

## *New Language Taught at Indiana University!*

### *Kyrgyz Offered by Central Eurasian Studies in 2009-2010!*

Kyrgyz, a major Turkic language of Central Asia, will be offered at Indiana University for the first time ever.

#### *What Is the Kyrgyz Language?*

Kyrgyz is the national language of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan and is spoken as well in the Xinjiang region. **Almost all Kyrgyz speak their native language.** It is a close relative of the Kazakh language of Kazakhstan, and the language of those Turkic peoples who best preserve their ancient nomadic traditions.



#### *Why Should I Study Kyrgyz?*

Mountainous Kyrgyzstan is sometimes called the “**Switzerland of Central Asia.**” Small in population, Kyrgyzstan has played an **important strategic role for US policy** in the region. The “**Tulip Revolution**” of 2005 which overthrew the post-Soviet strongman and the controversy over the American use of **Manas Air Base** have both brought Kyrgyzstan into the news.

Kyrgyz language is famous for the “Manas” epic, **one of the greatest epic tradition of world culture.** **Kyrgyz author Chyngyz Aitmatov** is an internationally famous **science fiction writer.**

**Indiana University also has long connections with the American University of Central Asia,** located in Kyrgyzstan’s capital of Bishkek. IU faculty plan **exchanges in journalism, tourism, and archeology of Kyrgyzstan.** Do you want to have a chance to actually visit a Central Asian country and speak the language? Kyrgyz may be your best bet!

#### *How Can I Register for Kyrgyz Language?*



Kyrgyz will be taught by a **native speaker** from Bishkek. Kyrgyz language at IU is new, so we don’t have a unique class number yet, but don’t let that stop you from registering! For Fall 2009, register for Kyrgyz by enrolling in Kazakh CEUS-T 113, CEUS-T 213, CEUS-T 513, CEUS-T 613. CEUS will administratively move you to a Kyrgyz course number when the new Kyrgyz course numbers are created.

Information: Central Eurasian Studies, Goodbody Hall room 157, 812-855-2233 or [ceus@indiana.edu](mailto:ceus@indiana.edu).