

ADAM T. SMITH
OFFICE HOURS: WEDNESDAY 1-4

SPRING QUARTER 2001
ANTHROPOLOGY 395
FRIDAY 2-5

[HTTP://HOME.UCHICAGO.EDU/~ATSMITH/PAGES/COURSES.HTML](http://home.uchicago.edu/~atsmith/pages/courses.html)

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF EURASIA: I. THE CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL STEPPE

This course explores the prehistory and early history of the central Eurasian Steppe and Caucasia from the appearance of the first settled villages during the Neolithic through the rise of the first complex societies. The goal of the course is to provide students with an overview of the archaeological record from these regions and an understanding of the history of research in the area. The class begins with an orientation to archaeological research during the Imperial Russian, Soviet, and contemporary CIS periods in order to frame the intellectual contexts that guide current-day research. Our discussions will then proceed to focus upon the Neolithic, Bronze, and Iron Ages in turn, providing a general account of political, social, cultural, and technological change. We will focus closely upon the extant material culture in order to ground our discussions in the available data. Throughout, we will be concerned to address four general transformations central to an understanding of the region's prehistory: 1) social and political relationships between hunting and gathering, agricultural, and pastoral societies; 2) large-scale migrations and long-distance contacts; 3) the impact of technological innovations (e.g., horse domestication, metallurgy) on social transformations; and 4) the interchanges between Eurasian societies and surrounding regions of eastern Europe, southwest Asia and Central Asia. (Cap: 20)

TEXTS:

The readings for this class are being made available through the anthropology department's new web "Reading Room". Documents can be downloaded in PDF format at: http://acc.uchicago.edu/pdf_documents/. In addition, copies of:

Kushnareva, K. K.

1997 *The Southern Caucasus in Prehistory*. The University of Museum, Philadelphia.

have been ordered through the Seminary Co-op.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students will complete weekly regional summaries that detail the extant archaeological problems, data, and interpretive frameworks for a specific archaeological period within a given area. The topics to be covered in each summary will be discussed in class. At the end of class a complete regional précis will be due linking extant data sources to critical questions.

Please note that no knowledge of Russian or other local language is presumed, but feel free to consult these sources and include them in your summaries as you are able.

OUTLINE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

I. March 30. Introduction

PART I. CAUCASUS AND STEPPE THROUGH THE BRONZE AGE

II. April 6. Geographic Orientation & A Brief History of Regional Archaeology (lect)

REQUIRED

Dolukhanov, P. M.

1995 Archaeology in Russia and Its Impact on Archaeological Theory. In *Theory in Archaeology: A World Perspective*, edited by P. J. Ucko, pp. 327-342. Routledge, London.

Milner-Gulland, R. and Dejevsky, N.

1989 *Cultural Atlas of Russia and the Soviet Union*. Phaidon, Oxford. "The Land and the People" pp. 16-29.

Shnirelman, V. A.

1995 From Internationalism to Nationalism: Forgotten Pages of Soviet Archaeology in the 1930s and 1940s. In *Nationalism, Politics, and the Practice of Archaeology*, edited by P. L. Kohl and C. Fawcett, pp. 120-138. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

RECOMMENDED

Berg, L. S.

1950 Natural Regions of the U.S.S.R. MacMillan Co., New York. "The Forest Steppe" Pp. 68-87 "The Steppe" Pp. 90-108, "The Semidesert Zone" Pp. 111-124, "The Desert Zone" Pp. 125-145; "The Colchian Lowland" Pp. 192-195; "Mountains of the Caucasus" Pp. 202-240.

Chernykh, E. N.

1995 Postscript: Russian Archaeology After the Collapse of the USSR-- Infrastructural Crisis and the Resurgence of Old and New Nationalisms. In *Nationalism, Politics, and the Practice of Archaeology*, edited by P. L. Kohl and C. Fawcett, pp. 139-148. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Kohl, P. L. and G. R. Tsetschladze

1995 Nationalism, Politics, and the Practice of Archaeology in the Caucasus. In *Nationalism, Politics, and the Practice of Archaeology*, edited by P. L. Kohl and C. Fawcett, pp. 149-174. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Lamberg-Karlovsky, C. C.

1994 Introduction. In *Origins of the Bronze Age Oasis Civilization in Central Asia*, edited by F. T. Hiebert. Peabody Museum, Cambridge.

Trigger, B.

1989 *A History of Archaeological Thought*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. Ch. 6 "Soviet Archaeology".

III. April 13. Neo and Chalcolithic Communities in the Caucasus and Eurasia (lect)

REQUIRED

- Glumac, P. and D. Anthony
1992 Culture and Environment in the Prehistoric Caucasus: The Neolithic Through the Bronze Age. In *Chronologies in Old World Archaeology*, edited by R. W. Ehrich, pp. 196-206. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.
- Kushnareva, K. K.
1997 *The Southern Caucasus in Prehistory*. The University of Museum, Philadelphia. Chs. 2 and 5
- Dergachev, V.
1989 Neolithic and Bronze Age Cultural Communities of the Steppe Zone of the USSR. *Antiquity* 63: 793-802.
- Merpert, N. J.
1994 The European Part of the Former U.S.S.R. During the Neolithic and Chalcolithic. In *History of Humanity, Volume I*, edited by S. J. De Laet, pp. 557-569 Routledge, London.

RECOMMENDED

- Dolukhanov, P. M.
1979 *Ecology and Economy in Neolithic Eastern Europe*. Duckworth, London.
- Harris, D. R. and C. Gosden
1996 The Beginnings of Agriculture in Western Central Asia. In *The Origins and Spread of Agriculture and Pastoralism in Eurasia*, edited by D. R. Harris, pp. 370-389. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington D. C.
- Häusler, A.
1994 The North-Pontic Region and the Beginning of the Eneolithic in South-East and Central Europe. In *The Archaeology of the Steppes: Methods and Strategies*, edited by B. Genito, pp. 123-147. Istituto universitario orientale, Napoli.
- Levine, M., Y. Rassamakin, A. Kislenko and N. Tatarintseva
1999 *Late Prehistoric Exploitation of the Eurasian Steppe*. McDonald Institute monographs. McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Cambridge.
- Matyushin, G.
1986 The Mesolithic and Neolithic in the Southern Urals and Central Asia. In *Hunters in Transition: Mesolithic Societies of Temperate Eurasia and their Transition to Farming*, edited by M. Zvelebil, pp. 133-150. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Narimanov, I. G.
1992 The Earliest Agricultural Settlements in the Territory of Azerbaidzhan. *Soviet Anthropology and Archeology* 30(4):9-66.
- Sulimirski, T.
1970 *Prehistoric Russia: An Outline*. Humanities Press, New York. Ch. 2.

IV. TBA—SAA Meetings. The Steppe in the Bronze Age (Peterson)

REQUIRED

Anthony, D.

- 1998 The Opening of the Eurasian Steppe at 2000 BCE. In *The Bronze Age and Early Iron Age peoples of Eastern Central Asia* edited by V. Mair. University of Pennsylvania Museum Publications, Philadelphia.

Vinogradova, N. M. and Kuz'mina E. E.

- 1996 Contacts between the Steppe and Agricultural Tribes of Central Asia in the Bronze Age. *Anthropology and Archaeology of Eurasia* 34(4): 29-54.

Zdanovich, G.

- 2000 The "Country of Towns" of South Trans-Urals and Some Aspects of Steppe Assimilation in the Bronze Age. In *Late Prehistoric Exploitation of the Eurasian Steppe, vol. 3*, pp. 379-396. MacDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Cambridge.

Zbenovich, V. G.

- 1996 Tripolye Culture: Centenary of Research. *Journal of World Prehistory* 10(2):199-241.

RECOMMENDED

Hiebert, F. T.

- 1994 *Origins of the Bronze Age Oasis Civilization in Central Asia*. American School of Prehistoric Research no. 42. Peabody Museum, Cambridge.

Kuz'mina, E. E.

- 1994 The Stages of Development of Stock Breeding, Husbandry, and Ecology of the Steppes in the Light of the Archaeological and Paleozoological Data (4th Millennium B.C. - 8th Century A.D.). In *The Archaeology of the Steppes: Methods and Strategies*, edited by B. Genito, pp. 31-71. Istituto universitario orientale, Napoli.

Peake, H. J. E. and H. J. Fleure

- 1928 *The Steppe & the Sown*. The Clarendon press, London.

P'iankova, L. T.

- 1996 Bronze Age Cultures of the Steppe and Highlands in Central Asia. *Anthropology and Archaeology of Eurasia* :13-28.

Weber, A.

- 1995 The Neolithic and Early Bronze Age of the Lake Baikal Region: A Review of Recent Research. *Journal of World Prehistory* 9(1):99-165.

Zdanovich, G. B. and D. G. Zdanovich

- n.d. Arkaim--the Middle Bronze Cultural Complex of the Southern Trans-Urals Region.

V. April 27. The Early Bronze Age in the Caucasus: Kura-Araxes and Maikop Cultures

REQUIRED

Chechenov, I. M.

1991-92 On the Study of the Ancient History and Archaeology of the Northern Caucasus. *Soviet Anthropology and Archaeology* 30(3):67-78.

Kohl, P. L.

1993 The Transcaucasian Periphery in the Bronze Age. In *Resource Power and Regional Interaction*, edited by P. A. Urban and E. M. Schortman, pp. 117-137. Plenum Press, London.

Kushnareva, K. K.

1997 *The Southern Caucasus in Prehistory*. The University of Museum, Philadelphia. Chs. 3 and 6

Markovin, V. I.

1991-92 Disputed Points in the Ethnogenetic Study of the Northern Caucasian Antiquities (The Maikop Culture). *Soviet Anthropology and Archaeology* 30(3):7-28.

Safronov, V. A.

1991-92 New Ways of Solving the Maikop Problem. *Soviet Anthropology and Archaeology* 30(3):57-66.

RECOMMENDED

Burney, C. and D. M. Lang

1972 *The People of the Hills: Ancient Ararat and Caucasus*. Praeger Publishers, New York.

Kiguradze, T.

2000 The Chalcolithic - Early Bronze Transition in the Eastern Caucasus. In *Chronologie des pays du Caucase et de l'Euphrate aux IVe-IIIe millenaires = From the Euphrates to the Caucasus : chronologies for the IVth-IIIrd millennium B.C.*, edited by C. Marro and H. Hauptmann, pp. 321-328. Institut francais d'etudes anatoliennes Georges Dumezil, Istanbul.

Korenevskii, S. N.

1991-92 On the discussion of the Ethnic Interpretations of the Maikop Culture. *Soviet Anthropology and Archaeology* 30(3):39-47.

Lyonnet, B.

2000 La Mesopotamie et le Caucase du Nord au IVe et au Debut du IIIe Millenaires Av. N. E.: Leurs Rapports et les Problemes Chronologies de la Culture de Majkop. Etat de la Question et Nouvelles Propositions. In *Chronologie des pays du Caucase et de l'Euphrate aux IVe-IIIe millenaires = From the Euphrates to the Caucasus : chronologies for the IVth-IIIrd millennium B.C.*, edited by C. Marro and H. Hauptmann, pp. 299-320. Institut francais d'etudes anatoliennes Georges Dumezil, Istanbul.

Trifonov, V. A.

1994 The Caucasus and the Near East in the Early Bronze Age. *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 13(3):357-360.

PART II. THREE PROBLEMS IN BRONZE AGE ARCHAEOLOGY

VI. May 4. Early Metallurgy in Eurasia and the Caucasus (Peterson)

REQUIRED

Chernykh, E. N.

1992 *Ancient Metallurgy in the USSR: The Early Metal Age*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. Chs. 1, 2, and 3.

RECOMMENDED

Kohl, P.

Forthcoming Integrated Interaction at the Beginning of the Bronze Age: New Evidence from the Northeastern Caucasus and the Advent of Tin-Bronzes in the 3rd Millennium BC. In *Archaeology in the Borderlands: Investigations in Caucasia and Beyond*, edited by A. T. Smith and K. Rubinson.

Peterson, D.

Forthcoming Ancient Metallurgy in the Mountain Kingdom: The Technology and Value of Early Bronze Age Metalwork from Velikent, Dagestan. *Archaeology in the Borderlands: Investigations in Caucasia and Beyond*, edited by A. T. Smith and K. Rubinson.

VII. May 11. The Steppe and the "Indo-European Problem"

REQUIRED

Anthony, D.

1986 The "Kurgan Culture." Indo-European Origins, and the Domestication of the Horse: a Reconsideration. *Current Anthropology* 27(4):291-313.

Anthony, D. W.

1995 Horse, Wagon and Chariot: Indo-European Languages and Archaeology. *Antiquity* 69(264):554-565.

Mallory, J. P.

1989 In Search of the Indo-Europeans: Language, Archaeology and Myth. Thames and Hudson, London. Chs. 6 and 7

RECOMMENDED

Mair, V. H.

1998 *The Bronze Age and Early Iron Age peoples of Eastern Central Asia*. Journal of Indo-European studies. Monograph ; no. 26. Institute for the Study of Man in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania Museum Publications, Washington, D.C.

Mallory, J. P.

1973 A Short History of the Indo-European Problem. *Journal of Indo-European Studies* 1(1):21-65.

Renfrew, C.

1990 *Archaeology and language: The Puzzle of Indo-European Origins*. 1st North American paperback ed. Cambridge University Press, New York.

VIII. May 18. Nomadism and Inequality on the Steppe and in the Caucasus

REQUIRED

Chernykh, E. N.

1993 *Ancient Metallurgy in the USSR: The Early Metal Age*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. Chs. 1, 2, and 3.

Kushnareva, K. K.

1997 *The Southern Caucasus in Prehistory*. The University of Museum, Philadelphia. Chs. 4 and 7

Seaman, G.

1991 World Systems and State Formation on the Inner Asian Periphery. In *Rulers from the Steppe: State Formation on the Eurasian Periphery*, edited by G. Seaman and D. Marks, pp. 1-20. Ethnographics Press Center for Visual Anthropology University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

RECOMMENDED

Abramova, M. P.

1995 Sarmatians in the North Caucasus. In *Nomads of the Eurasian Steppes in the Early Iron Age*, edited by J. Davis-Kimball, V. A. Bashilov and L. T. Yablonsky, pp. 165-183. Zinat Press, Berkeley.

Bokonyi, S.

1994 The Role of the Horse in the Exploitation of the Steppes. In *The Archaeology of the Steppes: Methods and Strategies*, edited by B. Genito, pp. 17-30. Istituto universitario orientale, Napoli.

Cribb, R.

1991 *Nomads in Archaeology*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Dolukhanov, P. M.

1994 The North Pontic Steppic Corridor in Late Prehistory: Ecology, Economy, and Cultural Interaction. In *The Archaeology of the Steppes: Methods and Strategies*, edited by B. Genito, pp. 541-552. Istituto universitario orientale, Napoli.

Harmatta, J.

1994 Nomadic and Sedentary Life in the Great Steppe-Belt of Eurasia. In *The Archaeology of the Steppes: Methods and Strategies*, edited by B. Genito, pp. 565-571. Istituto universitario orientale, Napoli.

PART III. PROBLEMS OF COMPLEXITY AND THE IRON AGE TRANSITION

IX. May 25. Migration and Complexity: The Early Iron Age Steppe (Peterson)

REQUIRED

Khazanov, A. M.

1978 The Early State Among the Scythians. In *The Early State*, edited by H. J. M. Claessen and P. Skalnik, pp. 425-439. Mouton Publishers, The Hague. Lincoln, B.

1991 *Death, War, and Sacrifice: Studies in Ideology and Practice*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago. Ch. 15 On the Scythian Royal Burials.

Marchenko, K. and Y. Vinogradov

1989 The Scythian Period in the Northern Black Sea Region. *Antiquity* 63: 803-813.

Moškova, M. G.

1994 On the Nature of the Similarity and Difference in the Nomadic Cultures of the Eurasian Steppes of the 1st Millennium B.C. In *The Archaeology of the Steppes: Methods and Strategies*, edited by B. Genito, pp. 231-241. Istituto universitario orientale, Napoli.

RECOMMENDED

Davis-Kimball, J.

1997 Warrior Women of the Eurasian Steppes. *Archaeology* 50(1):44-48.

Olkhovsky, V. S.

1995 Scythian Culture in the Crimea. In Davis-Kimball, J., V. A. Bashilov and L. T. Yablonsky (eds.) (1995) *Nomads of the Eurasian Steppes in the Early Iron Age*. Zinat Press, Berkeley, pp. 63-81.

Petrenko, V. G.

1994 On the Interpretation of Early Scythian Sites in Central Ciscaucasia. In *The Archaeology of the Steppes: Methods and Strategies*, edited by B. Genito, pp. 347-357. Istituto universitario orientale, Napoli.

Rolle, R.

1989 *The World of the Scythians*. Translated by F. G. Walls, University of California Press, Berkeley. Pp. 100-122.

Tosi, M.

1994 The Egalitarian Foundations of Steppe Empires. In *The Archaeology of the Steppes: Methods and Strategies*, edited by B. Genito, pp. 651-666. Istituto universitario orientale, Napoli.

Tsetskhladze, G. R.

1998 Who Built the Scythian and Thracian Royal and Elite Tombs? *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 17(1):55-92.

X. June 1. Complexity in the Caucasus and the Age of Empire

REQUIRED

Petrenko, V. G.

1995 Scythian Culture in the North Caucasus. In Davis-Kimball, J., V. A. Bashilov and L. T. Yablonsky (eds.) (1995) *Nomads of the Eurasian Steppes in the Early Iron Age*. Zinat Press, Berkeley, pp. 5-22.

Diakonoff, I. M.

1984 *The Pre-History of the Armenian People*. Caravan Books, Delmar, N.Y. Ch. 2.

Smith, A. T.

1999 The Making of an Urartian Landscape in Southern Transcaucasia: A Study of Political Architectonics. *American Journal of Archaeology* 103(1):45-71.

Badalyan, R. S., A. T. Smith, and P. S. Avetisyan

Forthcoming The Emergence of Socio-Political Complexity in Southern Caucasia. In *Archaeology in the Borderlands: Investigations in Caucasia and Beyond*, edited by A. T. Smith and K. Robinson.

RECOMMENDED

Barnett, R. D.

1982 Urartu. In *The Cambridge Ancient History*, edited by J. Boardman, I. E. S. Edwards, N. G. L. Hammond and E. Sollberger, pp. 314-371. vol. 3. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Braund, D.

1994 *Georgia in Antiquity: A History of Colchis and Transcaucasian Iberia, 550 B.C.-A.D. 562*. Clarendon Press, Oxford.

Burney, C. and D. M. Lang

1972 *The People of the Hills: Ancient Ararat and Caucasus*. Praeger Publishers, New York.

Zimansky, P. E.

1985 *Ecology and Empire*. Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization 41. The Oriental Institute, Chicago.