

**THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, 1300-1600**  
**HIST 387-011, Fall 2012**  
**Monday 7:20-10:00pm, Krug Hall 253**

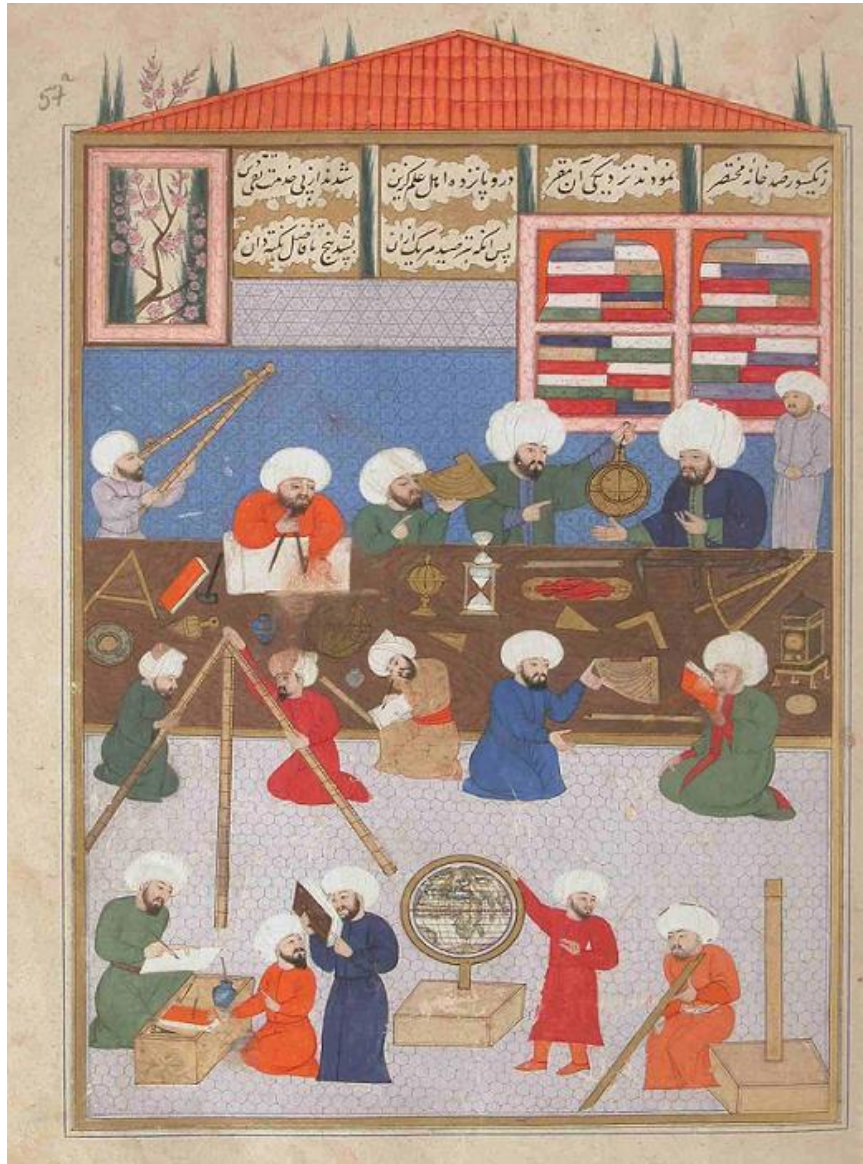
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## **Course Description**

This course examines the Ottoman Empire from its origins in the thirteenth century to the end of the sixteenth century when it was widely thought to have reached its ideals. We will treat the Ottoman experience within the broader context of world history while at the same time highlighting its peculiarities. The dynamics of its expansionism, political and cultural encounters, institutional development, social and economic networks, manifestations of piety, relations across lines of class, religion and gender will be covered. The course will undertake a critical inquiry into the established narratives of Ottoman history through discussing primary sources and theoretical approaches in modern scholarship.

## **Course Policies**

Class activities will involve lectures, discussions and student presentations.

Attendance is required and all excused absences should be accompanied with proper documentation.

Attendants must have read the course material prior to class time.

For assignments and performance all are responsible from the full content of the course.

Students are strictly bound by George Mason Honor Code (<http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu>) and common rules of academic integrity.

Students who request academic accommodation for a warranted condition should first contact the Office of Disability Services at 703-993-2474 (<http://ods.gmu.edu/>).

Electronic devices in classroom may not be used beyond the purpose of note-taking.

## **Assignments and Grading**

Participation (% 20)

Midterm I (% 25)

Midterm II (% 25)

Final (% 30)

## **Course Plan**

### **Week One, August 27**

#### **The Ottoman Empire in World Historical Context**

No Readings Assigned

### **Week Two, September 3**

#### **Holiday, No Class**

### **Week Three, September 10**

#### **The Turkic Völkerwanderung**

C. Cahen, *Pre-Ottoman Turkey*, 1-15

S. Vryonis, "Nomadization and Islamization in Asia Minor," 43-71

#### **Pre-Ottoman Asia Minor, 1071-1300**

D. Morgan, *Medieval Persia*, 23-33

C. Cahen, *Pre-Ottoman Turkey*, 347-360

### **Week Four, September 17**

#### **Conflict and Symbiosis in a Frontier Society**

P. Wittek, *The Rise of the Ottoman Empire*, 33-51

G. G. Arnakis, "Gregory Palamas among the Turks and Documents of His Captivity as Historical Sources," 104-18

Dede Korkut, *The Book of Dede Korkut*, 117-132

#### **Interregnum and Reconstruction**

H. Inalcik, *Ottoman Empire*, 17-35

D. Morgan, *Medieval Persia*, 83-93

### **Week Five, September 24**

#### **From Principality to Empire, 1453-1481**

H. Inalcik, "Ottoman Methods of Conquest," 103-29

K. Mihailovic, *Memoirs of a Janissary*, 87-143

Tursun Bey, *History of the Mehmed the Conqueror*, 31-67

#### **The Ottomans and the Renaissance**

H. Inalcik, "A Case Study in Renaissance Diplomacy," 342-368

## **Week Six, October 1**

### **Sectarian Activism and the Ottoman-Safavid Conflict**

D. Morgan, *Medieval Persia*, 101-123

V. Minorsky, "Shaykh Bali Efendi on the Safavids," 437-450

McNeill and Waldman, "Letters from Selim and Ismail," 337-44

### **Reclaiming the Abbasid Legacy: the Invasion of the Central Lands of Islam**

A. C. Hess, "Ottoman Conquest of Egypt (1517)," 55-76

## **Week Seven, October 9**

### **Midterm I**

### **Ottoman Architecture**

Sinan, *Record of Construction*, 112-139

## **Week Eight, October 15**

### **The Pursuit of Red Apple in Europe, 1520-1574**

C. M. Kortepeter, *Ottoman Imperialism*, 1-25

H. Inalcik, *Ottoman Empire*, 35-40

### **The Age of Discovery and Oceanic Encounters**

A. C. Hess, "The Evolution of the Ottoman Seaborne Empire in the Age of the Oceanic Discoveries, 1453-1525," 1892-1919

S. Ali Reis, *The Travels and Adventures*, 1-24

## **Week Nine, October 22**

### **The Ruling Establishment**

H. Inalcik, *Ottoman Empire*, 65-103

H. A. R. Gibb, "Lutfi Pasha on the Ottoman Caliphate," 287-95

### **Law and Administration of Justice**

R. C. Repp, *The Mufti of Istanbul*, 27-72

U. Heyd, transl., "The Ottoman Criminal Code," 93-132

## **Week Ten, October 29**

### **Civic Institutions in Cities**

E. Eldem, *The Ottoman City Between East and West*, 1-17

S. Faroqhi, "Social Life in Cities," 576-608

H. Inalcik, *Ottoman Empire*, 140-162

### **Trade, Crafts and the Rules of the Marketplace**

H. Inalcik, "Capital Formation in the Ottoman Empire," 97-140

G. Baer, "The Administrative, Economic and Social Functions of Turkish Guilds," 28-50

### **Week Eleven, November 5**

#### **Family, Women and Gender**

S. Faroqhi, *Subjects of the Sultan*, 101-123

W. Andrews, *The Age of the Beloved*, 193-216

#### **Popular Culture**

R. S. Hattox, *Coffee and Coffeehouses*, 72-111

A. Tietze, transl., *Mustafa Ali's Description of Cairo 1599*, 39-57

### **Week Twelve, November 12**

#### **Religion, Piety and Learning**

H. Inalcik, *Ottoman Empire*, 165-178

J. Mandaville, "Usurious Piety: The Cash-Waqf Controversy," 289-308

A. Karamustafa, *God's Unruly Friends*, 65-84

#### **Ethnic and Religious Diversity**

B. Braude and B. Lewis, *Christian and Jews in the Ottoman Empire*, 1-34

### **Week Thirteen, November 19**

### **Midterm II**

#### **Ottoman Poetry**

A. Tietze, "Poet as Critic of Society," 120-160

### **Week Fourteen, November 26**

#### **Land and its Administration**

H. Inalcik, *An Economic and Social History of the Ottoman Empire*, 143-73

#### **The Classical Synthesis and Manifestations of Ottoman Identity**

C. Imber, "The Ottoman Dynastic Myth," 7-27

C. Kafadar, "A Rome of One's Own," 7-25

G. Necipoglu, "A Kanun for the State, a Canon for the Arts," 195-216

### **Week Fifteen, December 3**

#### **Review**

#### **General Discussion**