

## HIST 489/589: From Empire to Republic

Instructor: Ayşe Ozil  
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Fall 2023

Tuesdays 14:40-16:30, FASS G043  
Wednesdays 16:40-17.30, FASS 2031

Office hours: by e-mail appointment

**Course content:** This course offers a survey of the history of the late Ottoman empire and the transition to republican Turkey. The focus will be on the main aspects of the political and social sphere from the 19<sup>th</sup> through the early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. At the end of the course, students are expected to have a grasp of the central features of the late Ottoman and early republican state and society, including aspects of reform, mobility, war and urbanization. Students are also expected to familiarize themselves with discussions in scholarship on the period.

**Course format:** Students are expected to complete the assigned readings before each session and actively participate in discussions. Students are responsible for **checking *sucourse* regularly** to follow weekly pacing and announcements. Students will upload all assignments on SUCourse+.

**Attendance and informed participation:** Students must attend every session actively participate in an informed manner.

### **Assessment and evaluation (for 489)      Assessment and evaluation (for 589)**

mid-term examination (30 %)	take-home examination (final paper) (30 %)
participation and presentation in class (20 %)	participation and presentation in class (20 %)
weekly responses on the assigned text for presentation (20 %)	weekly responses on the assigned text for presentation (20 %)
final examination (30 %)	final examination (30 %)

**Presentation in session:** Students will make a 15-minute presentation in class based on an assigned reading from or outside the syllabus. This reading will be assigned on SuCourse+ a week prior to the presentation. The presentation is expected to give an informed summary of the assigned text in relation to the session topic. The presentation will include the main points raised in the text, its argumentation and sources/evidence used. **Deadline** to choose a session for presentation and inform the instructor by e-mail (on a first-come first-served basis): Oct 10.

**Short responses:** **Class is expected to read** the assigned text for presentation and to critically reflect on the reading in relation to the other readings of the session and write a response on SuCourse+ by 9pm on Tuesdays before the Wednesday session.

**Take-home examination (Final paper for 589):** Students choose a topic from (or related to) the syllabus, submit the title, a 500-word abstract and a preliminary bibliography (at least 10 items) for their final paper (**deadline: week 7, at the end of the mid-term**). The final paper (4000 words) must include discussion/references to at least 5 subjects/questions raised in class and the readings. Students submit their final paper (**deadline: Jan 15**) For references and bibliography, use the Chicago manual of style: [http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide/citation-guide-1.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-1.html)

### **Course outline and required readings:**

Required readings and extra reading material will be available on SUCourse+ or on IC online. Course content, requirements and policies are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

#### **Week 1, Oct 3-4:** Introduction

Readings: Frederick Anscombe, *State, Faith and Nation in Ottoman and Post-Ottoman Lands* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014) Ch. 2: “The Premodern Islamic State and Military Modernization”.

Ali Yaycıoğlu, *Partners of the Empire: The Crisis of the Ottoman Order in the Age of Revolutions* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2016): Introduction, Chs.1/II: “The New Order”.

#### **Week 2, Oct 10-11:** Crisis and change at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century

Ali Yaycıoğlu, *Partners of the Empire: The Crisis of the Ottoman Order in the Age of Revolutions* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2016), Ch. 3: “Communities: Collective Action, Leadership and Politics”, Ch. 4: “Crisis: Riots, Conspiracies, and Revolutions, 1806-1808”.

Murat Şiviloğlu, *The Emergence of the Public Opinion* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018), Ch. 2.: “A Bureaucratic Public Sphere”.

#### **Week 3, Oct 17-18** The empire’s first nation-state: the Greek war of independence (1821) and the Ottomans

Readings: Hakan Erdem, “ ‘Do not Think of the Greeks as Agricultural Labourers’: Ottoman Responses to the Greek War of Independence”, in *Citizenship and the Nation-state in Greece and Turkey*, eds. F. Birtek and T. Dragonas (New York: Routledge, 2005), 67-84.

Sophia Laiou, “The Greek Revolution in the Morea According to the Description of an Ottoman Official”, in *The Greek Revolution of 1821: A European Event*, ed. P. Pizaniyas (Istanbul: The Isis Press, 2011), 241-255.

Mark Mazower, *The Greek Revolution: 1821 and the Making of Modern Europe* (London: Allen Lane, 2021), Ch. 6: “Khurshid Pasha’s Harem”.

**Week 4, Oct 24-25:** The Tanzimat state I: The Gülhane edict

Readings: “Gülhane Hatt-ı Hümayunu”, in Enver Ziya Karal, *Osmanlı Tarihi* (Ankara: TTK, 1995), vol. 5: 255-258.

Halil İnalçık, “Sened-i İttifak ve Gülhane Hatt-ı Hümayunu”, in Halil İnalçık, *Osmanlı İmparatorluğu* (Istanbul: Eren, 1993).

Butros Abu-Manneh, “The Islamic Roots of the Gülhane Rescript”, *Die Welt des Islams* 34/2 (1994), 173-203.

Frederick Anscombe, *State, Faith and Nation in Ottoman and Post-Ottoman Lands* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014) Ch. 3: “The Breaking of the Premodern Islamic State” and Ch. 4: “The Reconstructed Muslim State”.

**Week 5, Oct 31-Nov 1:** The Tanzimat state II: The quest for parliamentary rule and the Young Ottomans

Readings: “Islahat Ferman-ı Hümayunu”, in Enver Ziya Karal, *Osmanlı Tarihi* (Ankara: TTK, 1995), vol. 5: 258-264.

Şerif Mardin, *The Genesis of Young Ottoman Thought* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1962), Ch. 2: “The Young Ottomans”; Ch. 4: “Turkish Political Elites in the Nineteenth Century”.

Erdem Sönmez, “From *Kanun-ı kadim* (ancient law) to *Umumun Kuvveti* (force of people): Historical Context of Ottoman Constitutionalism”, *Middle Eastern Studies*, 52/1 (2016), 116-134.

Aylin Koçunyan, *Negotiating the Ottoman Constitution 1839-1876* (Leuven: Peeters 2018), Ch. 3: “Drafts and the Final Version of the Ottoman Constitution: Textual and Political Analysis”.

**Week 6, Nov 7-8:** Ottoman society in the 19<sup>th</sup> century: Histories of migration

Readings: Reşat Kasaba, *A Movable Empire: Ottoman Nomads, Migrants and Refugees* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2009), Ch. 2: “A Movable Empire” and Ch. 4: “Building Stasis”.

Foti Benlisoy and Stefo Benlisoy, “‘Karamanlılar’, ‘Anadolu Ahalisi’ ve ‘Aşağı Tabakalar’: Türkdilli Anadolu Ortodokslarında Kimlik Algısı”, *Tarih ve Toplum*, no. 11 (2010), 7-22.

**Week 7, Nov 14-15:** Mid-term examination during class hours on Wednesday for 489 and paper abstract preparation and submission for 589. No class.

**Week 8, Nov 21-22:** Language, politics and culture in the 19<sup>th</sup> century

Readings: Özgür Türesay, “The Political Language of *Takvim-i vekayi*: The Discourse and Temporality of Ottoman ‘Reform’” (1831-1834), *European Journal of Turkish Studies*, no. 31 (2020) (online journal)

Johann Strauss, “Linguistic Diversity and Everyday Life in the Ottoman Cities of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Balkans (late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> century), *History of the Family*, no. 16 (2011), 126-141.

**Week 9, Nov 28-29** Orientalism in the Ottoman Empire

Readings: Ussama Makdisi, “Ottoman Orientalism”, *The American Historical Review* 107/3 (2002), 768-796.

Edhem Eldem, “An Ottoman Traveler to the Orient: Osman Hamdi Bey”, in *Poetics and Politics of Space: Ottoman Istanbul and British Orientalism*, eds. Z. İnankur, R. Lewis and M. Roberts (Istanbul: Pera Museum Publications, 2011), 183-195.

**Week 10, Dec 5-6** Urbanization and society

Readings: Zeynep Çelik, *The Remaking of Istanbul: Portrait of an Ottoman City in the Nineteenth Century* (Berkeley: University of California Press), Ch. 2: “The Nineteenth Century Background”; Ch. 3: “Regularization of the Urban Fabric”.

Ceylan İrem Gençer, “Dualities in the Transformation of the Urban Realm: Smyrna and Salonica 1840-1900”, *Mediterranean Historical Review* 31/2 (2016), 139-163.

**Week 11, Dec 12-13** Aspects of Mobility in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Readings: Ramazan Hakkı Öztan, “The Last Ottoman Merchants: Regional Trade and Politics of Tariffs in Aleppo’s Hinterland”, in *Regimes of Mobility: Borders and State Formation in the Middle East 1918-1946*, eds. J. Tejel and R. H. Öztan (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2022).

Ebru Akcasu, “Migrants to Citizens: An Evaluation of the Expansionist Features of Hamidian Ottomanism, 1876-1909”, *Die Welt des Islams*, vol. 56, no. 3, 4 (2016), 388-414.

**Week 12, Dec 19-20** War and society

Readings: Mehmet Beşikçi, “Between Acceptance and Refusal – Soldiers’ Attitudes Towards War (Ottoman Empire/Middle East)”, *International Encyclopedia of the First World War*, 2017: [https://encyclopedia.1914-1918-online.net/article/between\\_acceptance\\_and\\_refusal\\_-\\_soldiers\\_attitudes\\_towards\\_war\\_ottoman\\_empire\\_middle\\_east/2017-12-01?version=1.0](https://encyclopedia.1914-1918-online.net/article/between_acceptance_and_refusal_-_soldiers_attitudes_towards_war_ottoman_empire_middle_east/2017-12-01?version=1.0).

Yiğit Akın, *When the War Came Home: The Ottomans’ Great War and the Devastation of an Empire* (Stanford: Stanford University Press), Chs. 4 and 5.

**Week 13, Dec 26-27** Education from the empire to the nation-state

Readings: Amit Bein, *Ottoman Ulema, Turkish Republic: Agents of Change and Guardians of Tradition* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2011), Ch. 4: “The Remaking and Unmaking of Religious Education”.

Murat Şiviloğlu, *The Emergence of the Public Opinion* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018), Ch. 4.: “The Schooling of the Public”.

Benjamin Fortna: *Learning to Read in the Late Ottoman Empire and the Early Republic* (NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011), Introduction, Ch. 3: “Context and Content”.

**Week 14, Jan 2-3** Architecture from the empire to the nation-state

Readings: Ahmet Ersoy, “Architecture and the Search for Ottoman Origins in the Tanzimat Period”, *Muqarnas* 24 (2007), 117-139.

Sibel Bozdoğan and Esra Akcan, *Turkey: Modern Architectures in History* (London: Reaktion Books, 2012), Introduction, Ch. 1: “Architecture of Revolution”; Ch. 2: “Building for the Modern Nation State”; Ch. 3: “The Modern House” ([IC: online access](#)).