Central Asia: Islam, Nationalism and Globalisation

Modular value: 20 credits
Duration: Term 1
Teaching: 2 hour seminars weekly

Lecturer: **Galina Yemelianova (/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/yemelianova-galina.aspx)**

This module introduces Central Asia - the present day states of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

It will cover medieval and modern history, as well as the contemporary situation in the region, religion, ethnic relations, and the place of Central Asia in the wider world. It also examines the nature and forms of the post-Communist Islamic revival in the region and its cultural, political and security implications.

Students will be encouraged to consider the region from the viewpoint of a range of humanities and social science disciplines, and to understand how the cultural and historical features of the region relate to contemporary issues of state-building, security and international relations

By the end of the module, you will be able to understand the main features of historical development of Central Asia and be familiar with the complex differentiation of the region as well as the unifying factors; to relate some aspects of cultural, historical, religious and social factors to contemporary security and political issues and be able to critically assess academic, journalistic, and governmental approaches to the region

Students on this module will have an opportunity of 10 days fully funded visits to the Kazakh-British Technical University, Almaty, Kazakhstan, to enhance their research in the region and to practice Kazakh language

Assessment

- One 3,000 word essay on a historical theme related to the region as a whole (50%)
- One 3,000 word essay on a contemporary issue focused on one or more parts of the region (50%)

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