

SUMMER 2011

NEAR E 496C

INTRODUCTION TO SHAMANISM

Dr. Talant Mawkanuli

This course aims at introducing students to the historical development of Shamanism in Siberia and Inner Asia with a survey of various interpretations of shamanism as a social phenomenon and practices in different societies. Shamanism as both an ancient and a universal phenomenon transcends ethnic, cultural, and linguistic boundaries. The course will also survey the cultural ecology, social life, languages, religious beliefs and cultural world of the people in the region that sustain Shamanism.



No special knowledge of Shamanism and the region on the part of students is presumed. The course will consist of lectures, reading assignments, and class discussions and will make extensive use of films and other audio-visual materials.



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A-TERM

JUNE 20 - JULY 20

5 CREDITS

SAVERY 164

TTH 2:30-5:20