

EUROPE'S OTTOMAN HISTORY

AP/HIST 3326

2020-21/ FALL term

Dr. Sakis Gekas, Department of History
agekas@yorku.ca

Course Format/Time:

This course will be offered ONLINE, with all lectures, information, assignment guidelines, discussions and other important information posted on the class Moodle site. I will host live office hours/discussion on Tuesdays between 10:30-11:30 via zoom, but attendance at the live sessions is not mandatory.

Course Description:

This course analyzes the history of European regions of the Ottoman Empire from the time Ottoman appeared in 'Europe' in the fourteenth century until the end of the Empire (1922). The course will explore how the idea of Europe changed over time, partly because of interaction and exchange with the Ottoman Empire. The course also explores the impact of Ottomans on European histories, economies and societies in the Balkans, South East Europe and the Mediterranean and the lasting legacies of Ottoman rule on commerce, religion, architecture, food and music. The Ottoman Empire was one of the longest lasting and most territorially extensive of all empires in history.

Course Organization:

Each week, you'll have some brief introductory material, learning objectives, content, readings and learning activities. Finally, you'll also have additional resources in most modules.

The **introductory materials** will provide you with a brief introduction to the week's content, and may also remind you of links to previous weeks' concepts that you might wish to refer to or review prior to starting on the new module.

The **learning objectives** are provided as a tool to ensure you have adequately worked through the content of the week and have a good understanding of the concepts and material. Use the objectives as your own indicator of whether you've sufficiently met the learning goals for that week.

The **online lecture**. Every week you are expected to watch the recorded lecture before you answer the weekly topic discussion. In most weeks you will be asked to listen to a podcast on a topic related to the content. Modules may include activities that are optional and, if completed, will contribute to your own personal learning. The content will make up the learning material for each week's module along with the readings.

The **module readings** are an important part of your learning each week. Some weeks have more reading than others, so make sure you set aside time each week to go through the readings and try to understand the concepts and discussions that the authors are presenting. Most of the module content will help you to “unpack” the concepts and material you’ll read, so doing the readings alongside going through the module content is always a good idea.

The **assignments** section will describe which assignments you are required to do each week to complete the module (sometimes with clear deadlines). Most weeks, assignments will include discussion questions to which you are expected to contribute, either as an individual or in a small group, in the online discussion forum.

I will also be available for live office hours at a set time.

Course Goals:

This course is designed with two specific goals:

1. to familiarize students of history with approaches to the history of the Ottoman Empire (historiography) and especially its influence on European history, by focusing on the area of South Eastern Europe, the Balkans, and Greece including the Mediterranean Islands.
2. to further students’ historical skills, analysis of primary and secondary sources, critical thinking, and clear and concise argumentative writing.

By the end of the course you will be able to:

Describe the origin, expansion and domination of Ottoman Empire in the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean;

Understand the causes and consequences of the interaction between European Empires and the Ottoman Empire from the age of Ottoman expansion in the fourteenth century to the Balkan Wars, and the end of the Empire after WWI;

Interpret and contextualize Ottoman History within broader social, political, and cultural contexts and in particular the impact on European cultures, economies and societies from the early modern period to the early twentieth century;

Analyze primary and secondary sources from the field of Ottoman, Balkan and Mediterranean History;

Synthesize the methods and arguments of different scholars in the field of Ottoman and Balkan history.

Understand the ongoing legacies of Ottoman history for Balkan and Mediterranean regions and societies.

Course Assignments and Grade breakdown

Assignment:	Participation and Forum five reading posts	Value (%):	20
Assignment:	Book Review	Value (%):	20
Assignment:	Essay 1	Value (%):	30
Assignment:	Essay 2	Value (%):	30

Total (%):	100 %
-----------------------	------------------

Textbooks (in addition there will be short primary and secondary source readings available via Moodle each week). Chapters from the books below will be mandatory readings.

Goffman, Daniel. *The Ottoman Empire and Early Modern Europe*. Cambridge, UK;: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Faroqhi, Suraiya. *The Later Ottoman Empire, 1603-1839*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. Print.

O'Quinn, Daniel. *Engaging the Ottoman Empire : Vexed Mediations, 1690-1815* . Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press,, 2018. Web.

Suggested Weekly Lecture Topics

Questions and topics include:

Week 1. Introduction to the Ottoman Empire: Origins, Geography, Languages, Religions

Week 2. Conversion to Islam and Islamization in Ottoman Europe

Week 3. Great Power Rivalry in the Age of Exploration

Week 4. Encounters. The Ottoman – Venetian Story

Week 5. Ottoman-European trade.

Week 6. The changing balance of power in the Mediterranean during the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries

Week 7. Challenges to the empire's rule; the Greek revolution of the 1820s and the creation of independent state.

Week 8. Reform and repression, 1839-1908; the Young Turks and the revolution of 1908

Week 9. Ottoman-European Economic Relations in the Nineteenth Century: The Impact of the Industrial Revolution and Foreign Debt.

Week 10. The Balkan Wars (1912-13), World War I and the end of the Ottoman Empire;

Week 12. Ottoman legacies: on commerce, religion, architecture, food and music.