



KIRGIZ STUDIES

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

INCREDIBLE NATURAL BEAUTY? PROUD NOMADIC TRADITIONS?

THINK KIRGIZ

Kirgiz is a Central Asian Turkic language spoken by approximately 4 million people who live primarily in Kyrgyzstan but also in Northwest China, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan. Kyrgyzstan, famous for its towering mountains, epic poetry, and its vast water resources, shares much in common with its Kazak neighbors on the steppes to the north. Following the 2005 “Tulip Revolution” Kyrgyzstan has become an important test case for the development of democracy in the Central Asian republics of the former-Soviet Union. Due to Soviet influence, Kirgiz is written in a modified form of the Cyrillic alphabet, and is therefore a comfortable transition in reading the language with a little bit of knowledge about the Russian alphabet.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT KIRGIZ AND THE NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CIVILIZATION DEPARTMENT AT UW CONTACT THE NELC UNDERGRADUATE ADVISOR AT [206-685-3743](tel:206-685-3743) OR NELCUA@U.WASHINGTON.EDU

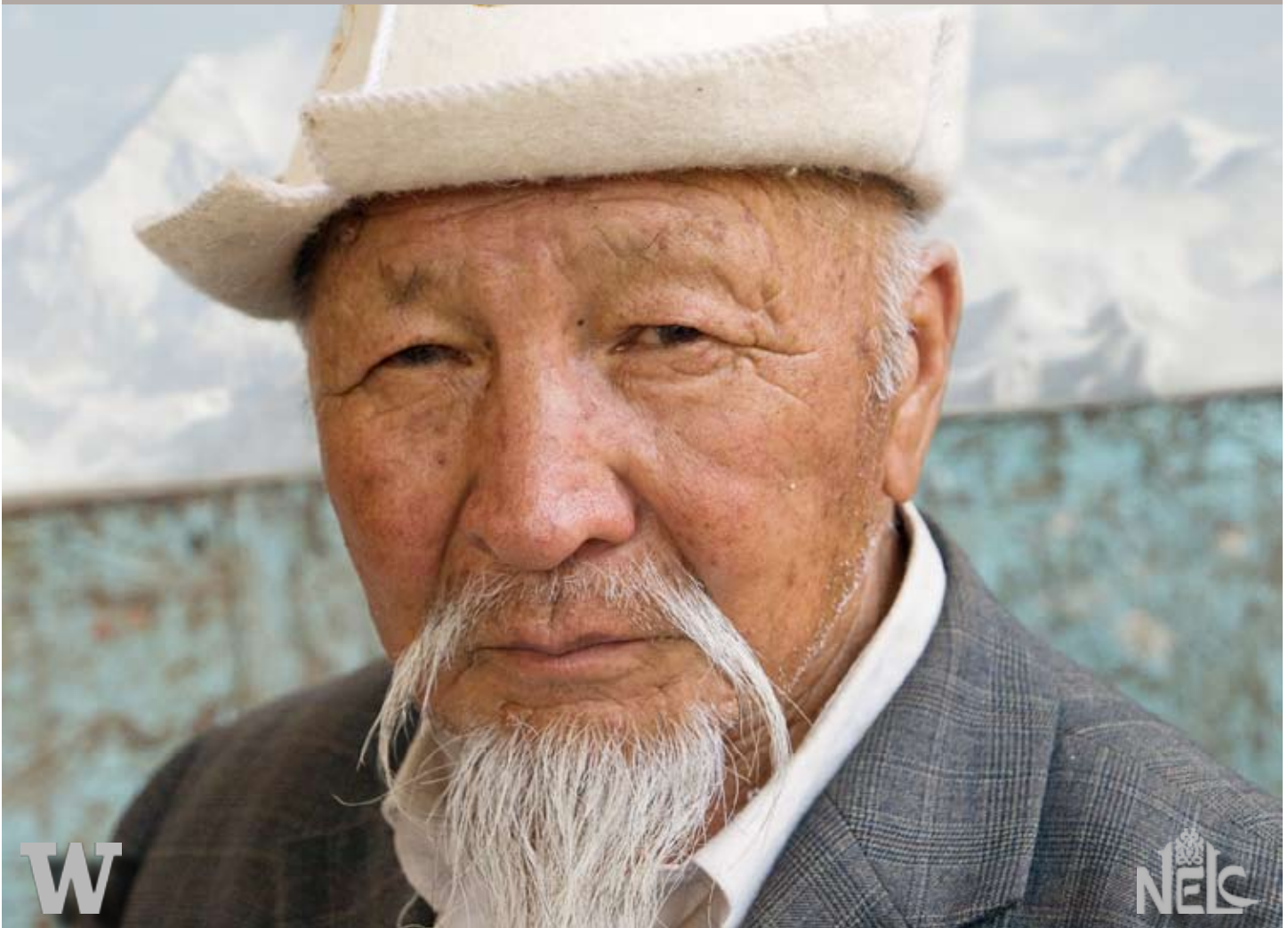


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Near Eastern Languages and Civilization