

**İpek K. Yosmaoğlu**

**Fall 2006**

**HIST 200 Introduction to the Ottoman Empire to 1826**

This course is a survey of the Ottoman Empire from its roots in medieval Anatolia into the nineteenth century, focusing on the pre and early modern periods. We will explore the Ottomans and their world following a chronological narrative of key political and military developments with detours and stops along the way to consider different aspects of the societal framework such as inter-communal relations, the role of women, changing modes of sociability and urban culture.

**Required Text:**

Daniel Goffman, *The Ottoman Empire and Early Modern Europe*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

**Recommended Texts:**

Caroline Finkel, *Osman's Dream: The Story of the Ottoman Empire, 1300-1923*, London: John Murray, 2005 (available at bookstore and library reserve)

Soraiya Faroqhi, ed. *Cambridge History of Turkey*, v. 3 (library reserve)

**Grading:**

Weekly assignments and class participation 20 %, Midterm exam 25 %, Essay 25 %, Final Exam 30 %.

Your participation and attendance are extremely important for your final grade, not only because they will directly contribute 20 % thereof but also because exam questions and essay topics will be based entirely on the material covered in class. Do not be discouraged by the amount of material; I will provide you with questions and tips on the topics that will be covered weekly, which will make the reading assignments much easier to tackle. The readings marked with an asterisk are primary sources or their critical editions, and they should be read each week in preparation for Friday's session. Double asterisks denote contemporary fiction, and those selections, although highly recommended, are optional reading assignments. The recommended works of fiction can also serve as the basis of your essay assignment.

The course packet will be available at the Printex copy shop on State Street. The source book (primary sources) will be available online. You are not required to print out the primary sources if you prefer not to, but do take detailed notes before you come to class.

### **Week 1. Sep. 5,7**

Introductory session, Medieval Anatolia to Manzikert and Turkic tribes' migrations

Stanford Shaw *History of the Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey* (Chapter 1)

Daniel Goffman, *The Ottoman Empire and Early Modern Europe*, pp. 1-20

### **Week 2. Sep 10,12,14**

The Proto-Ottomans

Steven Runciman, *The Fall of Constantinople*, pp. 1-21.

Daniel Goffman, *The Ottoman Empire and Early Modern Europe*, pp.27-51.

\*Ibn Battuta, *Travels in Asia and Africa*, pp. 123-166.

### **Week 3. Sep. 17,19,21**

The Emergence of the Ottoman Empire, Interregnum, *ghaza* thesis

Halil Inalcik, "The Rise of the Ottoman Empire," *A History of the Ottoman Empire to 1730*, pp. 10-39.

Cemal Kafadar, *Between Two Worlds*, pp. 29-59.

\*G. Arnakis, "Gregory Palamas among the Turks and Documents of His Captivity as Historical Sources," *Speculum*, 26 (1951), 104-118.

### **Week 4. Sep. 24, 26, 28**

The Fall/Conquest of Constantinople, Reconstruction under Mehmed II

Halil Inalcik, "The Rise of the Ottoman Empire," pp. 40-53.

Steven Runciman, *The Fall of Constantinople, 1453*, pp. 160-180.

\*Nicolo Barbaro, *The Diary of the Siege of Constantinople*, pp. 42-76.

### **Week 5. Oct. 1, 3, 5**

Centralization and Its Key Institutions, the *kul* system, *janissaries* and *timariots*

Colin Imber, *The Ottoman Empire*, "Recruitment" pp. 128-142.

Leslie Peirce, *The Imperial Harem*, Introduction, pp. 3-10.

\*Konstantin Mihailovic, *Memoirs of a Janissary*, pp. 129-175.

**Week 6. Oct. 8, 10, 12**

Key institutions continued; the imperial *harem*, law, *kanun*, *urf* and sharia, *vakifs*

Halil Inalcik, *The Ottoman Empire: The Classical Age, 1300-1600*, pp. 65-118.

Halil Inalcik, "Ottoman Methods of Conquest," *Studia Islamica*, v. II (1954), pp. 103-129.

\*Tursun Bey, *History of Mehmed the Conqueror*, pp. 32-67.

**Week 7. Oct. 15,17,19**

**MW—no lecture, review session before exam**

**Friday—Midterm Exam**

**Week 8. Oct. 22,24,26**

The Age of Suleyman the Magnificent

Stanford Shaw, *History of the Ottoman Empire*, pp. 71-86.

Daniel Goffman, *The Ottoman Empire and Early Modern Europe*, "A Seasoned Polity" pp. 59-92, "Factionalism and Insurrection," pp. 98-115.

\*Excerpts from Oghier Ghiselin de Busbecq's *Turkish Letters*

**Week 9. Oct. 29, 31, Nov 2**

17<sup>th</sup> Century "Crisis"

Daniel Goffman, *The Ottoman Empire and Early Modern Europe*, pp. 115-127 ; "A Changing Station in Europe," pp. 192-225.

Christoph K. Neumann, "Political and Diplomatic Developments," *The Cambridge History of Turkey*, pp. 44-62.

Leslie Peirce, *The Imperial Harem*, "The Age of the Queen Mother: 1566-1656," pp. 91-112.

\*Excerpts from Rycaut, *History of the Present State of the Ottoman Empire*

**Week 10. Nov. 5,7,9**

Social Unrest, Urban Challenges

Ralph Hattox, *Coffee and Coffeehouses*, pp. 72-130.

Madeline Zilfi, "The Kadizadelis: Discordant Revivalism in Seventeenth-Century Istanbul," *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, 45 (1986), pp.251-269.

\* selection from Lady Montagu, *The Embassy Letters*

### **Week 11. Nov. 12,14,16**

The "Tulip Era"

Madeline C. Zilfi, "Women and Society in the Tulip Era, 1718-1730," in Amira El Azhary Sonbol, ed. *Women, the Family, and Divorce Law in Islamic History*, pp. 290-303.

\*\*Orhan Pamuk, *My Name is Red*

Wednesday: Essay preparation

Friday: Guest lecture by Dr. Ali Yaycıoğlu, *Provincial Administration and Decentralization*

### **Week 12. Nov. 19, 21**

**No Class. Essays due before Thanksgiving break**

Giancarlo Casale, "Talking Turkey: The Story of How the Unofficial Bird of the United States Got Named After a Country"

\*\*Orhan Pamuk, *The White Castle*

### **Week 13. Nov. 26, 28, 30**

Change, Transformation or "Decline"?

Norman Itzkowitz, "Eighteenth Century Ottoman Realities," *Studia Islamica*, v. 16 (1962), pp. 73-94.

Cemal Kafadar, "The Question of Ottoman Decline," *Harvard Middle Eastern and Islamic Review*, v. 4, no. 1 (1998).

Halil Inalcik, "Centralization and Decentralization in Ottoman Administration" in Naff and Owen, *Studies in Eighteenth Century Islamic History*, pp. 27-52.

\*Mustafa Ali, *Counsel for the Sultans*

### **Week 14. Dec. 3, 5, 7**

The Reign of Selim III, Military Reforms and the Dawn of the Nineteenth Century

Stanford Shaw and Ezel K. Shaw, *History of the Ottoman Empire*, 1-35.

Stanford Shaw, *Between Old and New*, p. 112-149

**Week 15. Dec 10, 12, 14**

A Resilient Polity and the Challenge of Modernity

Donald Quataert, "Why Study Ottoman History?" *The Ottoman Empire, 1700-1922*, pp. 1-11.

WF: Review Session