

Field Summer School 2024

Rethinking Urban Spaces:
Central Asian Post-Mining
Towns in Focus

Bishkek and Kadji-Sai
August 18–27, 2024

FIELD SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM

AUGUST 18, SUNDAY

Arrival and Check-In, the ololoFrelander hostel
19:00 / Welcome dinner, Navat,
Ally Tokombaev St. 32/4

AUGUST 19, MONDAY

AUCA, Rooms 301 and 405

09:00 / Field Summer School introduction / Zarina Adambussinova, AUCA
09:30 / Individual introductions by participants
10:00 / Expectations & guidelines / group work
10:30 / Coffee break
11:00 / SILK and its urban projects / Emil Nasritdinov, AUCA
11:30 / Gorozhanyam: a people-centered approach in urban research / Alessya Nugayeva, Gorozhanyam
12:00 / AnthroZine: Crafting Cultural Narratives / online workshop / _sleepworks_
13:00 / Lunch, AUCA
14:30 / Exploring Kadji-Sai: A collaborative town portrait / group work
17:00 / The historical buildings and monuments of Erkindik Boulevard / Alexey Juravlev, Peshcom / a city tour
19:30 / Dinner, Dolce Vita, Isanov St. 80

AUGUST 20, TUESDAY

AUCA, Rooms 301 and 405

09:00 / Designing modern urban projects / Stas Dalidchik / SILK/ workshop
10:00 / Strengthening urban resilience of mountain towns / Madina Junussova, UCA / online talk
11:00 / Coffee break
11:30 / Between survival and resilience: The phenomenon of a post-Soviet “monogorod” / Zarina Adambussinova, AUCA / talk
12:30 / “Knowledge infrastructures” as a guiding notion of urban research / Siarhei Liubimau, EHU / online talk
13:30 / Lunch, AUCA
15:00 / Tash-Kömyr. The forgotten city/ Adil Turdukulov/ documentary screening and discussion
16:00 / Bishkek Walks: Fieldtrip and taking observational fieldnotes / Emil Nasritdinov, AUCA / talk
17:00 / Coffee break
17:30 / Kadji-Sai: The story of a uranium-mining factory, its villagers and the ongoing search for the names of prisoners who worked there / Bolot Issabekov, an independent researcher and photographer / talk
19:00 / Dinner, AUCA

AUGUST 21, WEDNESDAY

AUCA, Rooms 301 and 405

09:00 / Discussion of initial individual project ideas / Alessya Nugaeva / workshop
11:00 / Coffee break
11:30 / Untold stories of Toktogul hydroelectric plant / Talgat Jumashev, AUCA / talk
12:30 / Visualizing scale and boundary in urbanist research / Siarhei Liubimau, EHU / online lecture
13:30 / Lunch, AUCA
15:00 / A small town in big history: uranium mining legacy museum in Mailuu-Suu / Georgiy Mamedov, AUCA / talk
16:00 / Contesting post-uranium remediation work in Mailuu-Suu / Nikolaos Olma, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO) in Berlin / online talk
17:00 / Coffee break
17:30 / The transformed environment and slow violence: in Tash-Kumyr, Kyzyl-Alma, and Shamaldy-Sai / Gulzat Baialieva, University of Tübingen / online talk
19:00 / Dinner, AUCA

AUGUST 22, THURSDAY

Fieldwork, Kadji-Sai, the Natalya hotel

07:00 / Trip to Kadji-Sai
15:00 / Urban walk and field analysis / Stas Dalidchik / group work
17:00 / Town excursion in Kadji-Sai / Dyadya Vanya / a city tour
19:00 / Dinner
20:00 / Discussion of individual and group projects / group work

AUGUST 23, FRIDAY

Site visit: Kadji-Sai, Dom Kultury

08:00 / Breakfast
09:00 / Fieldwork
13:00 / Lunch
15:00 / Facilitation session with citizens / Alessya Nugaeva / group work
19:00 / Dinner
20:00 / Growth points in mono-industrial towns in post-Soviet space / Stas Dalidchik/ talk

AUGUST 24, SATURDAY

Site visit: Kadji-Sai, Dom Kultury

08:00 / Breakfast
09:00 / Fieldwork
13:00 / Lunch
15:00 / Facilitation sessions with citizens / Alessya Nugaeva and Stas Dalidchik / group work
19:00 / Dinner



AUGUST 25, SUNDAY

Trip to Bishkek

9:00 – 18:00 / Finalizing individual and group projects
19:00 / Dinner, Dolce Vita Pizzeria, Yusup Abdrakhmanov St. 137

AUGUST 26, MONDAY

AUCA, Room T16

10:00 / Presentation of the individual and group projects
11:30 / Coffee break
12:00 / Presentation of the individual and group projects
13:30 / Lunch
15:00 / Follow-up
18:00 / Cultural programme and farewell dinner: The SUPARA ethno complex, Kok-Jar

AUGUST 27, TUESDAY

Departure



Tutors

Guest Lecturers

City guides

Local Activists



Madina Junussova

She is an Urban Development Lead for GSD Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Public Policy and Administration (IPPA) of the University of Central Asia (UCA) and a CERGE-EI Foundation Teaching Fellow. She holds a PhD in Public Policy from Carleton University, Canada. Madina is an internationally recognized policy analyst focusing on local development in Central Asia with 20 years of academic and research experience in urban and regional planning.



Nikolaos Olma

He is a postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO) in Berlin and adjunct lecturer at the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology, Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg, Germany. He is currently working on a book project that examines the various processes of (un)knowing informing life with radioactive uranium tailings in Mailuu-Suu, a former uranium mining town in Kyrgyzstan.



Emil Nasritdinov

He is an Associate Professor at the Anthropology, Urbanism and International Development at the American University of Central Asia (AUCA), Kyrgyzstan and coordinator of Social Innovation Lab Kyrgyzstan (SILK). He holds a PhD in Urban Planning degree from the University of Melbourne, Australia.



Georgiy Mamedov

He is an assistant Professor at Television, Cinema and Media Arts department of the American University of Central Asia (AUCA), curator and writer.



Bolot Issabekov

He is a photographer and researcher from Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. He is a fellow of the Docdocdoc School of Modern Photography.



Gulzat Baialieva

She is an academic scholar specializing in social and digital anthropology currently working at the Artificial Intelligence Research Center, Germany. She holds a graduate degree in European Civilizations from Bishkek Humanities University, an MA in Political Science from Central European University, and a PhD degree in Anthropology from Tuebingen University. Her PhD research focused on the transformations in deindustrialized towns since the USSR's dissolution, utilizing mixed research methods including digital ethnography.



Alessya Nugayeva

She is a city lover, urban explorer, and community relations expert. She is an Assistant Professor at the Urban Center of AlmaU and a founder of the Gorozhanyng NGO in Almaty, Kazakhstan.



Gulay Cholokova

She is a teacher and social pedagogue at the Pushkin School-Gymnasium for 13 years, as well as a UNICEF volunteer on WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene), and a participant in Amnesty International. Every year she organizes a "Write for Rights" marathon for students and their parents.



Siarhei Liubimau

He is a co-founder of the Laboratory of Critical Urbanism. He holds a PhD in sociology (2010, Polish Academy of Science) and works at the EHU from fall 2006. He researches, writes and thinks about various effects of relations between state border regimes, space uses and meaning making.



Talgat Jumashv

He is a research fellow at Social Innovation Lab Kyrgyzstan (SILK) at American University of Central Asia. He has a background in Anthropology (M.A.). GIS analysis and remote sensing, among others, are his key tools in urban studies and cultural heritage management. He developed alternative methods for mapping urban poverty in Bishkek.



Stas Dalidchik

He has MA in Urban Studies from the University of Manchester, served as a lecturer and program director at the Department of Special Development named after V.L. Glazychev from 2017 to 2023. Arranged several international internships for students in Canada, Brazil, Germany, and Spain. Since 2023, Projects Leader at UDP Lab. Stas is co-author of studies on 'Exploring International Practices in Managing Major Urban Development Projects' and 'Assessing the Current State and Future Development Prospects of Moscow Districts, Illustrated by Yaroslavsky and Troparevo-Nikulino.



Zarina Adambussinova

She is currently a postdoctoral fellow of the Volkswagen Foundation in the Department of Anthropology, Technology and International Development at the American University of Central Asia (AUCA) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Since 2021 she has been working on her postdoctoral research project "Dealing with Uncertainty: Socio-Economic Survival Strategies of Local Population in former mono-industrial towns in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan".



Olessya Petrovna

She is a history teacher at the Pushkin School-Gymnasium in Kadji-Sai, the Issyk-Kul region, and a loving mother of two adorable daughters. My main life principle is: "I give my heart to children."



Nadezhda Li

She is an English teacher at the Pushkin School-Gymnasium, a happy mother of four children, and simply a person who loves her village (Kadji-Sai).



Adil Turdukulov

He is a civil journalist, activist and former diplomat of the Kyrgyz Republic.



Dyadya Vanya

He is a kraeved, activist and city guide in Kadji-Sai.



Ulan Gabdushev

He is an independent researcher and public historian, the former member of SILK.



sleepworks

He is a multimodal anthropologist and art maker.



Alexey Juravlev

He is an urban and data journalist and member of the orga-team of the Peshcom urban initiative.