

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
Department of History

History 106, Fall 1992 (3 credits, TR, 2:30-3:45, 1111 Humanities)

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

INSTRUCTOR : Vincent Fourniau, 4122 Humanities, 263-5424

TEACHING ASSISTANT : Adeeb Khalid, 4272 Humanities, 263-1939

OFFICE HOURS (Instructor) : Tue. 11:00-12:00, Th. 11:00-12:00  
(T.A.) : Wed. 2:30-3:30, Th. 1:00-2:00 p.m.

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. 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. Attendance in sections is mandatory. It comes part of the final grade : 15%.

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	25% : mid-term	30% : final exam
	25% : paper	15% : sections

## SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

### I. INTRODUCTION TO THE FIELD OF STUDY

1. Sept. 3 Introduction to the Muslim populations of the former USSR
  - Muslim areas of the Soviet Union
  - Ethno-linguistic composition of the Muslims
  - Specificities of Central Asia
2. Sept. 8 Inside Central Asia
  - The notion of Central Asia
  - Present-day populations
  - Climate and environment

### II. ISLAM, CONQUESTS AND ETHNICITY BEFORE THE XIXth CENTURY

3. Sept. 10 The pre-Islamic crossroad
  - The Silk Road
  - Buddhism and Zoroastrianism
  - Other cultural influences
4. Sept. 15 The Islamization of Central Asia
  - Arab conquest of Central Asia
  - The conversion to Islam

Portrait 1 : Qasim ibn Abbas
5. Sept. 17 The basis of the Islamic civilization
  - The different Islamic patterns
  - The urban way of life
  - Central Asia and the Muslim world
6. Sept. 22 Medieval and Modern Central Asia as Islamic center
  - The classical Islam of Central Asia
  - The Persian language in its domain

Portrait 2 : Abu ibn Sina
7. Sept. 24 Military and political challengers to Islam
  - Central Asia as frontier of Islam
  - The Steppe world
  - The first steppe invaders, the Turkic tribes
8. Sept. 29 From Turk to Mongol
  - The Steppe politics before the Mongol wave
  - Pastoral nomadism and sedentary Empires

Portrait 3 : Alp Arslan
9. Oct. 1 Gengis Khan, founder of the Mongol Empire
  - The early life of the conqueror
  - The unification of the Mongol nation
  - The military superiority of the Mongols

10. Oct. 6 Ethnic changes and integration : the Mongol legacy  
 - The Mongol factor in ethnicity  
 - Civilization and economy  
 Portrait 4 : Chagatay
11. Oct. 8 Timur and the Timurids : a century of transition  
 - Samarkand, capital of the Islamic world?  
 - The Timurid legacy : Central asia as a political unit  
 Portrait 5 : Ozbek Khan
12. Oct. 13 MID-TERM EXAMINATION
13. Oct. 15 Towards the foundation of the present-day parameters  
 - The end of the human migrations  
 - The different ethno-political areas  
 Portrait 6 : Ulugh Beg
14. Oct. 20 Central Asia at the eve of the Russian conquest  
 - The Uzbek supremacy  
 - The Turco-Iranian crossroad in perspective  
 Portrait 7 : Abul Ghazi

### III. THE RUSSIAN FACTOR IN THE CENTRAL ASIAN HISTORY

15. Oct. 22 The reasons of the Russian expansion before 1700  
 - Russia, a merging nation  
 - Russia, an Asian power  
 - The political vacuum of Siberia
16. Oct. 27 Russia and Central Asia before the Russian conquests  
 - The commercial partnership  
 - The increasing Russian interest  
 Portrait 8 : Philip Efremov
17. Oct. 29 The subjugation of the Kazakh ethno-political area  
 - The Bashkiria encircled  
 - The first Russian successes with the Kazakhs  
 - Russia pauses in the Steppes
18. Nov. 3 The conquest of the Uzbek khanates  
 - The facts  
 - The question of the Anglo-Russian rivalry  
 Portrait 9 : Chokan Valikhan
19. Nov. 5 The stabilization of the mobile frontier  
 - The submission of the Turkmens  
 - The last territorial annexations  
 - Gubernias and protectorates

20. Nov. 10 Political and economic imperialism  
 - The Russian motives in Central Asia  
 - The local reactions  
 Portrait 10 : The Uzbek poets of the XIXth century
21. Nov. 12 The colonial society  
 - The transformations in agriculture  
 - The European settlement  
 - The Russian achievements in Central Asia
22. Nov. 17 The changing forces from within : Jadidism  
 - The Islamic reformism  
 - Cultural and National awakening in connection  
 with pan-Islamism and pan-Turkism  
 Portrait 11 : Ahmed Donish
23. Nov. 19 The confrontation renewed : Jadids and Bolsheviks  
 - The Muslim elites and the new government  
 - The Jadid-Bolshevik alliance  
 - The basmatshi rebellion
24. Nov. 24 Nation building processes within the Soviet frame  
 - The Great Delimitation  
 - The Nationality policy of the center  
 Portrait 12 : Fayzullah Khodjaev
25. Nov. 26 Thanksgiving day
26. Dec. 1 Stalinism in the economic and social spheres  
 - The collectivization of the agriculture  
 - The sedentarization of the nomads  
 - The stalinist society
27. Dec. 3 The Soviet Central Asian nations consolidated?  
 - A new legitimacy for the national feelings  
 - The limited recognition of the Muslim legacy  
 Portrait 13 : Chingiz Aitmatov
28. Dec. 8 Soviet Central Asia before the Perestroika  
 - The demographic factor  
 - The economic factor  
 - The crisis of the Afghan war
29. Dec. 10 Which destiny for Central Asia?  
 - The confrontation of the ideologies  
 - From Sovereignty to Independence  
 - The situation in Chinese Xinjiang
30. Dec. 15 The latest events. Recapitulation and review  
 Portrait 14 : the leaders of the Central Asian republics.