

# ANTH 329.01 CENTRAL ASIA

## Ethnographic Survey of Selected World Areas

### Department of Anthropology and Archaeology

11:00 – 11:50 AM EDC 280 Monday, Wednesday, Friday

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Saulesh Yessenova

Email: sbyessen@ucalgary.ca (ES 602)

**TEACHING ASSISTANT:** Michele Bianchi

Email: michele.bianchi1@ucalgary.ca

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is designed to introduce students to important moments in the history and contemporary affairs in the region named “Central Asia.” In the past two decades, this region gained prominence in Western media and policy reports. This course engages students in a critical dialogue with Western arguments through exposure to professional scholarship produced by anthropologists, historians, and other specialists. The goal of the course is to enhance students’ knowledge of the region and their skills in critical thinking that should allow them to make a critical contribution to current discussions about Central Asian societies, their cultures and polities.

**COURSE FORMAT:** The course will include lectures, class discussions, films, assigned readings, and other activities on which students will be tested. Lectures will not simply repeat the material in the assigned readings, but will contain additional material that may be included in formal assessment. Therefore, students are encouraged to attend all classes, take notes, and complete assigned readings prior to the class.

#### REQUIRED TEXTS:

Khalid, Adeb. *Making Uzbekistan: Nation, Empire, and Revolution in the Early USSR*. Cornell University Press, 2015.

Laszczkowski, Mateusz. *"City of the Future": built space and social change in Astana, Kazakhstan*. New York, Oxford: Berghahn, 2016.

Additional required readings are available online through the library or otherwise.

#### COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION:

Course evaluation will consist of in-class and take home written assignments.

In-class test	20%	February 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Mid-term paper	40%	Due March 24 <sup>th</sup>
Final take-home assignment	40%	Due April 12 <sup>th</sup>

Late penalty will be applied to take home assignments (2 points per day). Further details on tests, essays, and the final take-home assignment will be provided in class and at the time assignments are given. Students registered with the Student Access Center requiring special examination conditions should present their documentation to the instructor early in the course so that alternate arrangements can be made.

All course work will be graded on a 100-point system. At the end of the course the total number of marks will be converted to the official university letter grade system according to the following equivalences:

A+	100 - 94.9%	B+	84.8 – 79.9%	C+	70.8– 66.9%	D+	58.8 – 54.9%
A	94.8 - 89.9%	B	79.8 - 74.9%	C	66.8 – 62.9%	D	54.8 – 49.9%
A-	89.8 - 84.9%	B-	74.8 – 70.9%	C-	62.8 – 58.9%	F	49.8% and below

## **COMMUNICATION:**

**INSTRUCTOR and TA'S OFFICE HOURS:** by appointment.

**EMAILING TO INSTRUCTOR or TA:** Students are welcome to forward their questions and comments to the instructor or TA's email indicated at the top of this document.

### **COMMUNICATION ETIQUETTE VIA EMAIL:**

- ✚ Please use your university account when possible. Otherwise, use an account with an appropriate name (example of an unacceptable email: sexymama@gmail.com).
- ✚ Use a clear subject line that includes the course name and the topic of the email such as: "ANTH 203. Question about my schedule."
- ✚ Please be respectful (i.e., not too casual) when addressing either myself or your TA in an email. Use an appropriate greeting (acceptable: "Dear Dr. Yessenova;" unacceptable: "Hey there").
- ✚ Keep in mind that answers to the questions concerning the matters clearly stated on the course outline will not be provided.
- ✚ Keep question(s) short and to the point. Show that you have made an effort to find the answer first in the text and lecture material (or even an outside source). State what you know in relation to what you are having a difficult time understanding.
- ✚ Include your full name and student ID in the signature of your email.
- ✚ Allow 48 hours for a response, excluding weekends and holidays.

Please note: we may choose not to respond to emails that do not follow the format outlined above.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to "(Instructor) (Associate Dean) (Department Head) (other designated person)"

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Calgary is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievements. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. For detailed information on what constitutes academic misconduct, please refer to the following link:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the University Calendar. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behavior or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

### **TEACHING EVALUATIONS / USRI (Universal Student Ratings of Instruction)**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. **Your responses make a difference, please participate!**

Website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri/>

**Writing Across the Curriculum:** Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and may use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

**Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points:** In the event of an emergency that requires evacuation, please refer to the following link to become familiar with the assembly points for the class:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**

The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Please refer to the following link for detailed information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology's FOIP (Freedom of Information and Privacy) policy requires all reports/examinations to be returned to students during class time or the instructor's office hours. Any term work not picked up will be placed in the Anthropology and Archaeology Office (ES620) for distribution. Any student not wishing to have their work placed in the office must make alternative arrangements with the course instructor early in the term.

**Safewalk Information:** Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at (403) 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security Officer will accompany you to your campus destination.

**Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:** Have a question, but not sure where to start? Arts Students' Centre

The Faculty of Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance that they require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning, the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- program advising
- the Faculty's Co-operative Education Program
- the Arts and Science Honours Academy
- the Faculty's Interdisciplinary Programs
- a Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403.220.3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/](https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/)

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contacts for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

## SCHEDULE OF LECTURE TOPICS, FILMS & REQUIRED READINGS

	Date	Topics/film titles/exams	Readings
<b>1</b>	9 Jan	Class is cancelled	
	11 Jan	Introduction to the course: what is Central Asia?	
	13 Jan	Regional pre-Soviet history and contemporary issues: Kazakhstan.	Yessenova, S. "Nomad for export, not for domestic consumption: Kazakhstan's arrested endeavor to 'put the country on the map'." <i>Studies in Russian and Soviet Cinema</i> 5.2 (2011): 181-203.
<b>2</b>	16 Jan	Regional Soviet history and contemporary issues: Cold War.	
	18 Jan	After the nuclear arms race: global politics and local subjectivities.	Werner, C. and K. Purvis-Roberts. "After the Cold War: international politics, domestic policy and the nuclear legacy in Kazakhstan." <i>Central Asian Survey</i> 25.4 (2006): 461-480 (D2L) and Stawkowski, M. "'I am a radioactive mutant': Emergent biological subjectivities at Kazakhstan's Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site." <i>American Ethnologist</i> 43.1 (2016): 144-157.
	20 Jan	Post-Soviet economic transformation	Yessenova, S. "Hawkers and containers in Zarya Vostoka: how "bizarre" is the post-Soviet bazaar." <i>Research in Economic Anthropology</i> 24 (2006): 37-59 (D2L) and Yessenova, S. "Borrowed places: eviction wars and property rights formalization in Kazakhstan." <i>Research in Economic Anthropology</i> 30 (2010): 11-45 (D2L).
<b>3</b>	23 Jan	Tutorial with the TA	
	25 Jan	Afghanistan and the world order: old and new	Edwards, David B. "Afghanistan, ethnography, and the new world order." <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> 9.3 (1994): 345-360.
	27 Jan	<i>Film: Land Mines – A Love Story</i> Dennis by O'Rourke, 2005 (71 min).	Web resource: <a href="http://www.cameraworklimit.com">http://www.cameraworklimit.com</a> .
<b>4</b>	30 Jan	Film and film discussion	
	1 Feb	Tutorial with the instructor	

	<b>3 Feb</b>	<b>In-class test</b>	
<b>5</b>	6 Feb	Intelligentsia and Reform in Tsarist Central Asia: introduction to the book <i>Making Uzbekistan</i>	Khalid <i>Making Uzbekistan</i> , Introduction and ch.1
	8 Feb	The Moment of Opportunity	Chapter 2
	10 Feb	Nationalizing the Revolution	Chapter 3
<b>6</b>	13 Feb	The Muslim Republic of Bukhara	Chapter 4
	15 Feb	The Long Road to Soviet Power	Chapter 5
	17 Feb	A Revolution of the Mind	Chapter 6
<b>7</b>	<b>20 Feb</b>	<b>Public holiday – no class</b>	
	<b>22 Feb</b>	<b>Reading week - no class</b>	
	<b>24 Feb</b>	<b>Reading week - no class</b>	
<b>8</b>	27 Feb	Islam between Reform and Revolution	Chapter 7
	1 March	The Making of Uzbekistan	Chapter 8
	3 March	Tajik as a Residual Category	Chapter 9
<b>9</b>	6 March	The Ideological Front	Chapter 10
	8 March	The Assault	Chapter 11
	10 March	Toward a Soviet Order	Chapter 12 and Epilogue
<b>10</b>	13 March	Book overview + Introduction to the film <i>Tulpan/Tulip</i>	
	15 March	Film: <i>Tulpan/Tulip</i> , to be cont. (1h 40 min total running time)	
	17 March	<i>Tulpan/Tulip</i>	
<b>11</b>	20 March	Guest lecturer: Michele Bianchi	Yessenova, S. (2005). "Routes and roots" of Kazakh identity: Urban migration in post-socialist Kazakhstan. <i>The Russian Review</i> , 64(4), 661-679.
	<b>22 March</b>	<b>Class is cancelled</b>	
	<b>24 March</b>	Tutorial with the instructor. <b>Mid-term paper based on the book is due</b>	
<b>12</b>	27 March	Pathways into the 'City of the Future': Introduction to the book <i>City of the Future</i>	Laszczkowski <i>City of the Future</i> . Introduction
	29 March	Materializing the Future: Images and Practices	Chapter 1
	31 March	Performing Urbanity: Migrants, the City and Collective Identification	Chapter 2
<b>13</b>	3 April	Tselinograd: The Past in the 'City of the Future'	Chapter 3
	5 April	Celebration and the City	Chapter 4
	7 April	Fixing the Courtyard	Chapter 5
<b>14</b>	10 April	Playing with the City	Chapter 6 & Conclusion
	12 April	Course overview	