

## Central Eurasian Studies

Introduction to Inner Asia

Catalog Number CEUS-U 190

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This course introduces the history and arts of the traditional Central Eurasian (Inner Asian) peoples through lectures and films. Historical topics include: the Chariot warriors; the Scythians and Hsiung-nu; the Proto-Mongols, the Goths, and Attila the Hun; The Turkic and Tibetan Empires; the Silk Road; Genghis Khan and the Mongol Empire; the Persian Empire; Tamerlane; Babur and the Mughal Empire; the Manchu Empire and the Dalai Lama; Manchu and Russian conquest and partition of Central Eurasia and closing of the Silk Road; reemergence of Central Eurasia in the late 20th century; and others. Arts topics include oral and written literature, painting, and architecture. The course will include extensive use of film videos, including *Attila*, *The Conqueror*, *Lost Horizon*, *Seven Years in Tibet*, and *Urga*. No prior knowledge of Central Eurasia (Inner Asia) is assumed or required.

### Requirements

Midterm (50%)

Final (50%)

**Required Textbook:** C.I. Beckwith, *Empires of the Silk Road* (manuscript book; it will be available from the instructor in class)