
Born American and Raised in Turkmenistan: a Talk by Darrick Ballou

Thursday, May 30, 2024 | 4:30 pm | Phelps Hall 6320

This talk is a part of the Dobro Slovo induction ceremony. Dobro Slovo is the National Slavic Honor Society, founded in 1926 at the University of California, Berkeley. It recognizes academic excellence in the study of Slavic languages and cultures. Members are typically students who have demonstrated outstanding scholarship in the field of Slavic studies.



Darrick Ballou's experiences growing up in Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and the United Arab Emirates imbued him with a strong appreciation for language and cultural diversity. Darrick learned to speak Russian while living in Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan and has continued studying the language at UCSB. His research interests include economic development and language policy in Central Asia and the Middle East. An avid adventurer, he has skied on three continents and explored 27 countries. At home in Santa Barbara, he enjoys competing for UCSB's rugby team and strumming tunes on his guitar.

WITH QUESTIONS, REACH OUT TO LARRY MCLELLAN (MCLELLAN@UCSB.EDU) AND SASHA RAZOR (SASHARAZOR@UCSB.EDU)