

**«Central Asian Studies World Wide»
Course Syllabi for the Study of Central Eurasia
www.fas.harvard.edu/~casww/CASWW_Syllabi.html**

**Adeeb Khalid
Empires of the Steppe (History 265)
Syllabus for the course offered in Spring 2002
Carleton College
History Department**

Adeeb Khalid
History Department
Carleton College
Northfield, MN 55057
U.S.A.
akhalid@carleton.edu

History 265
Empires of the Steppe
Spring 2002

Adeeb Khalid

Leighton 205

Office hours: T 1-3, W 3:30-4:30, and by appointment. I may be contacted by telephone (x4214) or by e-mail at akhalid.

Texts:

The following are available for purchase at the Bookstore:

David Christian, *A History of Russia, Central Asia and Mongolia*

Richard Frye, *Bukhara: The Medieval Achievement*

J. J. Saunders, *The History of the Mongol Conquests*

Adeeb Khalid, *The Politics of Muslim Cultural Reform*

Theodore Levin, *The Hundred Thousand Fools of God*

In addition, a packet of readings has been placed on closed reserved at the Library. Readings included in it are marked by * below.

Evaluation:

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

Two papers, 30% each

Two quizzes, 15% each

Participation, 10%

The participation grade will be based on both attendance and active participation in discussion. Primary sources included in the readings are particularly important for discussion. These are marked by † below.

Schedule of Classes:

April 1: Introduction; Ecology

The Steppe and its People

April 3: Nomadism

Christian, 3-20

*Barfield, *The Nomadic Alternative*, 1-18, 131-179

April 5: Tribes

Christian, 123-157

*Lindner, "What was a Nomadic Tribe?"

April 8: The Earliest Nomadic empires

Christian, 183-243

April 10: Europe and the Steppe

Christian, 247-303

*†Ibn Fadlan, *Risalah*, 24-25, 44-68, 153-160

April 12: The Crossroads of Religions

*DeWeese, *Islamization and Native Religion*, 27-50

April 15: Film: *The Silk Road*

The Rise of Islam

April 17-19 The Rise of Islam and the First Muslim Dynasties

Frye, entire

- April 22: Islamization: Complexities of Conversion
 *DeWeese, 51-66, †541-543
 †**The Wisdom of Royal Glory*, 103-111

The Mongols

- April 24-29: The Mongols
 Saunders, entire
 †**Secret History of the Mongols*, 1-18, 183-204

The Revenge of the Periphery

- May 1: The Aftermath of the Mongol Empire
 *Soucek, *History of Inner Asia*, 117-161, 167-175
- May 3: Chinese Expansion into Inner Asia
 *Rossabi, *China and Inner Asia*, 84-105, 166-217
- May 6: MIDTERM BREAK
- May 8: MIDTERM QUIZ
- May 10: Russian Expansion into Central Asia
 *Soucek, 177-193
 *Donnelly and MacKenzie in Rywkin, ed., *Russian Colonial Expansion*,
 189-234
 Khalid, chap. 1

The Modern Age

- May 13: Central Asia under Russian rule
 Khalid, chaps. 2-3
- May 15-17: The Encounter with Modernity
 Khalid, chs. 4-6
 †*Cho'ipon, "Dr Muhammad-Yar"
- May 20: Central Asia in the Age of Revolutions
 Khalid, ch. 8, epilogue
- May 22: The Transformations of the Soviet Era
 *Edgar, "Genealogy, Class, and 'Tribal Policy'."
Begin reading Levin
- May 24: The Transformations of the Soviet Era
 *Kamp, "The Three Lives of Saodat."
- May 27: Culture and Identity in the Soviet Period
 DISCUSSION: Levin
- May 29: Film: *Revolt of the Daughters-in-Law*
- May 31: Chinese Inner Asia in the 20th Century
 Rudelson, *Oasis Identities*
- June 3: After the Soviets
 Bissell, "Eternal Winter"
- June 5: FINAL QUIZ