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HIST 4388 The Persian World: 1470-1992

Fall 2021

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Mode of instruction and course access: This course is face-to-face Lecture/book discussions format. Course also contains culturally relevant videos. Some supplemental readings are made available via JSTORE and online through the **Canvas Learning Management System** [<https://tamuct.instructure.com>].

Student-instructor interaction: This course will use virtual office hours and via email. Also, instructor will be available by appointment. I check email daily.

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Mervyn Roberts

Office: Founder's Hall 212 classroom

Phone: TBD

Email: mervyn.roberts@ctcd.edu OR mervyn.roberts@tamuct.edu

Office Hours: Before/After class and by appt.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview and description:

The course is an introductory history of the cultural and economic interchange across the Persian world after 1470. This vast region spans from Iraq to western China and south to India. The culture of the Silk Road flourished from the invasion of Alexander to the expansion of the sea routes to Europe. Thereafter trade routes shifted and societies struggled to adapt under internal and external pressures.

The 'Great Game' defined and divided the region much of the period after 1800. The course finishes by examining the rise of national identities in the region and the impact of the 1979 Islamic Revolution and the fall of the Soviet Union. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, Central Asia has struggled to reintegrate into the world economy, and with the rise of Islamism. The course also discusses the interaction of Islam and regional cultures and the implications of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). This course is broken into four major sections: 1) world context, 2) breakdown of the old system, 3) the Great Game, and 4) the emergence of national identities.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

1. Students will examine the impact of trade route interruption on Central Asia.
2. Students will recognize the effect of the Soviet Nationalities program on Central Asian societies.
3. Understand the challenges to regional reintegration into the world economy.
4. Students will write a book review on a Silk Road related monograph, presenting the results of their study.
5. Students will demonstrate understanding of this period of history through two typed essays, and a comprehensive final in-class essay exam analyzing current problems in their historical context.
6. Students will be able to argue current events within the historical context.

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Competency Goals Statements: Students will examine the impact of modernization/westernization on the Silk Road region and develop historical analysis, writing and presentation skills.

Required Reading and Textbook(s):

1. Katouzian, Homa. *The Persians: Ancient, Mediaeval and Modern Iran*, New Haven, CT: Yale 2010
2. Roy, Olivier. *The New Central Asia: The Creation of Nations*. New York: New York University Press, 2005.
3. Other readings will be assigned on the syllabus.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Requirements:

• Book review /presentation	20%	200 pts	SLO 1, 2, 5
• 2 short essays	30%	300 pts (150 each)	SLO 4, 5
• Reading Precis	20%	200 pts (5ea x 40pts)	SLO 1, 2, 3
• final exam paper	25%	250 pts	SLO 5, 6
• Participation	5%	<u>50 pts</u>	SLO 6
		1000 pts	

Detailed instructions and learning outcomes, along with Rubrics for each assignment, will be posted to the course Canvas page. Grades will be posted to Canvas. **Goal will be to grade all papers within one week to canvas.** General instructions are below. Late work will incur a 10% penalty per week.

Reading Precis

You will use the format provided to summarize the readings and address an issue for that period. There are five required, essentially one every two weeks, starting at week three.

Book Review

Any nonfiction monograph on the history of Central Asia, Afghanistan, or Iran or about the interactions among these cultures, or with India, China, Russia, and the Middle East is acceptable, with the *instructor's approval*. Any book in the booklist is pre-approved, choice due by 5 October. The 7-10-page paper should analyze the book in the context of material covered in the course. The report is due on **NOV 30, 2021**. Students will also give a ten-minute presentation of their findings to class.

Essays *Late essays will be penalized.*

The short essays should each be 3-5 pp. in length (double-spaced, with 1" margins), Each will address a broad topic. Essay should integrate readings, lectures and class discussions of that section of the course. Each essay should include a bibliography of all sources consulted. Sources in addition to the assigned ones are authorized, but not necessary.

The comprehensive final exam question will be posted no later than the beginning of the last week of classes. The question will test your ability to deal analytically with some of the broad themes of the course and support general arguments with specific evidence. Min. 5 pp.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Schedule of Class Meetings and Specific Assignments

Part 1: World Context

24 Aug. Week 1. Introduction; geography; nomads. From the "Wool Road" to the Silk Road. (Long Durée)

Introduction to the course; course content, materials to be covered, office hours, tests, oral report, book report, paper, participation, attendance, grades. Muhammad and the rise of Islam
Read: Katozian Introduction and Appendix.

Mikhail, A. "Climate and Chronology of Iranian History," *Iranian Studies* (IS) 49, 6, Nov. 2016, 963-972.

30 Aug. Week 2. The Mongols, Timurids, and the Safavids (status by 1470)

Skim: Katozian CH 1-4

7 Sep. Week 3. Early Turkic and Safavid empires, Mughal Empire under Babur

Read: Katozian CH 5 "Persian Empire Again". The Safavids

Anooshahr, A. "The Rise of the Safavids According to their Old Veterans," IS 48, 2, Mar 2015, 249-267.

Precis 1 due

Part 2 Breakdown of old system

14 Sep. Week 4. Europe and 1492.

Read: Katozian CH 6 "Disintegration and Reunification" 1717-1850

Good, P. "East India Company's Farmin 1602-1747," IS 52 #1/2, 2019, 181-198.

21 Sep. Week 5. The Crossroads of Asia.1600-1800

Matthee, Rudi. "Rudeness and Revilement: Russian-Iranian Relations in the Mid-Seventeenth Century," IS Vol. 46, No. 3, 333-357.

Behrooz, Maziar. "Revisiting the Second Russo-Iranian War (1826-28): Causes and Perceptions," IS Vol. 46, No. 3, 359-381.

Precis 2 due / hand out Essay 1 question

28 Sep. Week 6.

Gustafson, J. "Qajar Ambitions in the Great Game," IS 46, 4, July 2013, 535-552.

Part 3 the Great Game

5 Oct. Week 7. The Afghan Wars

Essay 1 due. Turn in book review choice bibliography

Morrison, Alexander. "Twin Imperial Disasters. The invasions of Khiva and Afghanistan in the Russian and British official mind, 1839-1842," *Modern Asian Studies* 48, 1 (2014) pp. 253-300.

Hanifi, Shah M. "Shah Shuja's 'Hidden History' and its Implications for the Historiography of Afghanistan," *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal*, 2012.

12 Oct. Week 8. 1800-1830.

Katouzian CH 7 "The Dilemma of Reform and Modernization" 1850-1900

Keddie, Nikki. "Iran Under the Later Qajars, 1848-1922; *Cambridge History of Iran*, vol. 7, pp. 174-212.

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Precis 3 due

19 Oct. Week 9. Imperialism and Revolution.

Katouzian CH 8 "The Revolution for Law" 1900-1920

Farmanfarmaian, Fatema Soudavar. "Revisiting and Revising the Tobacco Rebellion," IS Vol. 47, No. 4, 595–625.

Part 4 Rise of Nations—Quest for national identity.

26 Oct. Week 10. 1917-1941.

Katouzian CH 9 "Modern Arbitrary Rule" 1920-1941

Roy Ch 4 "The Sovietization of Central Asia."

Jenkins, J. "Iran in the Nazi New Order, 1933-1941," IS 49, 5, Sep 2016, 727-752.

Roberts, Mervyn. "Operation COUNTENANCE: The 1941 Invasion of Iran and Narrative Development," *Iranian Studies* vol. 52, No. 3-4, 2019, pp. 589-610

Precis 4 due/ hand out Essay 2 question

2 Nov. Week 11 WWII and the Cold War

Katouzian CH 10 "Occupation, Oil nationalization and Dictatorship" 1941-1953.

Roy Ch 5. "The Recomposition of Solidarity Groups During the Soviet Period."

Battis, Matthias. "Soviet Orientalism and Nationalism in Central Asia: Aleksandr Semenov's Vision of Tajik National Identity," IS Vol. 48, No. 5, 729–745.

Roberts, Mervyn. "Analysis of Radio Propaganda in the 1953 Coup...: IS 45, 6, Nov 2012, 759-778.

9 Nov. Week 12 National Identities. Essay 2 due.

Katouzian CH 11 "The White Revolution" 1953-1979.

Roy Ch 6 "Political Factionalism and National Affirmation..."

Yilmaz, Harun. "The Soviet Union and the Construction of Azerbaijani National Identity in the 1930s," IS Vol. 46, No. 4, 511–533.

Alvandi, R. "Iran and the Cold War," IS 47, 3, May 2014, 373-378.

16 Nov. Week 13 Iranian Revolution and the rise of Islamism in Central Asia

Katouzian CH 12 "The Revolution of February 1979".

Roy Ch 7 "From Nationalism to Independence."

Precis 5 due

23 Nov. Week 15 Iran/Iraq and the Soviet Afghan Wars.

Skim: Katouzian CH 13/14 "The Islamic Republic" and "Iran After Khomeini".

Roy Ch 8 "Islam."

Hughes, Geraint. "The Soviet–Afghan War, 1978–1989: An Overview," *Defence Studies*, Vol. 8, No. 3 (September 2008), pp. 326–350.

30 Nov. Week 16 The New Silk Road Project. Central Asian Wars.

Roy Ch 9 "From Independence to Emerging Nationalism."

Tahbaz, M. "Environmental Challenges of Today's Iran," IS 49, 6, Nov. 2016, 963-972.

Book Review papers due.

7 Dec. Final Essay due. Book Review Presentations

Presentations

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Final Exam papers due.

Important Dates:

7 Sep—Begin Precis assignments

5 Oct—First Essay due

9 Nov—Second Essay due

30 Nov—Paper due

7 Dec—Final Essay due

911 Cellular:

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University – Central Texas

911Cellular is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in 911 Cellular through their myCT email account.

Connect at [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management) [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in 911Cellular, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [https://tamuct.instructure.com].

Username: Your MyCT username (xx123 or everything before the "@" in your MyCT e-mail address)

Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select "Chat with Canvas Support," submit a support request through "Report a Problem," or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [http://hdc.tamu.edu]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Drop Policy.

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

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[<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2Fsubmit%2FForm%2FStart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity.

Texas A&M University-Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html),
[<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0),
[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Academic Accommodations.

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier free education. The Department of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the University's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Department of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information, please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required)
[<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting.

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Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring.

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing studentsuccess@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center: University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University—Central Texas (A&M—Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M—Central Texas students. For the Fall 2021 semester, the hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

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Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor by making an appointment via WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

University Library.

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 72,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On-campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available twenty-four hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](https://tamuct.libguides.com/) [<https://tamuct.libguides.com/>].

OPTIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS:

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For

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additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php) [https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php].

INSTRUCTOR POLICIES.

Copyright Notice.

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