Temir Mamatsaev was born and raised in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. He is fluent in Russian, Kyrgyz, and English. Temir graduated from the New Mexico Military Institute in 2013 and further obtained his Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from UNO in 2015. In 2014, he interned at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, where he assisted Project KGZ 50 in administrative and financial matters. He has also worked at the City of Omaha Mayor’s Office under Mayor Jean Stothert from 2016 to 2017. At the moment, Temir serves as a graduate assistant for the Political Science Department of UNO. His research and professional interests include conflict studies, alliance dynamics, and national government capacity building, particularly in the context of former Soviet states.

Since its independence in 1991, Kyrgyz Republic experienced two revolutions that resulted in exile of two presidents and prompted series of radical government reforms. Some refer to it as an island of democracy in the heart of Central Asia. However, the process of democratic transition has been slowed by number of political and economic constraints. The new republic has been struggling to consolidate its democratic institutions. Its future path to democracy remains unclear. Temir’s presentation will explore political and economic transformation of Kyrgyz Republic following the collapse of USSR as well as its role in regional military and economic alliances.