Course Title: Great Power Interest in Central Asia during the Twentieth Century
Course No: SA639
Total Credits: Three (3)
Course Teacher: Prof. K. Warikoo

INTRODUCTION

This course provides an understanding of the British, Russian, Soviet and Chinese policies in Central Asia during the twentieth century covering the Tsarist Russian rule, Soviet regime and the post-Soviet independence period. It deals with the entire region from the Caspian Sea in the west to Tien Shan in the east, encompassing the whole of Central Asia, Xinjiang, Tibet, Mongolia and Afghanistan, providing a holistic view of developments there. The course discusses the Soviet policies in Central Asia (1917-1991), new geopolitics following the disintegration of former USSR and the subsequent great power strategies in the region. The course also evaluates the implications of the changing scenario, including in the Af-Pak region for both Central Asia and India.

EVALUATION PATTERN

A. Mid-Term Paper
B. End Semester Examination

COURSE CONTENTS

1. Establishment of Soviet Power in Central Asia,
2. Resistance movements in Central Asia and Allied Intervention
3. Soviet Policies in Central Asia
4. Chinese Takeover of Xinjiang and Tibet
5. Mongolia in Sino-Soviet Relations
6. Soviet Intervention in Afghanistan and its Aftermath
7. Emergence of Independent Central Asian Republics
8. New Geopolitics of Central Asia
10. Politics of Oil and Pipelines
11. Revival of Silk Route and its geopolitics
12. 9/11 and Global War on Terrorism: Implications for Central Asia and Afghanistan
13. US Af-Pak Policy and new challenges in Central Asia
SELECTED READINGS


Joshi, Nirmala (ed.), *Central Asia, the Great Game Replayed: An Indian Perspective*, Delhi, 2003.


Quarterly Journals *Himalayan and Central Asian Studies, Central Asian Survey*