History of Kyrgyzstan

Course # HUSS 1003

Credits 4

Pre-requisites and Co-requisites: None

Course Description

This course explores the history and creation of states and societies in Central Asia with the focus on the history of Kyrgyzstan. It investigates the influence of geography on history, including the interplay between oasis trading corridors and steppe pastoralist mode of life, as well as the role of forests and mountains as redoubts for groups that lost political battles in the central steppe. The course aims to develop competencies and skills which enable students to use critical thinking while analysing sources of historical events including a comparative study of Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia. Students learn how to critically examine historical sources, engage in discussions, exchange ideas and presents their topics by reading primary historical texts and secondary papers. Through the examination of the history of Kyrgyzstan, the course also considers the issue of interplay between oasis and steppes, between settled and nomadic way of life addressing how belief, religion, social practices and customary way of life are changed and accommodated to the needs of social and political context. In the course, students learn to explore ideas, generate knowledge, provide alternate responses and exclude opting for one immediate and absolute response.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Discuss the key features, facts and frameworks that make up the history of Central Asia in general and Kyrgyzstan in particular;
- Provide broad historical narratives related to development and formation of Kyrgyz nation and society;
- Interpret and analyse history of Kyrgyzstan as part of the broader social and political process of Central Asia;
- Analyse primary and secondary sources to assess received narratives about the past.

Course Assessments and Grading

Item	Weight
Class Participation	10%
Presentation	15%
Hour Test I	10%
Hour Test II	15%