**HIST 609: OTTOMAN HISTORIANS AND CHRONICLERS**

This course is an advanced seminar on Ottoman Turkish history writing. Reading and translating selected sections from the writings of major historians from the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries (e.g. Kemalpaşazade, Mustafa Âli, Selaniki, Solakzade, Naima, Raşid) in the class, we are going to have discussions on the scope, meaning and uses of history in Ottoman society.

Advanced reading skills of Ottoman Turkish (TLL 501-502 or the equivalent) and the instructor's approval are required.

**Texts**

The instructor will share the copies of the texts to be read in the class via Sucourse.

**Requirements**

**Attendance and Participation:** Students are expected to read, reflect on and prepare a rough translation of the assignments of each week before the class meeting to be able to participate in the discussions.

Students should not miss classes unless they have a real emergency, as it is most important to read and discuss the texts together.

**Translation of the Texts:** Students are required to submit a translation of the examined texts by the time of the following class. Translations do not need to be perfect, ready for a publication. However, you are expected to show your grasp of the major ideas, approach and style of the authors in your translations.

**Final Papers: S**tudents will write a final paper (20–25 pages) on an Ottoman historian and his/her work, not discussed in the class. A proposal detailing the subject, sources, approach and hypothesis of the paper is to be submitted on November 8, 2021. The final papers are due on December 27, 2021. Submissions after the due date will definitely affect the final grade adversely.

**Grading**

Attendance and Participation % 30

Translations %30

Final Paper % 40

**Selected Sources on Ottoman History Writing and Historians**

Abdülkadir Özcan, *Osmanlı’da Tarih Yazımı ve Kaynak Türleri*

Franz Babinger, *Osmanlı Tarih Yazarları ve Eserleri*.

Historians of the Ottoman Empire <https://ottomanhistorians.uchicago.edu>

Rhoads Murphey, *Ottoman Historians and Historiography.*

Cornell H. Fleischer, “Ottoman Historical Writing in the Sixteenth Century.”

Kaya Şahin, “Narrating the Empire: History Writing between Imperial Advocacy and Personal Testimony.”

Christopher Markiewicz, “History as science: the fifteenth-century debate in Arabic and Persian.”

**Dictionaries**

Redhouse, *Turkish and English Lexicon*.

Şemseddin Sami*, Kamus-i Türki*

Hans Wehr, *A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*

Francis Joseph Steingass, *A Comprehensive Persian-English Dictionary*. <https://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/steingass/>

**Readings and Assignments**

Week 1. Introduction

Week 2. *Tarih-i Selaniki*

Week 3. *Tarih-i Selaniki*

Week 4. *Tarih-i Selaniki*

Week 5. *Künhü’l-Ahbar*

Week 6. *Künhü’l-Ahbar*

Week 7. *Künhü’l-Ahbar*

Week 8. *Tarih-i Na‘ima*

Week 9. *Tarih-i Na‘ima*

Week 10. *Tarih-i Na‘ima*

Week 11. *Tarih-i Raşid*

Week 12. *Tarih-i Raşid*

Week 13. *Tarih-i Raşid*