

HIST-390A
HISTORY OF OTTOMAN EMPIRE AND MODERN TURKEY
(1839-1939)

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i) Course Description:

This course is a brief survey of Turkey, starting from the Ottoman Empire to the early Turkish Republic. The short survey of introduction encompasses the periods of establishment, classical maturity and stagnation, the course will start with a brief discussion on the origins and the emergence of the Ottoman Empire. The course will also cover the shrink, decline, and the inevitable fall of the Ottoman Empire and the rise of the Turkish Republic literally from its ashes.

After a brief introduction on the administrative institutions and social structure of the Ottoman Empire in its classical centuries, the first part of the course focuses on the Ottoman legacy in the Mediterranean basin. The first part of the course is a brief survey of the Ottoman Empire from its early days to the nineteenth century, the beginning of its end. The course will start with a discussion of the legacies behind the formation and rise of the Ottoman Empire, Turco-nomadic Central Asian tradition, Byzantium, Islam, and Persian influence. It will focus on the “classical age,” in which the Ottoman Empire became one of the two “World Empire”s of the Mediterranean. The later weeks of the course will cover the shrunk, or “decline,” of the Ottoman Empire. Our focus will be on its resistance to decline, several revision and reform attempts. The beginning of the Ottoman modernization and Westernization efforts in the eighteenth century is not only the breaking point of Ottoman History, but also marks the end of the first part this course.

The second part of the course starts with the nineteenth century, and covers the *Tanzîmât*, the *Islâhât* period, absolutist reign of Sultan Abdülhamid II, the first and the second *Meşrutiyets*, the First World War, occupation of İstanbul by the

allies, the ‘National Struggle’, and the final collapse of the Ottoman Empire at the end of these wars.

This course will provide a very brief survey of what is today’s Modern Middle East, starting from the early centuries of the Ottoman Empire to our day. The course includes a brief discussion on the Middle East under the rule of the Ottoman Empire, it will also cover the crumbling of the Ottoman Empire into its ethnic components. The last weeks of the course will enable us to observe the emergence of the “nation state”s, as there are more than twenty four “nation state”s over the Ottoman Empire today. A brief upper level survey of the political, economic and social history of the Turkish Republic is also going to be covered in detail; and our focus will be on the history of the Turkish Republic, as the main inheritor of the Ottoman legacy.

The approach will be chronological, covering the total 624 years life-span of the Ottoman Empire, and the first 15 years of the Turkish Republic which replaced its legacy in Anatolia. However, social, economic, and institutional changes will be the main concern of the course. Topics include social, political, fiscal, and economic organization; religious, ethnic and “national” structure; everyday life; class; gender; family; state structure; and the impact of the Ottoman and Turkish culture on the Middle East and Western civilization.

ii) Format:

There are no pre-requisites for the course, all history majors and non-majors are welcomed. However, the course is not appropriate for the fresh[wo]men. The course meets for three lectures in TB-130 (South Campus) on Mondays 1:00-3:50 p.m. (M567), slides and video films will also be shown. (English doublage and/or subtitles will be made available.)

Relevant questions, interpretations, and clarifications will be appreciated after the two hours of lectures. There will be a student discussion in the third hour, after the lectures are completed every week. In these third hours, you will have a chance to discuss and interpret your readings with your colleagues and your Teaching Aassistant. During the discussion section hours, there will not be a straight-forward lecture, but student debate around the assigned readings and lectures.

Mandatory reading assigned for the whole semester is **714 pages**. Weekly reading assignments do vary between 25 to 82 pages, but the average weekly reading requirement is **50 pages per week**. Please make sure that you have read all your readings in time.

Regular attendance to lectures and discussion sections **is** mandatory. There is no grade reserved for attendance, but attendance will always be taken. Undisciplined behavior will not be tolerated in class!

iii) Course Requirements:

Course requirements include a three hours midterm examination, a non-comprehensive three hours final, and a 8-10 page book review paper. Both exams will be essay type, and you may have a choice of questions to answer.

Final grades will be calculated as follows:

Midterm	: 30 %
Book review	: 20 % (paper on Stephen Kinzer's <i>Crescent & Star</i>)
Discussion Sections	: 10 %
Final exam	: 40 %

Stephen Kinzer. *Crescent & Star: Turkey Between Two Worlds*, (New York: Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2001), ISBN 0-374-13143-0, 252 p.

iv) References of Required Reading:

ABOU'EL-HAJ, Rifaat Ali. *Formation of the Ottoman State: The Ottoman Empire, Sixteenth to Eighteenth Centuries*, (New York: State University of New York Press, 1991), pp. 1-28.

AHMAD, Feroz. *The Making of Modern Turkey*, (London: Routledge, [7th Rep. 2004] 1993), 252 p.

BAER, Gabriel. "Guilds in Middle Eastern History" in: *Studies in the Economic History of the Middle East*, (Ed.) M. A. Cook (1970), pp. 11-30.

BAER, Gabriel. "Ottoman Guilds: a Reassessment," in: *Türkiye'nin Sosyal ve Ekonomik Tarihi / Social and Economic History of Turkey*, (Eds.) Osman Okyar and Halil İnalcık, (Ankara: Meteksan, 1979), pp. 95-102.

BERKES, Niyazi. *The Development of Secularism in Turkey*, (Montreal: McGill University Press, 1964), 537 p.

BLAIR, Shelia & BLOOM, Jonathan M. *The Art and Architecture of Islam, 1250-1800*, (New Heaven: Yale University Press, 1994), pp. 213-250.

- ITZKOWITZ, Norman. *Ottoman Empire and Islamic Tradition*, (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1972 [2nd ed. 1980]), ISBN 0-226-38806-9, 117+vii p.
- NALCIK, Halil. *The Ottoman Empire: The Classical Age, 1300-1600*, (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1973), pp. 9-118; 140-185.
- NALCIK, Halil and QUATAERT, Donald (eds.). *An Economic and Social History of the Ottoman Empire, 1330-1914*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994), 1026 p.
- KAFADAR, Cemal. *Between Two Worlds: The Construction of the Ottoman State* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995), pp. 1-154.
- KARAKIŞLA, Yavuz Selim. "II. Abdülhamid'in Saltanatı (1876-1909): Kızıl Sultan mı? Ulu Hakan mı?" *Toplumsal Tarih*, Cilt. XVIII, No. 103, Temmuz 2002, ss. 10-19. (unpublished English translation available)
- KARAKIŞLA, Yavuz Selim. "1908 Devrimi'nin Toplumsal Etkileri," Y. Doğan Çetinkaya (ed.) *İstanbul Üniversitesi Siyasal Bilgiler Fakültesi Dergisi*, Cilt. No. 38, Mart 2008, ss. 7-30. (unpublished English translation available)
- KEYDER, Çalpar. *State and Class in Turkey: A Study in Capitalist Development*, (London: Verso, 1987), 252 p.
- KISHLANSKY, Mark. *et al. Societies and Cultures in World History*, (New York: HarperCollins, 1995), pp. 199-208; 440-471.
- LEWIS, Bernard. *Istanbul and the Civilization of the Ottoman Empire*, (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, [2nd Printing] 1968), pp. 36-176.
- LEWIS, Bernard. *The Emergence of Modern Turkey*, (London: Oxford University Press, [2nd Ed. 1968, 16th Rep.], 1961), 524 p.
- QUATAERT, Donald. *The Ottoman Empire (1700-1922)*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 205 p.
- STEARNS, Peter N. *et al.* "The Muslim Empires," in: *World Civilizations: The Global Experience*, (New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1992), pp. 592-615.
- ZÜRCHER, Eric Jan. *Turkey: A Modern History*, (London: I. B. Tauris, 1993), 381 p.

Copies of these books or articles are unfortunately not available in the University Bookstore. The library copies of each reading are going to be placed on **Yunus Fotokopi** (+90 212 263 6530; yunuscopy@ttmail.com), a xerox shop by the campus, and you can have all your readings from there according to your desire, either as a xerox package or as xeroxed full copy books.

v) Suggested Further Reading:

AHMAD, Feroz. *The Young Turks: The Committee of Union and Progress in Turkish Politics, 1908-1914*, (London: Oxford, 1969).

AROIAN, Lois A. & MITCHELL, Richard. *The Modern Middle East and North Africa*, (New York: Macmillan, 1984).

FISHER, Sydney Nettleton & OCHSENWALD, William. *The Middle East: A History*, (New York: McGraw-Hill, (4th Ed.) 1990).

MCCARTHY, Justin. *The Ottoman Turks: An Introductory History to 1923*, (London: Longman, 1997).

HAN O LU, M. Ökrü. *Atatürk: An Intellectual Biography*, (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011).

KINZER, Stephen. *Crescent & Star: Turkey Between Two Worlds*, (New York: Farrar, Straus and Gioux, [4th Imp. 2001] 2001), ISBN 0-374-13143-0, 252 p.

MANGO, Andrew. *Atatürk* (London: John Murray, 1999).

SHAW, Stanford and Ezel Kural Shaw. *History of the Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey*, 2 vols. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1976).

ZÜRCHER, Eric J. *The Unionist Factor: The Role of the Committee of Union and Progress in the Turkish National Movement, 1905-1926*, (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1984).

vi) Course Reading and Assignment Schedule:

The following is a guide of assignments and the sequence of readings for the course. You are expected to stay ahead with your reading, and to turn in your assignments on the date due.

Please note that, every week, questions about the lecture and the reading of that week will be discussed in the third hour.

<u>WEEK I:</u>	17
<u>February</u> “Foundation of the Ottoman Empire”	
Read: ITZKOWITZ, 3-36.	34 pages
Suggested: NALCIK, 3-40; 204-216; KAFADAR, 1-154.	
Suggested Film: “Kuruluş” (120’)	
<u>WEEK II:</u>	24
<u>February</u> “Palace and the Rulers”	
Read: NALCIK, 55-64; 76-118.	53 pages
Suggested: LEWIS, 36-95; ABOU’EL-HAJ, 1-28.	
Suggested Film: “Karagöz ve Hacivat Neden Öldürüldü”	
<u>WEEK III:</u>	3
<u>March</u> “Society and Institutions”	
Read: ITZKOWITZ, 37-61.	25 pages
Suggested: NALCIK, 65-75.	
Suggested Film: “İstanbul Kanatlarımın Altında” (1996; 107’)	
<u>WEEK IV:</u>	10
<u>March</u> “The city: from Constantinople to İstanbul”	
Read: LEWIS, 96-144; NALCIK, 140-150.	60 pages
Suggested: BLAIR & BLOOM, 213-250.	
Suggested Film: “Fetih 1453”	
<u>BOOK REVIEW</u>	17
<u>March</u>	
<u>WEEK V:</u>	17
<u>March</u> “Ottoman Economy”	
Read: NALCIK, 121-139; 150-162.	32 pages
Suggested: BAER, 11-30; BAER, 95-102.	
Suggested Film: (TBA)	
<u>WEEK VI:</u>	24
<u>March</u>	
“The ‘Decentral Centralization’ and the Decline”	
Read: ITZKOWITZ, 63-109; NALCIK, 41-52.	59 pages
Suggested: QUATAERT, 1-12; 37-51.	

Suggested Film: (TBA)

MIDTERM **26 March, W,**
5:00

WEEK VII:

31 March

“Ottoman Empire before and after the Tanzimat”

Read: ZÜRCHER, 11-79. **69** pages

Suggested: QUATAERT, 54-109; BERKES, 137-172; AHMAD, 15-30.

Suggested Film: “The Turkish Gambit”

WEEK VIII:

7 April

“Absolutist Monarchy of Abdülhamid II”

Read: ZÜRCHER, 80-94; KARAKIİLLA, 10-19. **25** pages

Suggested: BERKES, 256-281.

Suggested Film: “Harem Suare”

WEEK IX: **14**

April

“The Young Turks”

Read: ZÜRCHER, 97-134; KARAKIİLLA, 7-30. **62** pages

Suggested: BERKES, 202-226; 325-366; AHMAD, 31-51.

Suggested Film: “Sultan Hamid Düiken”

SPRING BREAK **21 April**

WEEK X:

28 April

“The WWI and the National Struggle”

Read: ZÜRCHER, 119-172. **54** pages

Suggested: AHMAD, 1-14.

Suggested Film: “Gallipoli” Mel Gibson (1981; 107’)

WEEK XI: **5**

May “Economic and Social History of Turkey”

Read: QUATAERT, 110-191. **82** pages

Suggested: KEYDER, 1-115; QUATAERT, 759-943; LEWIS, 323-487.

Suggested Film: “Lawrence of Arabia” (1988; 218’)

WEEK XII:

12 May

“Revolutionary Emergence of Modern Turkey”

Read: ZÜRCHER, 173-231.

59 pages

Suggested: FISHER, 486-512; BERKES, 431-503.

Suggested Film: “Kurtuluş 1-6”

“Cumhuriyet”

WEEK XIII:

14

May W, 5:00

“Democracy *à la turca*”

Read: AHMAD, 52-101.

50 pages

Suggested: KARPAT (TBA); KIRALCI (TBA)

Suggested Film: “Salkım Hanımın Taneleri”

GENÇLİK VE SPOR BAYRAMI (Holiday)

19 May

EARLY FINAL EXAMINATION

21 May, W 5:00

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