

Fall 2009 Course Offerings
McGhee Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies
Georgetown University



Note: A full course load at the McGhee Center is 5 courses (15-17 credits)

REQUIRED: All students must enroll in one Turkish Language Course

TURK-011 Intensive Beginning Turkish I (4 credits)

Staff

TURK-021 Intermediate Turkish I (3 credits)

Staff

This course requires one year of previous study of the Turkish Language or permission of the instructor.

TURK-201 Advanced Turkish (3 credits) - offered as needed

Staff

ELECTIVES:

HIST 366-62 Empires and the Modern Middle East (3 credits)

Prof. Gábor Ágoston

The course seeks to understand how the grand strategies of European and American imperial powers have influenced the modern Middle East – defined as the Arab world, Asia Minor, Iran, the Caucasus and Central Asia. With regard to Western powers, the course will focus on British, Russian, Soviet, and American strategies and experiences in the region. We will also give special attention to the ways in which regional powers (including the Ottoman Empire, Safavid and Qajar Persia, and the modern states that comprise the region) have responded to Western involvement in the Middle East. Whereas the first part of the course examines geopolitics, imperial strategies and hard power, the second part deals with soft power: (imperial knowledge, education, ideology, propaganda, and the media).

INAF 322-62 Urban Geographies of Turkey and the Eastern Mediterranean (3 credits)

Prof. Kay Ebel

This course examines the history of cities and urban landscapes through the historical monuments of Anatolia and the present-day reality of urban life in Turkey. This region is one of the earliest and most important hearths of urban civilization, making it an unparalleled laboratory for the study of the history of urbanism. The urban landscapes of modern Turkey also provide critical insights into the present-day economic, political, and cultural forces shaping this region. This course will combine lecture, discussion, and readings with field trips through which students experience firsthand a variety of urban and architectural forms, including the earliest Neolithic cities, the *polis* of classical antiquity, medieval cities, the notion of the “Islamic city,” the

challenges of modern city planning, rapid urbanization, and the emergence of the global metropolis in the eastern Mediterranean.

INAF 462-62 Islam, Gender, and Identity (3 credits)

Prof. Şebnem Akçapar

This course looks at the social and cultural experience of Muslim women living in predominantly Muslim countries, with particular focus on Turkey and Iran, as well as those living as minorities in Western Europe and the U.S. The course offers a comprehensive and comparative overview of how Muslim women are seen in different societies, how they see themselves, the differences between Muslim groups, marriage practices, issues of divorce, family, raising children and education, and the headscarf debate. Students will compare and contrast, drawing lessons about patterns of inclusion and exclusion of Muslim communities in Western European and American societies. Other topics to be discussed in the class will include generational differences, religious conversion, women's organizations, and the effect of tragic events of 9/11 in New York and 7/7 in London on those societies and on Muslim communities around the world.

HIST 261-62 The Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey (3 credits)

Prof. Gábor Ágoston

This course offers an introduction to the history of the Ottoman Empire and its role in shaping the modern Republic of Turkey. The Ottoman Empire covered three continents stretching from Hungary to Iraq, from Algiers to the Crimea and was the only Islamic empire that challenged Europe on its own territories, in the Mediterranean and in the Balkans until the middle of the eighteenth century. To understand the Ottoman Empire is to understand the history and many of the present-day problems of Southeastern Europe and the Middle East. The first part of the course will focus on questions such as the geopolitics of imperial expansion, the evolution of Ottoman institutions, art of warfare, the means and ways by which Istanbul ruled over its Muslim, Christian and Jewish subjects and its frontier regions, the socio-political impact of war, "decline", crisis and reform. In the second part of the course special attention will be given to imperialism and the emerging Balkan, Arab and Turkish nationalisms, the demise of the empire and the making of modern Turkey, and Ottoman legacy in the Balkans and the Middle East as well as to the development of political parties, and the role of the military and political Islam in the Turkish Republic.

INAF 463-62 Issues in International Migration: Turkey and the European Union (3 credits)

Prof. Şebnem Akçapar

In recent years, Turkey has become a very important route in international migration flows and has turned into a country of emigration, immigration, and transit. In this course, we will analyze different aspects of migration into, through and out of Turkey. The topics to be covered include exchange of populations after the foundation of Turkey, refugees from the Balkans, asylum seekers from the Middle East and Africa, human smuggling in and out of Turkey and transit migration, the EU process and its impact on migration policies in Turkey, temporary labor migrants and the informal sector in Turkey, Turkish "guest workers" in Western Europe, and second/third generations, and skilled migration from Turkey to the United States.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES:

Community Based Learning

Opportunities exist for students at the McGhee Center to engage in community service and/or service learning projects while in Alanya. Most commonly, opportunities consist of tutoring children in English at disadvantaged area schools. In some years **one additional** academic credit may be earned through Georgetown University's CBL (Community Based Learning) option. This credit would be added to the appropriate course, which would result in 4 credits being awarded for that course instead of 3.

To earn CBL credit, students must work with a community organization and successfully integrate this work into their academic experience through a combination of written reflections, discussions with the supervising faculty member, and presentations to the class.

CBL offers an opportunity for students to work in direct contact with the host community to deepen their understanding of the culture and discover the "real world" dimensions of their academic experience.

For more information on how to participate in community based learning in Alanya contact [Dr. Ebel](#).