

Ed Schatz, Associate Professor, Political Science

ed.schatz@utoronto.ca

Office Hours: Wednesdays 10-12, 320N Munk (1 Devonshire Place)

POL 492/2392

State and Society in Central Asia and Afghanistan

Wednesdays, 2-4 pm

TC24

More than two decades after the collapse of the Soviet state, Central Asia (and its neighbour Afghanistan) continue to be the site of vexed relations between state and society. In this course, we explore key debates about these relations in this important region, paying attention to both similarities and differences among the cases.

Books

The following are available at the Bob Miller Book Room (180 Bloor Street W., Lower Level, 416-922-3557)

Adeeb Khalid, *Islam after Communism*, California, 2007

Laura Adams, *The Spectacular State*, Duke UP, 2010

Eric McGlinchey, *Blood, Chaos, Dynasty*, Pittsburgh, 2012

Noah Coburn, *Bazaar Politics*, Stanford UP, 2011

Requirements

Participation (13%). Since this is a seminar, come ready to discuss the material. Active participation ensures that I won't have to guess what you know.

Reaction to Film (2%). Write a reaction to the film "The Orator" screened on the first day of the course. Your paper should be ½ to 1 page in length – that includes questions, commentary, or analysis of the film. This will not be graded. Instead, full credit will be given if you demonstrate that you watched the film closely. Due on September 18, but I will accept—without penalty—submissions through October 2, after which I will not accept late submissions.

Extra Readings (20%): Choose five weeks (starting with week 2, ending with week 11). For each, survey the extended literature on the week's topic (i.e., go far beyond the assigned readings) and propose a specific, additional peer-reviewed article to replace one of the assigned readings. Write a paragraph detailing why your replacement is better than what's assigned. Accepted only before class on the relevant week.

Response Papers (10%): For each of the other five weeks (starting with week 2, ending with week 11), write a brief response paper—½ to 1 page in length – that includes questions, commentary, or analysis of the readings. The papers should explicitly discuss all the week's readings and be sent by email to me by 7 pm on the night before class. The papers will not be graded. Instead, full credit is given if the paper is handed in on time and there is evidence that all the reading has been done. No credit is given for late papers.

Chase the Headlines (20%): Select a topic covered between week 2 and week 8, inclusive. Write a report that summarizes the news coverage on that topic by at least 20 different major news sources (from agencies based in at least 6 different countries). Your summary should identify the dimensions along which coverage varies. The summary should be between 900 and 1100 words (please provide a word count). Longer or shorter papers are penalized a full letter grade. Due on October 30. Late submissions will be penalized 3% of the possible grade per calendar day late. No papers will be accepted more than 14 days late. Details will follow.

Problematize the Headlines (35%): Select a recent development about Central Asia or Afghanistan covered by news organizations. Write a concise report (2200-2800 words) that, based on scholarly research on related/similar topics, problematizes the news. Please provide a word count. Longer or shorter papers are penalized a full letter grade. Due on December 1. Late submissions will be penalized 3% of the possible grade per calendar day late. No papers will be accepted more than 14 days late. Details will follow.

Course Policies

Office hours: If you have questions about the readings, about the discussion, or about the assignments, office hours are best. No appointment is needed. If you cannot make office hours but would like to meet, email me to schedule a mutually agreeable alternative time.

Email: Email is great, but extended conversations will be conducted face to face. If you have a simple question that should be posed via email, send me a message. I generally reply to email inquiries within 3 days. If you do not receive a reply within this period, resubmit your question(s). Please consult the syllabus and other course information before submitting inquiries by email.

Keep copies: Students are strongly advised to keep draft work and hard copies of their assignments until the marked assignments have been returned.

Late penalty: Late submissions of the papers (“chase the headlines,” “problematize the headlines”) will be penalized 3% of the possible grade per calendar day late. No papers will be accepted more than 14 days late. “Extra readings” assignments that arrive after the class meeting upon which they focus will be penalized 3% per calendar day late. I will not accept any late response papers. I will not accept any reactions to the film after October 2.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and will be dealt with accordingly. For further clarification and information, please see the University of Toronto’s policy on Plagiarism at <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html>. This course uses Turnitin.com, a web-based program to deter plagiarism. Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. The terms that apply to the University’s use of Turnitin.com are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

Extensions: Sometimes extraordinary circumstances justify an extension. I discuss possible extensions during office hours, not via email. If you cannot make office hours, email me to schedule a mutually

agreeable alternative time. I consider such circumstances only until 2 weeks before the due date. After that, I discuss extensions only if a student has an official note from a doctor or from the University.

Missed Assignments: If, due to an emergency, you miss an assignment without receiving my prior consent, you must: 1) contact me within 48 hours of the missed assignment for me to consider any documentation, and 2) provide official documentation. I will consider the documentation and your request on an individual basis; in some cases, I will authorize a make-up assignment, in other cases I will not.

Medical or Other Documentation: If an illness or other event interferes with your ability to complete your work on schedule, you will need to provide official documentation. If you are truly incapacitated, your documentation must show this. I will also scrutinize the documentation to see how *long* of an extension, if any, is warranted, based on the severity and duration of your incapacitation.

Accessibility Needs: The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, visit <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility> as soon as possible.

Course Outline

Week 1 (September 11)

- In-class film: "The Orator"

Week 2 (September 18): Society and State

- Pauline Jones Luong, "Politics in the Periphery: Competing Views of Central Asian States and societies," in Jones Luong, *The Transformation of Central Asia* (Cornell UP, 2003), 1-26
- Kathleen Collins, "The Logic of Clan Politics," *World Politics* 56(2), 2004: 224-261.
- Johan Rasanayagam, Judith Beyer, and Madeleine Reeves, "Introduction: Performances, Possibilities and Practices of the Political in Central Asia," in their forthcoming *Ethnographies of the State in Central Asia: Performing Politics* (Indiana University Press)

Week 3 (September 25): Pre-Soviet and Early Soviet Periods

- Jeff Sahadeo, "Epidemic and Empire: Ethnicity, Class, and 'Civilization' in the 1892 Tashkent Cholera Riot," *Slavic Review* 64(1), Spring 2005: 117-39
- Francine Hirsch, "Towards an Empire of Nations: Border-Making and the Formation of 'Soviet' National Identities," *Russian Review*, 59(2), 2000: 201-26.
- Steven Sabol. "The Creation of Soviet Central Asia: the 1924 National Delimitation", *Central Asian Survey* 4(2), 1995: 225-41
- Adeeb Khalid, "Backwardness and the Quest for Civilization: Early Soviet Central Asia in Comparative Perspective," *Slavic Review* 65(2), Summer 2006: 231-51

Week 4 (October 2): Soviet Period

- Olivier Roy, "The Recomposition of Solidarity Groups during the Soviet Period," in his *The New Central Asia: Creation of Nations* (New York University Press, 2000)
- Khalid, first half.

Week 5 (October 9): Islam

- Khalid, second half
- Eric McGlinchey, "Divided Faith: Trapped between State and Islam in Uzbekistan," in Jeff Sahadeo and Russell Zanca, eds., *Everyday Life in Central Asia* (Indiana UP, 2007)

- Adrienne Edgar, "Bolshevism, Patriarchy, and the Nation: The Soviet 'Emancipation' of Muslim Women in Pan-Islamic Perspective." *Slavic Review* 65(2), 2006

Week 6 (October 16): Afghanistan I

- Thomas Barfield, *Afghanistan: A Cultural and Political History*, Princeton UP, 2012, chapters four and five
- Kristian Berg Harpviken, "Transcending Traditionalism: The Emergence of Non-State Military Formations in Afghanistan," *Journal of Peace Research* 34, August 1997: 271-87

Week 7 (October 23): State and Regime

- McGlinchey, introduction
- Adams, first half

Week 8 (October 30): Uzbekistan

- Adams, second half
- McGlinchey, chapter on Uzbekistan
- Neema Noori, "Expanding State Authority, Cutting Back Local Services: Decentralization and its Contradictions in Uzbekistan," *Central Asian Survey* 25(4), 2006: 533-49

Week 9 (November 6): Kyrgyzstan

- McGlinchey, chapter on Kyrgyzstan
- Eugene Huskey, "An Economy of Authoritarianism? Askar Akaev and Presidential Leadership in Kyrgyzstan," in Sally N. Cummings (ed.), *Power and Change in Central Asia* (London and New York: Routledge, 2002), 76-80
- Scott Radnitz, "The Color of Money: Privatization, Economic Dispersion, and the Post-Soviet Revolutions," *Comparative Politics* 42(2), 2010: 127-146

Week 10 (November 13): Kazakhstan

- McGlinchey, chapter on Kazakhstan
- Edward Schatz, "The Soft Authoritarian 'Tool Kit': Agenda-Setting Power in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan," *Comparative Politics*, 2009
- Edward Schatz, "Transnational Image Making and Soft Authoritarian Kazakhstan," *Slavic Review*, 2008: 50-62
- Eva-Marie Dubuisson and Anna Genina, "Claiming an Ancestral homeland: Kazakh Pilgrimage and Migration in Inner Asia," *Central Asian Survey* 30(3-4), 2011: 469-85

Week 11 (November 20): Afghanistan II

- Coburn

Week 12 (November 27): Conclusions

- Antonio Giustozzi, Afghanistan Regional Forum No. 10, September 2013, George Washington University, Central Asia Program, "The Next Congo: Regional Competition for Influence in Afghanistan in the Wake of NATO Withdrawal," http://www.centralasiaprogram.org/images/Afghan_Forum_10_September_2013.pdf