

## ORHAN PAMUK & WORLD LITERATURE

LIT 276/TURKISH 345-645/SES 345/AMES 382

*Spring 2013*  
*T/Th, 1:25-2:40, 106 Carr*

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*Turkish & Middle Eastern Studies*  
*Office hrs: T/Th 4:30 (TBD)*  
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Nobel laureate Orhan Pamuk has gained international recognition for his innovative novels and his status as a dissident author. As such, he and his work have become symbols of intense cultural and political change as Istanbul and Turkey emerge into – and become legible in – the global arena.

In tracing Pamuk’s transformation from national to global author, this course undertakes a journey of cultural translation from one national tradition to a “world republic of letters.” We will be reading the novels of the Nobel laureate as an introduction into the politics of world literature, and examining Pamuk's role as an author who mediates between the Ottoman past, the Turkish national tradition and an international canon represented by the work of (and some film adaptations from) Borges, Kafka, Dostoevsky, Faulkner, Nabokov, Eco, and Rushdie. In the process, we will be asking larger questions about secularism, Islam, collective memory, and cultural practice.






This is not a traditional literature class, but an interdisciplinary seminar that turns to literature to examine transformations in Turkish history, identity, and culture. Class time will be spent in a combination of discussion and short lecture. Secondary discussions will address key concepts such as historiography, intertextuality, orientalism, Sufism, modernism, metafiction, and postcolonialism. Readings, written responses, journal entries and comparative analyses will provide the context for students to select and develop a final research project. By the end of the semester, you will be familiar with important debates concerning literature and politics that continue to define cultural production in Turkey today.

*This course counts toward the Turkish minor and the Duke Islamic Studies Certificate as well as toward majors and minors in ICS, SES and AMES. It is recommended for students participating in the Duke in Istanbul and Duke in Turkey study abroad programs.*

### **Books** (available at Duke textbook store):

-  Pamuk, *Istanbul*
-  Pamuk, *Other Colors*
-  Pamuk, *The White Castle*
-  Pamuk, *My Name is Red*
-  Pamuk, *The Innocence of Objects*

### **Films** (available at Lilly):

-  *Orhan Pamuk Interview: Charlie Rose*
-  *Ten to Eleven*
-  *The Name of the Rose* (Eco)
-  *The Castle* (Kafka)
-  *Coup/Darbe* (optional)

*articles and book chapters available on Sakai*

## Course Requirements and Grading:

1. Attendance and participation [10%]
2. Oral reading reports (article outlines) [10%]
3. Journal entries and scene analyses [20%]
4. Two take-home essay tests [30%]
5. Presentation: Comparative analysis of a novel/author for final paper [10%]
6. A 12 page comparative final paper (20 pages for graduate students). [20%]

*Students are expected to abide by the Duke Honor Code.*

## SCHEDULE:

### Week 1

### Introduction

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Thurs., Jan. 10: Orhan Pamuk Interview (Charlie Rose, 2011)  
<http://www.charlierose.com/view/interview/11670>

### Week 2

### Turkish & World Literature

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Tues., Jan. 15: Findlay, "Intro: Turkey, Islam, Nationalism, and Modernity"  
Pizer, "World Literature and Cultural Globalization"  
Pamuk, "My Turkish Library"

Thurs., Jan. 17: Casanova, "Literature as a World" from *The World Republic of Letters*  
Jameson, "Third World Literature"  
Pamuk, Ch. 1-3, *Istanbul*  
(optional) Apter, "Global *Translatio*: The 'Invention' of Comparative Literature, Istanbul 1933"  
(optional) Damrosch, "What is World Literature?"

[Journal 1: Post Mon. @ 5 and bring hard copy to Tues. class]

### Week 3

### Darvinoğlu in the Ottoman Archive

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Tues., Jan. 22: Quataert, "Ottoman History Writing and Decline"  
James, "The Figure in the Carpet"  
Pamuk, from *The Silent House*  
(optional) Faulkner, from *As I Lay Dying*

Thurs. Jan. 24: Gökner, "The Untranslated Pamuk"  
Pamuk, Ch. 4-6, *Istanbul*  
(optional) White, "The Fictions of Factual Representation"

[Journal 2]

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**Week 4** **Literary Modernism & Literary Orientalism**

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Tues., Jan. 29: (optional) Lewis, from *Religious Experience and the Modernist Novel*

Lukács, “The Ideology of Modernism”

Mufti, “Orientalism and World Literatures”

Pamuk, Ch. 7-9, *Istanbul*

Thurs. Jan. 31: Pamuk, *The White Castle*

Steinhart, “On Hegel’s Master-Slave Dialectic”

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**Week 5** ***The White Castle***

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Tues., Feb. 5: Pamuk, *The White Castle*

Thurs., Feb. 7: Almond, “Ibn Arabi and Derrida” from *Sufism and Deconstruction*  
Hutcheon, “Representing the Postmodern” from *The Politics of Postmodernism*

Pamuk, Ch. 10-12, *Istanbul*

[Journal 3]

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**Week 6** **Representing the “Author”**

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Tues., Feb. 12: **Review & Discussion**

Pamuk, “Paris Review Interview,” *Other Colors*

Pamuk, “My Father’s Suitcase,” *Other Colors*

Pamuk, Ch. 13-15, *Istanbul*

Thurs., Feb. 14: **Take-Home Essay Test I**

Pamuk, Ch. 16-18, *Istanbul*

(optional) “The Implied Author,” *Other Colors*

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**Week 7** **Borges: Modern and Postmodern**

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Tues., Feb. 19: Borges, from *The Aleph & Other Stories*

Pamuk, Ch. 19-21, *Istanbul*

Thurs., Feb. 21: Almond, “Intro,” and “Borges and Islam” from *The New Orientalists*

Pamuk, from *The Black Book*

[Journal 4]

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**Week 8** **Istanbul and Intertextuality**

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Tues., Feb. 26: Pamuk, from *The Black Book*

Thurs., Feb. 28: Pamuk, Ch. 22-27, *Istanbul*

**Week 9****Modernist Istanbul**

Tues., March 5: Tanpınar, from *A Mind at Peace*  
From *Becoming Istanbul: An Encyclopedia*

Thurs., March 7: Pamuk, Ch. 28-33, *Istanbul*  
Film: *Ten to Eleven*  
(optional) Pamuk, from *The New Life*  
  
[Journal 5]

**Week 10****SPRING BREAK NO CLASSES**

March 12/14 Begin reading Pamuk, *My Name is Red*

**Week 11****Ottoman Legacies**

Tues., March 19: Pamuk, *My Name is Red*  
(optional) Porter, “The Theory of the Two Pens”

Thurs., March 21: Film: *The Name of the Rose* (Eco)  
(optional) Eco, from *The Name of the Rose*  
  
[Journal 6]

**Week 12****Sufism: Lover and Beloved**

Tues., March 26: Pamuk, *My Name is Red*

Thurs., March 28: (optional) Schimmel, “The Path”  
Sells, “Sources of Islamic Mysticism”  
Pamuk, Ch. 34-7, *Istanbul*

**Week 13****Final Paper Proposal Due Fri. April 5 @ Noon****Kafka**

Tues., April 2: Pamuk, from *Snow*  
Gramling, “Pamuk’s Dis-Orient”

Thurs., April 4: Film: Welles, *The Trial* (Kafka)  
(optional) Kafka, “The Penal Colony”  
(optional) *Coup/Darbe* Documentary  
  
[Journal 7]

**Week 14****The Innocence of Objects**

Tues., April 9: **Review & Discussion**

Pamuk, *The Innocence of Objects*

**[Week 14 Con't]**

Thurs., April 11: **Take-Home Essay Test II**  
Pamuk, *The Innocence of Objects*  
(optional) Brown, "Thing Theory"

**Week 15**

**Points of Comparison**

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Tues., April 16: Presentations

Thurs., April 18: Presentations

[Journal 8]

**Week 16**

**Points of Comparison**

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Tues., April 23: Presentations

**Week 17**

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**Final Papers due Monday, April 29 @ 5 PM**

*(post electronic copy on Sakai and submit hard copy in my mailbox, 316 Languages)*