

Spring 2010, Cornell University

NES 2699-HIST 2699:
HISTORY OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, 1300-1922

Time and Place: TuTh 11:40AM - 12:55PM, Goldwin Smith Hall G64-Kau Aud.

Instructor: Ayfer Karakaya-Stump, ak732

Office hours: Wed 1:30-2:30 & Thurs 1:30-2:30, White Hall 303.

Grader: Berk Esen, be62@cornell

Course Description:

The Ottoman Empire was one of the longest-lasting political structures in world history, ruling over a large portion of the Middle East and the Balkans for six centuries. This course is a survey of the history of the empire from its origins as a small principality in medieval Anatolia to a major world power in the sixteenth century, and to its eventual disintegration by the end of World War I. It intends to familiarize the students with the main political, social and cultural institutions of the Ottoman state and society, and how these changed over time. It will also introduce students to some of the major themes and recent trends in Ottoman historiography, including debates on the origins and decline of the Ottomans, the issue of Ottomans' legacy for the successor states, as well as the growing research on Ottoman women.

Required Books:

Norman Itzkowitz, Ottoman Empire and Islamic Tradition (University of Chicago Press, 1972).

Ralph S. Hattox, Coffee and Coffeehouses: The Origins of a Social Beverage in the Medieval Near East (University of Washington Press, 1996).

Other readings will be posted on Blackboard

Requirements and Grading:

Map Assignment	10%
Weekly Response Papers (double-spaced max. 2 pgs, 12 total)	30%
Take-Home Midterm	30%
Final Exam	30%

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Cornell University Code of Academic Integrity. If you have any questions about this policy, please consult the Code of Academic Integrity and Acknowledging the Work of Others, which can be found in the Policy Notebook for the Cornell Community and also on the web at: <http://cuinfo.cornell.edu/Academic/AIC.html>.

Weekly Schedule:

WEEK 1 (Jan 26, 28): Introduction & Pre-Ottoman Anatolia: Migrations and Conquests (1071-1300)

* Donald Quataert, “Why Study Ottoman History?” The Ottoman Empire, 1700-1922 (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2000), pp. 1-11. (*Optional Reading*)

* Norman Itzkowitz, Ottoman Empire and Islamic Tradition, pp. 3-10.

* Carter Findley, “Islam and Empire from the Seljuks through the Mongols,” The Turks in World History (Oxford Univ. Press, 2005), pp. 56-75, 77-80, 86-89.

***** MAP ASSIGNMENTS DUE ON THURS *****

WEEK 2 (Feb 2, 4): The Early Ottomans: Question of Ottoman Origins and the Ottoman Interregnum (1402-1413)

* Itzkowitz, pp. 10-24.

* Cemal Kafadar, Between Two Worlds: The Construction of the Ottoman State (Univ. of California Press, 1993), pp. 1-59.

* “The Story of Kanturalı, Son of Kanlı Koja,” The Book of Dede Korkut: A Turkish Epic, trans. F. Sümer et. al., (Univ. of Texas Press, 1972), pp. 98-114. (*Primary Source*)

Film: Inspirations (Simavnalı Bedreddin), direc. by Nurdan Arca, 2006, 52 min.

Question: How does the “*Gazi* Thesis” explain the rise of the Ottomans? How has the debate over Ottoman origins proceeded since the first formulation of this thesis in the early 20th century?

WEEK 3 (Feb 9, 11): Expansion, Consolidation, and the Conquest of Constantinople (1453)

* Itzkowitz, pp. 24-31.

* H. İnalcık, “The Policy of Mehmed the Conqueror toward the Greek Population of Istanbul and the Byzantine Buildings of the City,” Dumbarton Oaks Papers, no. 23-24 (1969-70), pp. 231-49.

* Julian Raby, "A Sultan of Paradox: Mehmed the Conqueror as a Patron of Arts," Oxford Art Journal 5:1 (1982), pp. 3-8.

* James, Hankins, "Renaissance Crusaders: Humanist Crusade Literature in the Age of Mehmed II," Dumbarton Oaks Papers 49 (1995), pp. 111-146.

* Kritovoulos, History of Mehmed the Conqueror, trans. by Charles T. Riggs (Princeton Univ. Press, 1954), pp. 3-6, 9-17, 76-77, 93-94, 139-141. (PS)

Q: What was the significance of the conquest of Istanbul for the Ottomans, and from a world historical point of view?

WEEK 4 (Feb 16, 18): Establishment of Ottoman Supremacy in the Middle East

* Itzkowitz, pp. 32-36.

* A. C. Hess, "The Evolution of the Ottoman Seaborne Empire in the Age of the Oceanic Discoveries, 1453-1525," American Historical Review, 75:7 (Dec. 1970), pp. 1892-1919.

* "The Safavid Challenge: Letters from Selim and Isma'il" in The Islamic World, ed. by W. H. McNeill and M. R. Waldman (Univ. of Chicago Press, 1973), pp. 337-344. (PS)

* Fariba Zarinebaf-Shahr, "Qizilbash 'Heresy' and Rebellion in Ottoman Anatolia during the Sixteenth Century," Anatolia Moderna/Yeni Anadolu 7 (1977): 1-15.

* Colin Imber, "Ideals and Legitimation in early Ottoman History," in Süleyman the Magnificent and His Age: The Ottoman Empire in the Early Modern World ed. M. Kunt and C. Woodhead (Longman, 1995), pp. 139-153.

Q: How did the Ottoman-Safavid conflict and the demise of the Mamluks shape the political geography of the Early Modern Middle East, and impact the religio-ideological outlook of the Ottomans?

WEEK 5 (Feb 23, 25): The Ottoman Empire and Europe at the Age of Suleyman the Magnificent

* C. Kafadar, "The Age of Süleyman," Handbook of European History 1400-1600 ed. T.A. Brady et. al. (E.J. Brill, 1994), pp. 609-611.

* J. Elliot, "The Ottoman-Habsburg Rivalry: the European Perspective," in Süleyman the Second and his Time, ed. H. İnalcık and C. Kafadar (Isis Press, 1993), pp. 165-174.

* O. G. de Busbecq, The Turkish Letters of Ogier Ghiselin De Busbecq, trans. by E.E. Foster, 345-352 (PS).

* Rhodes Murphey, "Süleyman's Eastern Policy," in Süleyman the Second and his Time, pp. 259-278.

* H. İnalçık, "Struggle for East-European Empire, 1400-1700: The Crimean Khanate, Ottomans and the Rise of the Russian Empire," Turkey and Europe in History (Eren, 2006), pp. 127-140.

Film: Süleyman the Magnificent, dir. By Suzanne Bauman, 1987, 57 min.

Q: Describe the main contours of Ottoman-European relations at the height of the Empire? What was the role and weight of the Ottomans in internal European politics?

WEEK 6 (March 2, 4): Key Ottoman Institutions and the Ottoman Identity

* Itzkowitz, pp. 37-61.

* Uriel Heyd, "Kanun and Shari'a in Old Ottoman Criminal Justice," Proceedings of the Israel Academy of Science and Humanities, vol, III, no. 1, pp. 1-18

* Leslie Pierce, "Myths and Realities of the Harem," The Imperial Harem: Women and Sovereignty in the Ottoman Empire (Oxford Univ. Press, 1993), pp. 3-12, 28-50.

* C. Kafadar, "A Rome of One's Own: Reflections on Cultural Geography and Identity in the Lands of Rum," Muqarnas 24 (2007), pp. 7-26.

Q: Which institution(s) do you think were key in defining and sustaining the identity of the Ottoman elites?

WEEK 7 (March 9, 11): The Ottoman Economy

* H. İnalçık, "The Ottoman Economic Mind and Aspects of the Ottoman Economy," The Ottoman Empire: Conquest, Organization and Economy (London, 1978), pp. 207-218.

* H. İnalçık and D. Quataert, "The Çift-Hane System: The Organization of Ottoman Rural Society," & "Istanbul and the Imperial Economy," An Economic and Social History of the Ottoman Empire 1300-1914, (Cambridge University Press, 1994), pp.143-154; 179-187.

* Reşat Kasaba, A Moveable Empire: Ottoman Nomads, Migrants and Refugees (Univ. of Washington Press, 2009), pp. 14-35.

Q: Describe some of the distinct features of the Ottoman economy? Who were the main actors in this economy?

***** QUESTIONS FOR THE MIDTERM DISTRIBUTED*****

WEEK 8 (March 16, 18): Popular Culture: Coffee and Coffeehouses

Film: Grass: A Nation's Battle for Life, dir. by Merian C. Cooper, 1925, 71 min.

* Ralph S. Hattox, Coffee and Coffeehouses: The Origins of a Social Beverage in the Medieval Near East (Univ. of Washington Press, 1985).

Q: How did the introduction of coffee and coffeehouses impact Ottoman social life?

***** TAKE-HOME MIDDTERMS DUE ON TUES., MARCH 16 *****

(SPRING BREAK: NO CLASSES ON MARCH 23, 25)

WEEK 9 (March 30, April 1): Seventeenth-Century Crisis and Debate over Ottoman Decline

Itzkowitz, pp. 63-109.

C. Kafadar, "The Question of Ottoman Decline," Harvard Middle Eastern and Islamic Review, 4:1-2 (1997-98), pp. 30-75.

Q: Until recently, historians commonly believed that Ottoman history after Süleyman the Magnificent was a story of gradual decline. How and why is this view now being challenged?

WEEK 10 (April 6, 8): Religion and Inter-Communal Relations

* Madeline Zilfi, "The Kadizadeli Challenge," The Politics of Piety: The Ottoman Ulema in the Postclassical Age (1600-1800) (Minneapolis, 1988), pp. 129-181.

* Stefan H. Winter, "The Nusayris before the Tanzimat in the eyes of Ottoman Provincial Administration," in From the Syrian Land to the States of Syria and Lebanon, ed. T. Philipp and C. Schumann (Beirut, 2004), pp. 97-112.

* Benjamin Braudel and Bernard Lewis (eds.), Christians and Jews in the Ottoman Empire: The Functioning of a Plural Society (Holmes & Meier Publishers, 1982), vol. I, pp. 1-34.

Q: The Ottomans ruled over a religiously and ethnically diverse population. How did they deal with this religious diversity? How would you describe intra- and inter-communal relations in the Empire before the nineteenth-century?

WEEK 11 (April 13, 15): Women in the Ottoman Society

* Peirce, pp. 168-185

* Yvonne J. Seng, "Invisible Women: Residents of Early Sixteenth-Century Isanbul," in Women in the Medieval Islamic World, ed. G.R.G. Hambly (St. Martin's Press, 1998), pp. 241-268.

* F. Zarinebaf-Shahr, "Women, Law, and Imperial Justice in Ottoman Istanbul in the Late Seventeenth Century," in Women, the Family, and Divorce Laws in Islamic History, ed. A. El Azhary Sonbol (Syracuse Univ. Press, 1996), pp. 81-95.

* Svetlana Ivanova, "Judicial Treatment of the Matrimonial Problems of Christian Women in Rumeli During the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries," Women in the Ottoman Balkans: Gender, Culture and History, ed. A. Buturovic & I. C. Schick (I.B. Tauris, 2007), pp. 153-200.

* Gila Hadar, "Jewish Tobacco Workers in Salonika: Gender and Family in the Context of Social and Ethnic Strife," Women in the Ottoman Balkans, pp. 127-142.

Q: How would you describe the position of women in Ottoman society?

WEEK 12 (April 20, 22): Ottoman Empire under European Economic Hegemony

* Bruce A. Masters, "Merchant Diasporas and Trading Nations," & "Conclusion," The Origins of Western Economic Dominance in the Middle East: Mercantilism and the Islamic Economy in Aleppo, 1600-1750 (New York Univ. Press, 1988), pp. 72-109, 216-221.

* Judith Tucker, "Decline of the Family Economy in Mid-Nineteenth Century Egypt," Arab Studies Quarterly 1: 3 (1980), pp. 245-271.

* H. İnalcık, "When and how British cotton goods invaded the Levant markets," in The Ottoman Empire and the World Economy, ed. H. Islamoglu-Inan (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1987), pp. 374-383.

* J. C. Hurewitz, "Commercial Convention (Baltaliman)," [Anglo-Ottoman commerce treaty] Diplomacy in the Near and Middle East (Princeton, N.J., 1956), vol. I, pp. 265-266. (PS)

Q: How did the European hegemony impact the different sections of Ottoman society?

WEEK 13 (April 27, 29): The Eastern Question and the Nineteenth-Century Reforms

* M.E. Yapp, “The Eastern Question,” & “Reform in the Near East, 1792-1880,” The Making of the Modern Middle East 1792-1923 (Longman, 1993), pp. 47-96, 97-120.

* Hurewitz, “The Hatt-i Şerif of Gülhane,” [the Ottoman reform edict of 1839], pp. 771-773. (*PS*)

* Selim Deringil, “ ‘They Confuse and Excite the Mind: The Missionary Problem,’ ” The Well Protected Domains: Ideology and Legitimation of Power in the Ottoman Empire 1876-1909 (I.B. Taurus, 1998), pp. 112-134.

* Ayfer Karakaya-Stump: “Debating Progress in a ‘Serious Newspaper for Muslim Women’: The periodical *Kadın* of the post-Revolutionary Salonica, 1908-1909,” British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies, 30: 2 (Nov. 2003), pp. 155-181.

Q: What drove the Ottoman reform movements in the nineteenth century? To what extent were they successful? Why?

WEEK 14 (May 4, 6): *Disintegration and Legacy*

* Erik J. Zürcher, “The Second Constitutional Period,” Turkey: A Modern History (I.B. Tauris, 1993), 97-153.

* “Introduction” & Maria Todorova, “The Ottoman Legacy in the Balkans,” in Imperial Legacy: The Ottoman Imprint on the Balkans and the Middle East, ed. L. Carl Brown (Columbia Univ. Press, 1996), pp. 1-11, 45-77.

