



EURA 315 Topics in Contemporary Eurasian Culture (1.0 units*)
EURA 514 Topics in Contemporary Eurasian Culture (1.0 units*)

** One Bryn Mawr College unit is equivalent to four undergraduate semester hours or five graduate semester hours.*

Instructor: TBD

Time: TBD

Location: Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (KazNU), Almaty, Kazakhstan

Number of hours: 60 (4 academic hours per week, over the course of 15 weeks)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Continuation of EURA 314/513 (Readings in Eurasian History and Culture), focusing on contemporary Kazakh and Central Asian culture with special reference to religion, family, customs, economy, arts, as well as sociological and historical trends of the Twentieth and early Twenty-First Century. Students are required to make short in-class presentations, participate actively in class discussions, and master new vocabulary.

OBJECTIVE

The course will develop students' language skills as well as their basic understanding of Kazakh and Central Asian history, literature, and culture. The classes will include pair work, group work discussions, and weekly presentations and compositions.

Upon the completion of this course, student shall be able to:

- Possess an increased awareness of Central Asian literature, history, and culture;
- Acquire the ability of speaking on various topics;
- Improve reading comprehension and enrich vocabulary;
- Use language to produce connected discourse.

MATERIALS

Students are placed in small groups or individualized tutorials for class, based on proficiency level. Textbooks and course materials will be based according to group.

Content of classes will be complemented through the usage of adequate literature, literary texts, and books that will be prepared by the instructor with instructions given by the instructor and will include creative exercises and usage of appropriate media such as video, music, movies, theater etc.

ACADEMIC COURSE POLICY

The academic policy of the course is determined by the Academic Policy and the Policy of Academic Integrity of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University.

Integration of science and education. The research work of students, undergraduates and doctoral students is a deepening of the educational process. It is organized directly at the departments, laboratories, scientific and design departments of the university, in student scientific and technical associations. Independent work of students at all levels of education is aimed at developing research skills and competencies based on obtaining new knowledge using modern research and information



technologies. A research university teacher integrates the results of scientific activities into the topics of lectures and seminars (practical) classes, laboratory classes and into the tasks of the IWS, which are reflected in the syllabus and are responsible for the relevance of the topics of training sessions and assignments.

Attendance. The deadline for each task is indicated in the calendar (schedule) for the implementation of the content of the course. Failure to meet deadlines results in loss of points.

Academic honesty. Practical/laboratory classes, IWS develop the student's independence, critical thinking, and creativity. Plagiarism, forgery, the use of cheat sheets, cheating at all stages of completing tasks are unacceptable.

Compliance with academic honesty during the period of theoretical training and at exams, in addition to the main policies, is regulated by the "Rules for the final control", "Instructions for the final control of the autumn / spring semester of the current academic year", "Regulations on checking students' text documents for borrowings".

Basic principles of inclusive education. The educational environment of the university is conceived as a safe place where there is always support and equal attitude from the teacher to all students and students to each other, regardless of gender, race / ethnicity, religious beliefs, socio-economic status, physical health of the student, etc. All people need the support and friendship of peers and fellow students. For all students, progress is more about what they can do than what they can't. Diversity enhances all aspects of life.

GRADING AND ASSESSMENT

Class attendance is a critical part of progress in language and students are expected to come on time and prepared for each class.

Individual student work includes reading of assigned literary works, historical, current and interesting texts, daily newspapers; working on spelling and grammar exercises, as well as homework and linguistic exercises assigned by the professor; essay writing, student creating and keeping up with their own pocket dictionaries based upon vocabulary learned in class.

Grade Calculation

Category	% Points
Class participation	30
Weekly tests, quizzes, presentations	30
Homework	20
Final examination	20
TOTAL	100

Grade Scale

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
4.0 Scale	4	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.0	0.0
% Points	93–100	90–92	87–89	83–86	80–82	77–79	73–76	70–72	60–69	0–59

COURSE CONTENT (SUBJECT TO CHANGE*)

Based on our previous experiences, we would like to emphasize that change to the curriculum provided below are inevitable and by design. Ultimately, which topics will be covered and how much time will be dedicated to them is at the discretion of language faculty and may be adjusted over the course of the program according to the student's language proficiency, classroom performance, and academic interests. We kindly ask to take this into consideration.

Week	Topic Name	Hours
1	Geographical conditions in Central Asia	4
2	Tribes, States, and Nations in Central Asia	4
3	History and Culture of the Peoples of the Former Soviet Union	4
4	Religion in Central Asia	4
5	Economic Structure	4
6	Individual Republics: Kazakhstan	4
7	Individual Republics: Uzbekistan	4
8	Individual Republics: Tajikistan	4
9	Individual Republics: Turkmenistan	4
10	Individual Republics: Kyrgyzstan	4
11	Contemporary Challenges, Risks and Threats for Central Asia	4
12	Peace and Stability in the 21 st Century	4
13	Energy Policy of Central Asia	4
14	State of Affairs: Public Diplomacy in Central Asia	4
15	Globalization and Modernization	4
	Final Exam	