This course is uniquely designed to provide a rich historical and cultural experience through intense study by way of classroom instruction and field trips to be conducted as a study-abroad course that will take place in Istanbul, Turkey.

The course will examine the origins and development of Turkish society from the Ottoman conquest of Byzantium in 1453 to the present-day Turkish Republic. Tracing the evolution of Turkish history, culture, politics, and society from earlier times to the most recent period, the course will provide glimpses of life in Turkey, focused on the cultural and historical treasures of Istanbul as the focal point of our study. Examining the social, political, and economic structure of Turkey and its transformation from Empire to Republic, the course will examine the dynamics of the modernization process in this centrally located country of many contrasts in the heart of the Middle East.

With the impact of globalization on the economy, culture, and society, the expanding role of religion in politics, increasing pressures for democratization of public life, growing prospects of membership in the European Union, and continued close relations with the United States, Turkey has come to play a leading role in a volatile region of the world—the Middle East. These and related issues will form the centerpiece of this inter-disciplinary course that will provide a rich background for further studies of this unique country and region of the world for those who have chosen to participate in this educationally-rewarding international adventure—a truly unique experience!

This course satisfies Core Objective 11 (Global Context)

CO11: Students will apply and evaluate modes of academic inquiry, creative expression, or results of research to problems in historical and contemporary global contexts. Students will articulate connections among local, national, and international contexts and evaluate the ways that historical and contemporary global influences affect their current situations.

*SLO #1:* Students will interpret the history of several major civilizations in Turkey from the conquest of the Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantium) to the Ottoman Empire to the modern Republic of Turkey.

*SLO #2:* Students will study and explain the many diverse cultures and ethnic groups that have populated the geographic territory of the Ottoman Empire and modern Turkey (from the Balkans to the Middle East to North Africa and beyond).

*SLO #3:* Students will explore the intersection of several religions throughout the history of the region (from eastern orthodox Christianity to Islam and its various sects), including the role of religion in politics and secularism versus religious fundamentalism.


**SLO #4:** Students will examine and interpret the nature and dynamics of the modern Turkish economy within the context of globalization and the global political economy and its impact on Turkish society.

**SLO #5:** Students will evaluate Turkey’s political role in both Europe and the Middle East, including prospect for membership in the European Union and playing a greater leadership role in the Middle East.

### Structure of the Course and Assessment Methods

The course will consist of lectures, student presentations, and field trips to places of historic and cultural interest, including museums, palaces, mosques, churches, schools, universities, covered bazaars, and modern shopping centers—all of which will provide unique cultural dimensions to the course.

### Attendance

Attendance of class lectures and field trips is required and will count as 25% of your course grade. It is required that you stay with the group and sign in for each scheduled activity on a regular basis, except during the free weekend days. There will be no excused absences, except for extreme cases of medical emergencies, for which you will need to provide official documentation. Students who miss one day of class activities, due to not being assembled for departure, will lose 2.5 points. Students who miss a second day of class activities will lose a total of 5.0 points.

### Class Presentations

Twice during the session you will be asked to make a presentation on a set of required readings for this course. You will receive 25 points (equal to 25% of your course grade) for these two presentations. The presentations are to be based on a two-page outline and a half-page summary of the assigned readings which must be sent to me by e-mail by May 1, 2016. The format of the outline should be: I, II, III, IV with A, B, C, D and a, b, c, d, etc for main and sub-themes covered in the readings. The summary should be in narrative essay form based on the outline.

The oral part of the presentations should be 10 to 15 minutes long. You can have notes to talk from and use the outlines as a basis for your presentations, but you should not read the outline verbatim. You need to provide me a revised final version of your outline by May 15, 2016. You will need to make 9 hard copies of each of your two outlines for distribution to students in class in Turkey, so everyone can follow your presentation and use the outlines to prepare for the final exam. Graduate students will need to prepare a four page outline and a one page analytical summary of the assigned readings and their presentations must be 20 to 30 minutes in length so that the topics covered in the presentation can be dealt with in greater detail.
Written Reports / Journals

A two-page daily journal/written report and analysis of the day’s events, covering readings, lectures, classroom discussion, field trips, and other activities are to be turned in during class the next morning. There will be a total of 8 daily journals / written reports and analysis. Each report will count as 2.5% of your course grade, for a total of 20% of your course grade. Graduate students will need to turn in a four-page analytical journal/written report each day that convey a deeper understanding of the day’s events and activities that are historically and culturally grounded and informed based on the assigned readings. Except for medical emergencies, no late reports will be accepted.

Final Exam

There will be a final essay exam on June 5. The exam will cover all activities associated with this course, including the readings, lectures, presentations, field trips, and other material presented in the course. You will be graded on both the content and quality of the answers you provide on the exam. The final exam will count as 30 percent of your course grade. Graduate students will need to incorporate the additional readings that they are required to do and provide a deeper and more sophisticated analysis of the material being studied.

Grading

Grading will be based on the following: attendance (25%); journals/written reports and analysis (20%); final exam (30%); and two presentations (25%). The plus and minus grading system will be used in this course. Course grades will be available after July 15 and will be posted after August 1 for second summer session grading.

The grade distribution for this course is as follows:

Undergraduate:  Graduate:

- 94-100 A  94-100 A
- 90-93 A-  90-93 A-
- 87-89 B+  87-89 B+
- 83-86 B  83-86 B
- 80-82 B-  80-82 B-
- 77-79 C+  77-79 C+
- 73-76 C  73-76 C
- 70-72 C-  70-72 C-
- 67-69 D+  69 and below F
- 63-66 D
- 60-62 D-
- 59 and below F

Readings

You are expected to read and be prepared to discuss a number of required readings that have been especially selected for this course as follows:
 Çağlar Keyder, *Istanbul: Between the Global and the Local*

Berch Berberoğlu, *Readings on Turkey* (selected articles and chapters on CD; see the required reading list at the end of this syllabus).

The book by Çağlar Keyder, the Istanbul City Guide, the Course Guide, and the Berberoğlu collected readings on CD will be provided to you at our pre-trip orientation meeting in April 2014 at no charge (included in the program fee). You may also want to purchase the Lonely Planet *Istanbul* guide (optional), which provides detailed information on the city.

**Graduate Students**

Students signing up for this course for graduate-level credit will be required to read an additional book (by Simten Coşar and Gamze Yücesan-Özdemir (eds), *Silent Violence*), lead class discussions, and write a 12-15 page paper on any of the topics included in this syllabus, with prior approval of the instructor. The paper must provide a deeper understanding of the material, a synthesis experience, and an opportunity to work at a higher academic level. Before writing the paper, you need to provide a two page outline and a half page summary of the paper that lays out the main topics to be discussed in the paper. The paper is due August 1 or earlier, and should be sent by e-mail to Dr. Berberoğlu at berchb@unr.edu

**Statement on Academic Dishonesty:** "Cheating, plagiarism or otherwise obtaining grades under false pretenses constitute academic dishonesty according to the code of this university. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and penalties can include canceling a student's enrollment without a grade, giving an F for the course or for the assignment. For more details, see the University of Nevada, Reno General Catalog."

**Statement of Disability Services:** "Any student with a disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with the Disability Resource Center (Thompson Building, Suite 101) as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodations."

**Statement for Academic Success Services:** For example, "Your student fees cover usage of the Math Center (784-4433 or [www.unr.edu/mathcenter/](http://www.unr.edu/mathcenter/)), Tutoring Center (784-6801 or [www.unr.edu/tutoring-center](http://www.unr.edu/tutoring-center)), and University Writing Center (784-6030 or [http://www.unr.edu/writing-center](http://www.unr.edu/writing-center)). These centers support your classroom learning; it is your responsibility to take advantage of their services. Keep in mind that seeking help outside of class is the sign of a responsible and successful student."

**Statement on Audio and Video Recording:** "Surreptitious or covert video-taping of class or unauthorized audio recording of class is prohibited by law and by Board of Regents policy. This class may be videotaped or audio recorded only with the written permission of the instructor. In order to accommodate students with disabilities, some students may have been given permission to record class lectures and discussions. Therefore, students should understand that their comments during class may be recorded."
Pre-Trip Orientation

In addition to the pre-trip meeting in April, 2016, Dr. Berberoğlu will provide pre-trip orientation by communicating with students via the internet trip-related information, including distribution of the course syllabus, course guide, reading assignments for student presentations, and information on Turkish history, culture, language, customs, social life, and politics presented in power point format. This pre-trip orientation is designed to prepare students for the challenges of adapting to a new culture and environment with its own unique historic heritage, traditions, and customs, thus providing important guidelines for appropriate social behavior on the local scene. Students participating in the program from institutions outside of Reno will receive the orientation materials via regular mail and through the internet in electronic form.

The Trip to Turkey

You are about to embark on a fascinating trip, full of surprises and adventures at every step of the way, unlocking the mysteries of past civilizations and enjoying the comfort and conveniences of the present. Turkey is a country of history and culture that goes back centuries, a society that is distinct in language, culture, religion, and history. A truly unique window to the Middle East, this course on Turkish history, culture, politics, and society will provide a most memorable study-abroad experience.

Logistics of the Course

June 4 (Saturday): Departure from the United States

You will be departing on this day from the gateway of your choice, depending on your city of residence in the United States, through your own personal travel arrangements to get to Istanbul, with a planned arrival time of late afternoon of the next day (June 5). Those of you departing from countries other than the United States must fly to arrive in Istanbul on June 5 late afternoon or evening.

June 5 (Sunday): Arrival in Istanbul, Turkey

When you arrive in Istanbul on June 5 late afternoon or evening you will be greeted by Dr. Berberoğlu at the Istanbul Atatürk International Airport (watch for the Nevada sign as you exit through the customs control area to the arrival hall – turn left as you exit through the automatic sliding glass doors). You will board a special mini-van or taxi that will take you to the Istanbul Technical University Ayazağa Campus guest house, where you will be residing and attending classes for the duration of your stay in Istanbul until June 19. Upon your arrival at the campus guest house, you will be assisted by the staff to check-in to your assigned room and will receive your room key.

The Course

This summer-session study-abroad course is designed as an intensive 3 credit course consisting of classroom instruction and field trips that meet and exceed the minimum 45 contact-hour
requirements mandated by the University of Nevada, Reno. This course is offered as a cross-listed course in history, anthropology, political science, and sociology for 3 credits granted through Extended Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno and is fully transferable to any college or university in the United States and many countries around the world.

The duration of the course is two weeks (pre-trip orientation in April, 2016 in the United States and two weeks in May-June 2016 in Istanbul, Turkey). The venue for the course is the Istanbul Technical University Ayazağa Campus in Maslak, where classes will take place and where you will be staying. The program is supported by the University of Nevada, Reno and the Sierra Nevada Corporation.

**June 6 (Monday) Introduction to the Course: Welcome to Istanbul, Turkey!**

On the first day of the course, you will be given an overview of Turkey and the city of Istanbul, and will tour the campus and the Maslak area – the financial center of Istanbul where the Istanbul Technical University Ayazağa Campus is located. After lunch, we will visit Taksim Square for a stroll down Istanbul’s main pedestrian pathway, Istiklal Avenue, where we will pass through modern shops, cafés, restaurants, churches, and consulates of many countries, exploring the Beyoğlu district of Istanbul – the old cosmopolitan quarters of the city where many Europeans used to live during Ottoman times. We will then return to campus in the evening.

**Part I: Ottoman Turkish History: From Empire to Republic—Development of Turkish Society from the 15th to the 20th Centuries**

**June 7 (Tuesday): From Byzantium to the Ottoman Empire: 1453 to 1923**

The course starts with an historical overview of the critical turning point in the transition from Byzantine to Ottoman rule following the Ottoman conquest of Constantinople (Istanbul) in 1453, led by Fatih Sultan Mehmet. We will examine the social, political, and economic structure of the Ottoman Empire until its eventual collapse at the end of World War I. We will visit and hold class at Boğaziçi University and the Rumeli Hisar fortifications along the Bosphorus that were built by Fatih Sultan Mehmet in 1452 for the conquest of Constantinople the following year. We will then visit the coastal town of Ortaköy, just in time for the evening ezan (call to prayer) at the famous Ortaköy Mosque (on the shores of the Bosphorus) by the muezzin (Islamic priest). We will attend prayer service at the mosque to listen and view this moslem religious observance that occurs five times a day. After this, you will have one hour free time to walk around the narrow picturesque streets of Ortaköy and shop for souvenirs until about 6:00 p.m. We will then return to campus.

**June 8 (Wednesday): Istanbul: The Cradle of Ottoman Civilization**

From its origins in Bursa—a city not far from Istanbul—in the 1200s, to the conquest of Constantinople, the capital of the Byzantine Empire, in 1453, and its subsequent rise to prominence from the 16th to the early 20th century, Istanbul has come to represent the focal point of the Ottoman Empire that lasted for nearly five centuries. Today we will hold class in Istanbul’s historic peninsula that houses the Topkapi Palace, the Archeological Museum, the
Ayasofya (Haghia Sophia) Museum, the Sultanahmet (Blue) Mosque and other nearby historic sites. The Topkapı Palace captures this history best as the seat of the Ottoman Empire and its centuries-old dynasties from where the Sultans ruled for more than 500 years. Our study of Ottoman history takes on special significance in this magnificent historic and cultural site where we will hold our class.

**June 9 (Thursday): The Ottoman Economy and Society: The Grand Bazaar**

The Grand Bazaar (*Kapalı Çarşı*) was historically the heart of the old Ottoman economy. It was here that many of the merchants carried out much of the commercial activity of the Empire. And it was here that much of the merchandise that was imported changed hands.

Today, we will visit the Grand Bazaar, the Spice Market, Sultanahmet Mosque, the Obelisque, The German Fountain, and the Underground Cistern. We will return to campus in the evening.

With over 4,000 shops under one roof, the Grand Bazaar is the most famous covered bazaar in the world, and certainly one of the highlights of Istanbul. Starting from a small masonry warehouse shortly after the conquest of Istanbul in 1453, the bazaar has grown to its present grandeur over the past 500 years. It’s made up of several thousand small shops lining up a maze of streets and alleys, where one can easily get lost hopping from one narrow covered street to another. Here we will visit the many craftsmen and merchants selling their products to an array of tourists and locals alike, with goods ranging from souvenirs, to textiles, rugs, leather, glassworks, ceramics, brass, silver, gold, jewelry, and a variety of other oriental items.

Following our tour of the Sultanahmet area and the Grand Bazaar, we will walk down the crowded Mahmutpaşa Avenue (a cheap haven for local shoppers where one can find anything and everything in clothing, textiles, wedding dresses, boots, and related goods), on our way to the Spice Market or Egyptian Market (*Mısır Çarşısı*) in Eminönü. After this, we will return to campus in the evening.

**Part II: Contemporary Turkey: Economy, Politics, and Society**

**June 10 (Friday): The Emergence of Modern Turkey: The Development of the Turkish Republic, 1923-1950**

As the Western powers invaded the Ottoman Empire and partitioned its territories during World War I, and as the Ottoman state collapsed in the wake of the foreign onslaught and occupation of Istanbul, Izmir, and other coastal cities of Turkey, a national liberation struggle ensued and developed into a full-scale War of Independence under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, who succeeded in expelling the invading forces and formed a new nation-state in 1923—the Republic of Turkey.

The period from 1923 to 1950 is generally characterized as the formative period of the republic with strong state intervention in the economy and society often referred to as étatism (statism), when a major industrialization drive led by the state resulted in rapid economic growth. Government projects during this period, especially in the 1930s, when the world was in the midst
of the Great Depression, led to the development of industry and commerce, and thus brought about an unprecedented expansion of the national economy. This process was instrumental in the later development of capitalism in Turkey. We will study the dynamics and contradictions of this process and become acquainted with this decisive period in Turkish political-economic history.

Today, we will take a boat across the Bosphorus to the Asian side of Istanbul and visit the seaside township of Kadıköy – a popular cosmopolitan township on the Asian shores of Istanbul. We will visit several multicultural venues, such as churches and neighborhood fish and produce markets, which portray the many faces of modern urban life in Istanbul. We will then visit picturesque Kalamış and then the Baghdad Avenue, where modern shops, cafés, and restaurants line up both sides of this famous upscale shopping and entertainment strip that stretches several miles. We will return to campus in the evening.

**June 11 (Saturday): Free Day**

**June 12 (Sunday): Free Day**

**June 13 (Monday): Postwar Political-Economic Development of Turkey, 1950-80**

Beginning in the post-World War II period, especially after 1950, Turkey entered a new era of externally-oriented economic development and internally transformed political process of multi-party politics in close alliance with the United States through the Truman Doctrine and membership in NATO and other international linkages that tied Turkey to the West, putting into practice an earlier version of what is today called “neoliberalism” that advocates the privatization of state-owned enterprises, banks, and other business activities leading to the de-nationalization of the national economy. The resultant dependence of the Turkish economy on the West led to the transformation of Turkey in a direction quite different from its Kemalist origins.

One consequence of the problems of the Turkish political economy in the 1950s was the military coup of May 1960, which, for a time at least, attempted to address the impact of these developments on broad segments of the Turkish population. And in this sense, the 1960 coup of the Generals was a welcome event that most people in Turkey viewed as a progressive intervention. But, the reforms of the immediate post-coup period were short-lived, and the country soon became embroiled in economic crisis and political strife that led to a subsequent coup in March 1971.

The integration of the Turkish economy into the global economy did not resolve, but, on the contrary, made things worse for a large segment of the Turkish population. This prompted trade unions and other popular social forces to call into question the nature and direction of the economy and society, and engaged in political action to challenge the powers of the state—one that ultimately led to the third military coup in September 1980 to prevent a potential civil war or revolution.

Today we will be visiting Karaköy, the hub that connects the old and the new Istanbul with the Galata Bridge over the Golden Horn. We will walk across Galata Bridge to Eminönü, passing dozens of amateur fishermen with their fishing gear, going through their daily ritual of catching a
variety of local fish. Reaching the other side of the bridge (Eminönü), we will visit the magnificent New Mosque with its exquisite green tiles and then marvel the architectural beauty of the Rüstem Paşa Mosque nearby. Then, catching a bus at Eminönü Square, we will head to the Balat and Fener districts to visit the Greek Patriarchate of Istanbul and the majestic Greek School towering above the waters of the Golden Horn. After a short visit to a historic holy Greek Orthodox Church where Virgin Mary’s belongings are said to be kept, we will visit the nearby Bulgarian Church made completely out of steel and transported in sections piece by piece all the way from Bulgaria, an impressive unique structure near the shores of the Golden Horn.

Following this, we will be taking a Bosphorus boat trip to Anadolu Kavağı near the Black Sea. The Bosphorus (the waterway separating the European and Asian coasts of the city, and uniting the Black Sea with the Sea of Marmara) is the jewel of Istanbul. It is here that the historic architecture of the Byzantine and Ottoman past reflects into the gentle waves above the inviting waters of this gateway to the East dotted with colorful fishing boats, passenger ferries, and breathtaking landscape and scenery. It is here, too, that the romance of princes and princesses, emperors and empresses took place along the shores of the natural beauty that is the Bosphorus.

The boat trip on the Bosphorus will take us through numerous fishing villages dotted along the European and Asian shores of the city all the way to the picturesque fishing village of Anadolu Kavağı. The trip takes about an hour and a half, and this is a good time and place to enjoy the captivating natural scenery with spectacular views of the two bridges spanning across the continents of Europe and Asia, while you sip a glass of authentic Turkish tea (çay) or coffee (kahve) along the waterway covering the entire length of the city. Upon arrival at the village of Anadolu Kavağı, we will visit its small winding streets filled with coffee shops, seafood restaurants, and souvenir stands, and climb the hills above the village to reach the fortifications at the furthest northern point of Istanbul near the Black Sea for a spectacular panoramic view of the Bosphorus. We will return to campus with a brief stop at the nearby coastal township of Sarıyer on the European shores of Istanbul.

Part III: Transformations: Prospects for Development and Change in Turkey

June 14 (Tuesday): Secularism, Islamic Politics, and the State in Turkey

A rather recent development since the 1970s and 1980s, but with more vigor since the 1990s, political Islam has become a force to reckon with in local and national politics. As a spillover effect in the aftermath of the Islamic Revolution in Iran in 1979, the conservative religious elements with political roots in the 1970s came to strengthen their ranks during the 1980s and especially in the 1990s that increasingly came to challenge the established secular political order in favor of religious fundamentalism through political action accorded by religiously-oriented political parties vying for state power.

While such political developments were deflated a number of times by the military through the threat of military intervention, as in 1997, and more recently in June 2007, political Islam and Islamic-oriented political parties, including parties with political roots in Islamic politics, such as AKP, have played a delicate tactical duel to ascend to political power by mainstreaming their political, and especially economic, outlook as pragmatic players in the global chess game that
accords them the cultural and religious space, while adopting neoliberal economic policies and practices through state power in their relations with the forces that have shaped and continue to shape the globalization process.

It is the ascendance of the fundamentalist forces and the state’s political dilemma in dealing with these developments that has prompted the mobilization of the secularist forces that have recently gone into political action, though it has been a bit too little and too late in having any effect to reverse the trend that is in favor of the AKP and its conservative policies which have brought to the party another landslide victory in the elections of July 2007 and again in June 2011. The upcoming general elections in June 2014 will determine the future course of Turkish politics for years to come.

Today, we will assess the political situation in Turkey and discuss the current state and future direction of Turkish politics, focusing on the conflict between secularism and religion, and the social forces that rally behind the banner of one or the other of these movements. After a brief stop at the Chora Museum (Kaariye) and Fethiye Museums, we will visit an Islamic primary school (Imam Hatip Okulu), followed by a visit to the heart of Istanbul’s traditional Islamic community, Fatih, Çarsamba, Eyüp, and the Eyüp Sultan Complex. We will return to campus in the late afternoon or evening.

June 15 (Wednesday): Turkish Economy and Society in the 1980s to the Present

Clearly, the 1980 coup represented a turning point in recent Turkish politics—one that was aimed at repression of the left while promoting neoliberal economic policies to suit Western as well as certain national, including military, interests. Thus while political and military in nature, the developments that followed the 1980 coup were in fact fundamentally economic, as the military establishment itself became intimately involved in economic life through its direct role in production, commerce, and banking by way of newly emergent economic institutions that the military itself created, such as OYAK, to become more directly involved in economic affairs that fed into the globalization process with benefits to the officer corps now having become partners with the key economic players in the global economy. It is to the extent that the Turkish economy, polity, and the military became involved in the structures of the global system that Turkey increasingly felt its impact in areas that affected large segments of the Turkish population most heavily.

Today, we will visit the magnificent Dolmabahçe Palace on the shores of the Bosphorus, where, where foreign dignitaries visiting the Ottoman Empire were greeted during state visits, and where Atatürk died in 1938. We will also visit the Harem section of the Palace where the Sultans and their families resided. After this, we will visit the Dolmabahçe Clock Tower and the Dolmabahçe Mosque adjacent to the Palace. Following this, we will take a short walk to Kabataş to take the funicular to Taksim and then the Metro back to campus in the late afternoon.

June 16 (Thursday): Turkey, the West and Prospects for European Union Membership

Turkey is a country with strong traditions of nationalism and national independence going back to the Kemalist origins of national struggle against foreign domination that we studied at the
beginning of this course. But, it seems that Turkey has come full circle in its wish to give up its national identity through integration into the European Union. Surely these are changing times and the forces of globalization and integration into global structures are the order of the day, and no nation wants to be left behind. But at what cost and for what imagined benefit would joining a union of diverse states be in the interests of Turkey? To join, or not to join—that is the question that many Turks are asking as the hour nears in the perpetual debate on the positive and not so positive consequences of European Union membership.

What will be the political and economic consequences of this action? Who will gain and who will lose across different segments of the Turkish population? What will be the impact of this possible eventuality on Turkish culture, tradition, and identity? What will be the impact of this process on the Turkish people, their livelihoods, and the quality of their lives? These are the questions that the people of Turkey are asking, and these are the questions we will be asking as we conclude our journey to Turkey.

Today, we will discuss and debate the pros and cons of the impact of globalization and the global economic crisis on Turkey and the Turkish people, as the country embarks on a path of further integration into this process through its potential membership in the European Union. We will visit Istanbul’s modern commercial and shopping district around Levent where several modern shopping centers, which are among the largest in Europe, are to be found – including Akmerkez, Kanyon, Metro City, Istinye Park and Cevahir. We will visit one of these modern shopping centers, Cevahir, the largest mall in Europe, as an example of the modern side of Istanbul in the 21st century. Later in the afternoon we will visit the Museum of Modern Art (Istanbul Modern) to get a flavor of modern, contemporary art with Turkish cultural trimmings. We will return to campus in the evening.

June 17 (Friday): Final Exam and Visit to the Princes’ Islands

Today we will be taking the final exam, followed by an all-day trip to the Princes’ Islands—the popular summer retreat in the Sea of Marmara just off the Asian coast of the city, where cars are prohibited and the preferred mode of transportation is on foot, bikes, or horse-drawn buggy called “payton.”

The boat trip from Kabataş to the Princes’ Islands takes about an hour. The four main islands—Kinälı, Burgaz, Heybeli, and Büyükada—are large forested parks with villages, churches, and mosques, a naval training school, beaches, swimming clubs, and a plethora of restaurants and shops. Of special interest is the preserved historic architectural heritage of ornate decorative wooden houses on the largest of these islands—Büyüka (the Big Island). This would be a day to relax, taking a break away from the hustle and bustle of city life. See how well-off Istanbul residents enjoy their summer months in their seasonal homes on these beautiful islands… We will first visit Kinäl Island for a stroll on the waterfront and swim at one of the beaches along its shoreline. Then, we will take a boat to Büyükada to enjoy the rest of the day, exploring the island by bike, on foot, or horseback carriage…

In the evening, the Program will host a “farewell dinner” at a fine restaurant on the big island to celebrate the closing moments of our memorable study tour of Turkey.
June 18 (Saturday): Free Day to Shop and Pack.

June 19 (Sunday): Departure to the United States or Elsewhere

This morning you will be taken from your campus guest house in Maslak to the Istanbul Atatürk International Airport for departure to the United States or elsewhere, if this is the date of your departure. Students wishing to stay in Istanbul or visit elsewhere in Turkey, the Middle East, or Europe following this course can do so at their own expense, and return to the U.S. at a later date.

Topics we will study:

- History of the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires
- The Ottoman Empire and the Great Powers
- The Social Structure of the Ottoman Turkey
- Development of the Turkish Republic
- Contemporary Turkish Society
- Economic Development
- Multi-Party Politics
- Politics and Religion: Islamic Politics
- Language and Culture
- Minorities and Ethno-National Relations
- Gender Relations: Women and Islam
- Turkey and the European Union
- Turkish-American Relations
- Contemporary Turkish Politics
- Democratization
- Globalization and its Impact on Turkey
- and much more…

Places we will visit:

- Archeological Museum
- Topkapı Palace Museum
- Sultan Ahmet Mosque (The Blue Mosque)
- Ayasofya (Hagia Sophia) Museum
- Yerebatan Sarayı (The Underground Cistern)
- Dikilitaş (The Obelisque)
- The German Fountain
- Kapalı Çarşı (The Grand Bazaar)
- Mısır Çarşısı (The Spice Bazaar)
- Yeni (New) Mosque
- Kaariye (Chora) Museum
- Fethiye Museum
- The Bosphorus Bridge
The Princes’ Islands
The Galata Bridge
Rüstem Paşa Mosque
The Museum of Modern Art
Taksim Square
İstiklal Avenue
Greek and Armenian Churches
Fatih and Çarşamba
The Eyüp Sultan Complex
Haliç and Pierre Loti
Bulgarian Orthodox Church
Süleymaniye Mosque
Ortaköy Mosque
Rumeli Hisar Fortress
Maiden’s Tower (Kız Kulesi)
Dolmabahçe Palace
Boat trips between Europe and Asia
Kadiköy
Boat rides on the Bosphorus
Shopping Malls: Cevahir, Kanyon, Metro City, İstinye Park
Universities: Istanbul Technical University, Boğaziçi University
and more…

Additional Required Readings on CD


**Extended Bibliography (Optional Readings)**


Pope, Nicole and Hugh Pope. 2004. *Turkey Unveiled.* Overlook TP.


* All things on this syllabus are subject to change. The syllabus will be revised again in May 2016 to reflect changes in the program schedule.

Revised: August 31, 2015.