HST 597 OTTOMAN STATE AND SOCIETY, 1299-1924

Instructor Information

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Course Description

The Ottoman Empire was one of the most long-lived dynastic states in human history, lasting from between 1299 to 1924. Indeed, during the sixteenth century, the Ottomans emerged as the dominant power in the western Islamic world; maintaining a vast empire that included territories on three continents. This course provides students with an opportunity to study the evolution of the Ottoman polity from its foundation in the early fourteenth century to its ultimate demise in the early 1920s. It focuses specifically on the evolution of relations between the Ottoman state and broader Ottoman society and aims to introduce students to some of the major historiographical debates animating scholar of Ottoman history.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:
• Identify major events and developments in the history of the Ottoman Empire;
• Evaluate the changes and transformations that occurred in Ottoman society over the six-hundred years of the empire’s existence.
• Develop a consciousness of different historiographical debates pertaining to the empire’s history.
• Understand the significance and role of the Ottoman Empire in world history.

Recommended Texts

Most of the resources needed for this class can be found online on the course Blackboards page. However, should students wish to purchase or borrow any books for this class the following are recommended. Please note that the page numbers for readings are from the editions listed:

• Halil Inalcik, *The Ottoman Empire: The Classical Age 1300-1600* (2000).
• Sukru Hanioglu, *A Brief History of the Late Ottoman Empire*, (2008).

**A NOTE ON READINGS:** In addition to these texts, other readings will be assigned. Where possible, these will be made available on Blackboards. Others texts are available through the Missouri State University’s Meyer Library, either an e-book or as a physical book. In the case of physical books, those students unable to make use of the Meyer Library should make use of their local public library. Most public libraries operate an interlibrary loan service.

Grading Scale

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72%</td>
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The final grade for this course will be derived from the following assessments:

- 1x Geography Quiz (5%)
- 6x Discussion Boards (50%)
- 3x Essays (45%)

**Discussion Boards:**
- Students will complete one discussion board per unit. Discussion posts do not need to contain citations. However, they should refer to the readings.

**Essays**
- Students write essays based on a prompt. Students always have a choice of prompts from which they will pick one to answer.
- Students are expected to make use of academic sources (books and scholarly articles) to complete their essays. Students are also expected to include appropriate citations and a bibliography. Resources pertaining to essay writing can be found on Blackboards.
- Students should ensure that they upload their completed essays to Blackboards in word (docx) format. Students will receive feedback on essays through the Blackboards system.

**Blackboards**
- Students should ensure that they have access to the course Blackboards page, on which can be found, assignments, grades, study guides, and other course materials (including readings).
- Students should ensure they are familiar with the course Blackboards page and check Blackboards regularly in order to ensure that they have the latest information about the course.
• If you have any technical problems with Blackboard, contact Missouri State University Computer services. Email: HelpDesk@MissouriState.edu Phone: 417-836-5891.

**Late Assignments**

• If students are unable to make a deadline and require an extension, they **MUST** inform the instructor in advance. Students who miss deadlines will receive a zero for the assignments, unless they provide relevant documentation.

**Study Expectations**

• This is an upper level course, ergo there is a significant amount of reading. Students should organize their time efficiently. Students are expected to spend approximately 12 hours a week on study for this course.

• The course is organized into six units. Each unit has a study guide in the form of a set of question, which students should use to help build a set of notes that will allow them to prepare for examinations.

**Workshops**

• Over the course of the semester there will be opportunity for students to participate in six workshops (see course outline). These workshops are held via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 5:30pm.

• Workshops are an opportunity for students to ask question, discuss, and seek clarification on the course materials. However, because this is an online course, attendance at the workshops is **not mandatory** as some students may not be able to attend due to prior commitments. Please note that students can always make an appointment during office hours (Tuesday 2:00pm-5:00pm/Thursday 2:00pm-5:00pm).

• Students should ensure that they are prepared to ask questions and discuss the readings.

• A link to the Zoom classroom will be both posted on Blackboards and sent out via e-mail to students on the day of the workshop.
The course outline also includes the due dates for all major assignments and workshops. Please note that the reading list and study guide for each unit can be found on the course Blackboards page.

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Assignments, Deadlines, and Workshops</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week One:</strong> 17 August 17 to 23 August</td>
<td>Introduction: Studying the Ottoman Empire</td>
<td>Map Quiz (Sunday, 23 August, End of Day)</td>
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| **Week Two:** 24 August to 30 August | Unit One: The Origins of the Ottoman Empire, 1299-1402 | Workshop (Tuesday, 1 September, 5:30pm CST – Zoom)  
Discussion Board I (Initial Post, Friday, 4 September, Replies, Sunday, 6 September) |
| **Week Three:** 31 August to 6 September | | |
| **Week Four:** 7 September to 13 September | Unit Two: The ‘Classical’ Period, 1402-1590s | (Labor Day: 7 September) |
| **Week Five:** 14 September to 20 September | | Workshop (Tuesday, 15 September, 5:30pm CST – Zoom)  
Discussion Board II (Initial Post, Friday, 18 September, Replies, Sunday, 20 September) |
| **Week Six:** 21 September to 27 September | Assessment Week I | Essay I (Sunday, 27 September, End of Day) |
| Week Seven:  
28 September to 4 October | Unit Three: The ‘Post-Classical Era’, 1590s-1790s |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Week Eight:  
5 October to 11 October | 8 October and 9 October Fall Holiday Workshop (Tuesday, 6 October, 5:30pm CST – Zoom)  
Discussion Board III (Initial Post, Friday 9 October, Replies, Sunday, 11 October) |
| Week Nine:  
12 October to 18 October | Unit Four: Reform and Modernization in the Nineteenth Century, 1790s-1870s |
| Week Ten:  
19 October to 25 October | Workshop (Tuesday, 20 October, 5:30pm CST – Zoom)  
Discussion Board IV (Initial Post, Friday, 23 October, Replies, Sunday, 25 October) |
| Week Eleven:  
26 October to 1 November | Assessment Week II  
Essay II (Sunday, 1 November, End of Day) |
| Week Twelve:  
2 November to 8 November | Unit Five: Islam, Autocracy, and Sultan Abdulhamid II, 1876-1908 |
| Week Thirteen:  
9 November to 15 November | Workshop (Tuesday, 10 November, 5:30pm CST – Zoom)  
Discussion Board V (Initial Post, Friday, 13 November, Replies, Sunday, 15 November) |
| Week Fourteen:  
16 November to | Unit Six: Revolution, War, and Imperial Collapse, 1908-1923  
Workshop (Friday, 20 November, 5:30pm CST – Zoom) |
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<td><strong>Week Fifteen: 23 November to 29 November</strong></td>
<td>November 25 to 29 November Thanksgiving holiday (no classes) Discussion Board VI (Initial Post, Monday, 23 November, Replies, Wednesday, 25 November)</td>
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<td><strong>Week Sixteenth: 30 November to 3 December (Wednesday)</strong></td>
<td>Assessment Week III Essay III (Sunday, 6 December, End of Day)</td>
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<td><strong>Examination Period: 5 December to 10 December</strong></td>
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