Dr. Jonathan Grant
Central Asia since the Mongols
Syllabus for the course offered in Spring 2001
Florida State University
Dept. of History

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Dept. of History
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CENTRAL ASIA SINCE THE MONGOLS
SPRING 2001, T 7:00-9:45
Turnbull Center 110

Instructor: Dr. Jonathan Grant
Office Hours: MWF 466 Bellamy
644-9513 (office) and by appointment
219-3894 (home)
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Course Overview: This course covers Central Asian history through three historical epochs: medieval, modern, and contemporary. The political and ethnic histories of the Central Asian peoples will be the main focus. In addition, a major theme will be the inter-play of external and internal forces in shaping the development of a Central Asian region distinct from other regional identities. We will address such topics as the imperial legacies of the Arabs, Mongols, and Russians; the emergence of the modern nations of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Iran and Afghanistan; and the role of Islam in the lives of Central Asians.

Written Assignments: A main objective of this course is to provide students with practice in "doing history." Consequently, writing assignments will emphasize the use of primary source materials as much as possible. The graded work will consist of three (3) brief papers based on a topic chosen from assigned lists. In addition there will be an essay final exam. If they prefer, students may substitute a 10-14 page research paper for papers 1 and 3. Students must approve their topics with me in order to pursue the research paper option. There will also be an optional in-class exam Feb. 18 which students may substitute for the midterm paper. The assignments will be weighted as follows:

OPTION A
Feb. Paper 1 (5-7 pp.) 20%
Feb. Paper 2 (midterm 4-6 pp.) 25%
Apr. Paper 3 (5-7 pp.) 25%
Apr. Final exam 30%

OPTION B
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midterm (4-6 pp) 25%
research paper(10-14) 45%
Final 30%

The Final exam is scheduled for Tuesday April 24, 2001 7:00-9:00 pm.

Students with disabilities covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act should follow these steps:
1. Provide documentation of your disability to the Student Disability Resource Center (08 Kellum Hall; tel. 644-9566).
2. Bring me a statement from the Student Disability Resource Center indicating that you have registered with them during the first week of class. The statement should indicate the special accommodations you require.
Graduate Students:

Graduate students will meet with me for an hour discussion session once a week. Graduate students will do paper 1. Also, graduate students will write a research paper (15-20pp.) OR historiographical paper on their chosen topics in place of paper 3. Everyone is required to do the midterm paper and the final exam.

Required Texts:

AVAILABLE IN BOOKSTORE

ON RESERVE AT STROZIER
Photocopies of Primary Source materials.

WEEK 1. (Jan. 9) Introduction to the field
Soucek, pp. 1-45

WEEK 2. (Jan. 16) Islamization and Turkization
Readings: Soucek, pp. 46-101; Morgan, Mongols, pp. 32-54, Morgan, Persia, pp. 1-50
PRIMARY SOURCES: Dede Korkut. 9-23; 108-132; 190-194
Sufi Tales: pp. 48-80; 119-144

WEEK 3. (Jan. 23) Mongol Conquest
Readings: Soucek, pp. 103-116; Morgan, Mongols, pp. 55-198; Morgan, Persia, pp. 51-61
PRIMARY SOURCES: Spuler docs. pp. 29-57

WEEK 4. (Jan. 30) Ilkhanids, Chagataids and the Timurids
Readings: Soucek, pp. 117-143; Morgan, Mongols, pp. 199-206; Morgan, Persia, pp. 62-100
PRIMARY SOURCES: Spuler docs. pp. 59-69; 144-160; 202-207; Timur

WEEK 5. (Feb. 6) New Regional Order
Readings: Soucek, pp. 144-175
Olcott, pp. 3-27; Morgan, Persia, pp. 101-142
PRIMARY SOURCES: Shah Abbas, (McNeil) pp. 373-391

Paper 1 due Feb. 6 (5-7 pp)

WEEK 6. (Feb. 13) 17th and 18th Centuries
Readings: Soucek, pp. 177-193
Olcott, pp. 28-53; Morgan, Persia, pp. 143-161
WEEK 7. (Feb. 20) Great Game in Asia (Anglo-Russian rivalry)
Readings: Soucek, pp.195-208 Olcott, pp. 57-82
PRIMARY SOURCES: Rahul, pp. 50-88 (docs.)

WEEK 8. (Feb. 27) Colonial society and reactions from within
Readings: Olcott, pp.83-109
Midterm paper due Feb. 27

WEEK 9. (Mar. 6) Revolutions in Central Asia, 1905-1920
Readings: Soucek, pp. 209-224 Olcott, pp. 109-156;
PRIMARY SOURCES: Rahul pp. 18-33; D'encausse, pp. 194-206
SPRING BREAK March 12-16

WEEK 10. (Mar. 20) Creating Soviet Socialist Republics

WEEK 11. (Mar. 27) Islamic Revolutions: Iran and Afghanistan
Readings: Hiro, pp. 228-303
Paper 3 or research paper due March 27

WEEK 12. (Apr. 3) Soviet Central Asia since 1953
Readings: Olcott, pp. 224-246; Haghayeghi pp. 15-39
PRIMARY SOURCES: Rashidov

WEEK 13. (Apr. 10) Central Asia under Gorbachev
Readings: Soucek, pp. 254-262; Olcott, pp. 249-268;
Haghayeghi pp. 41-70

WEEK 14. (Apr. 17) Decolonization by default
Readings: Soucek, pp. 275-295; 303-315; Olcott, pp.
268-298; Haghayeghi pp. 71-211

WEEK 15. FINAL EXAM (Apr. 24)
FINAL EXAM TUESDAY APRIL 24, 7:00-9:00 pm.

Unit 1: Mongol Empire and its legacy
1. Setting the stage: islamization, Turkization
2. Mongol conquest
3. Timurid Central Asia
4. New Regional order and ethno-political areas
Unit 2: 1854-1979: imperialism and modernization
5. Great game in Asia
6. Colonial Society and reactions from within
7. Revolutions in Central Asia 1905-1920
8. Creating Soviet Socialist Republics from Stalin to Brezhnev
9. Shahs and Kings in Iran and Afghanistan 1930-1979
Unit 3: Since 1979
10. Iranian Revolution 1979-1989
12. Soviet Central Asia under Gorbachev
13. The STANleys: decolonization by default
14. Taliban
15. Central Asia today