer, *Soviet Central Asia*, pp. 76-104; M. Feshbach and A. Friendly, Jr., "A Sea of Troubles," *Ecocide in the USSR*, pp. 73-88; S. Lloyd-Roberts and E. Anbarasan, "The Aral Sea: Back from the Brink?," *The UNESCO Courier* (January 2000), pp. 10-13*.

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2. Women and Gender

Readings: Poliakov, pp. 53-92; M. Buckley, *Post-Soviet Women: From the Baltic to Central Asia*, pp. 261-303; K. Kuehnast, "From Pioneers to Entrepreneurs: Young Women, Consumerism, and the 'World Picture' in Kyrgyzstan," *Central Asian Survey*, no 4 (1998), pp. 639-654.

3. Youth and Unemployment

Readings: Poliakov, pp. 3-49; 138-144; William Fierman, "Central Asian Youth and Migration," *Soviet Central Asia: The Failed Transformation*, pp. 255-289; A. Bauer, N. Boschmann, D. Green and K. Kuehnast, *A Generation at Risk: Children in the Central Asia Republics of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan*, pages to be assigned.

4. Crime, Drugs, and Corruption

Readings: "UN to Fight Drugs in Central Asia," BBC Monitoring, 27 March 1998*; K. Alimov, "Central Asian Big Business: The Mafia's Drug Trade," *Prism*, 3 November 1995*.

5. The Politics of Language and Identity

Readings: M. Guboglo, "Demography and Language in the Capitals of the Union Republics," *Journal of Soviet Nationalities*, no. 4 (1990-1991), pp. 27-41; W. Fierman, "The Politics of Language in Uzbekistan," and E. Huskey, "The Politics of Language in Kyrgyzstan," in *Nationalities Papers*, no. 3 (1995); E. Huskey, "National Identity from Scratch: Defining Kyrgyzstan's Role in World Affairs" (unpublished manuscript, 1999).

VI. THE UNKNOWN ASIA: CRITIQUING THE WESTERN LITERATURE

Readings: Halim Kara, "Orientalism's Discourses in Contemporary Central Asian Studies," *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs* (October 1999), pp. 321-329.

FINAL EXAMINATION
Monday, December 11, 4:00-6:00pm