

BILKENT UNIVERSITY
HIST 209 – HISTORY OF TURKEY
2018-2019 FALL SEMESTER SYLLABUS

Instructor	E-mail	Office	Office Hours
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A - PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

History of Turkey has been designed as a student-centered, project-based course. Its aim is to teach students research methods used in the *social sciences*. In accordance with this aim, the course will enable students to acquire the skills of asking research questions and working in groups, as well as the ability to approach various issues with a *scholarly* outlook. Students will also have the opportunity to improve their written and spoken expression by presenting their findings and thoughts with clarity and coherence in both oral presentations and written papers. *Working in groups*, students will prepare a term project of no fewer than 3,000 words in length. This course aims to show students how, by engaging in group work, they can form an efficient team by finding a research topic, establishing goals and sharing tasks, and working more productively through cooperation. All members of each group will take an active role in the presentations and share their findings with the other groups. The term project will be written together as a group. The instructor will be available at every stage of the course to provide students with feedback on their project. At the end of the semester, the most successful projects will be submitted by the instructor to an evaluation committee that will select the ten most successful projects, and an award ceremony will take place at the beginning of the next semester.

****Attendance: At least 70 % of all classes is mandatory.

B - COURSE FORMAT

Week 1: September 24-28 (September 28, Friday is the last day for add/drops)

Introduction to the course, description of the aims and structure of the course, information on group work, and explanation of the schedule and course syllabus

Week 2: October 1-5

Information and detailed examples on how research questions should be formulated and how the scope of research may be narrowed or widened. Formation of groups. (Note that, in line with university regulations concerning interdisciplinarity, no group may contain more than 3 students from the same department.)

<p>Week 3: October 8-12</p> <p>During this week, students will begin to structure their research topics in groups and receive feedback from the instructor. Students will be informed of research methods, with examples being provided.</p> <p>Methodology quiz: Will be done on the second day of the classes. There will be no make-up. Only medical reports will be accepted in case of absence.</p>
<p>Week 4: October 15-19</p> <p>1 <u>Written submission of research topics and questions in WORD FORMAT</u>, which the instructor will then submit to the History of Turkey Coordinator's Office. The History of Turkey Evaluation Committee will then evaluate the submitted topics and questions.</p> <p><i>Beginning with Week 4, all groups will meet regularly for personal consultation with the instructor, with each meeting lasting approximately 20 minutes per group and groups taking turns to meet the instructor at appointed times. In this way, each group will have the weekly opportunity for a personal consultation with the instructor. In Week 9 and Week 15, all students will come to all classes. In Week 9, the instructor will present lectures regarding the projects. In Week 15, each group will give an oral presentation of their project and listen to all other groups' presentations.</i></p>
<p>Week 5: October 22-26</p> <p>At the beginning of the week, the History of Turkey Evaluation Committee will provide feedback to the instructor, after which the groups will finalize their chosen topics in personal consultation with the instructor.</p>
<p>Week 6: October 29-November 2 (NO CLASS ON 29TH -MONDAY-, REPUBLIC DAY)</p> <p>Research and meeting with the instructor</p>
<p>Week 7: November 5-9</p> <p>Research and meeting with the instructor</p>
<p>Week 8: November 12-16</p> <p>Research and meeting with the instructor</p> <p>2 <u>Written submission of the preliminary report, in WORD FORMAT</u></p>
<p>Week 9: November 19-23 (November 23, Friday= withdraw deadline)</p> <p>All students will come to all classes, where the instructor will present lectures regarding the projects.</p>
<p>Week 10: December 3-7</p> <p>Research and meeting with the instructor.</p>
<p>Week 11: December 10-14</p> <p>Research and meeting with the instructor</p> <p>3 <u>Written submission of the first draft</u>. This draft, together with a report from the TurnItIn system to prevent plagiarism, will be submitted to the instructor in WORD FORMAT by email and in print-out form. (i.e. a hardcopy as well as a word file is needed)</p>
<p>Week 12: December 17-21</p> <p>Research and meeting with the instructor.</p>
<p>Week 13: December 23-27</p> <p>Research and meeting with the instructor.</p>

Week 14: December 24-31

Written submission and oral presentation of the final term project. In this presentation week, students will attend all class hours, present their own projects, and listen to the term projects of the other groups. The final written version of the project must be no fewer than **3,000 words** (excluding footnotes and bibliography) and must be submitted no later than the first hour of the last week of the course. The term project **must be uploaded to the TurnItIn system in PDF format** to prevent plagiarism, and **must be submitted in both Word and PDF formats**. Students will also each submit a peer review written in their own HANDWRITING (NOT FILLED OUT ON THE COMPUTER).

The recordings and the transcriptions of the interviews (if there are any) must be submitted (recordings in CDs, transcriptions in WORD format and also in print-out form)

The final draft of the project must be submitted as one copy (hardcopy/print-out) to the instructor along with all the other material listed above.

C - STAGES OF THE PROJECT AND GRADING CRITERIA

1. Research Proposal (10 %).
2. Methodology Quiz (10 %)
3. Preliminary Report (10 %).
4. First Draft of the Project (15 %).
5. Final Draft and Presentation of the Project (30+5 %).
6. Peer Review (10 %).
7. Attendance, general performance review (10 %).

D - CRITERIA FOR THE GRADING

1- Research Proposal: 10 pts.

Topic: The topics should be acceptable in terms of the given instructions beforehand (briefly: a micro-history topic which must be an original HIST-209 project. To write an "original" paper, check the HIST209 projects of the previous years (the list will be provided) carefully and find a topic that nobody worked on for the class → (2,5 pts.)

Title and the scope: The titles must indicate the topic clearly. In the scope part, you should state why this topic is important and the main elements of your historical narration (events, locations, time period and characters, etc.) → (2,5 pts.)

Sources: You should add a bibliography/source list proving that you carried out a preliminary research. This bibliography must have *primary sources* as well as the *secondary sources*. If you have any oral source, provide a brief explanation (who can be an oral source: witnesses of the events, family members of the actors engaged in those events, experts or scholars who worked on them, etc.

Citation matters. The citation should be full and be in Chicago style. Avoid ambiguous statements such as “research in the library” or “research in X papers.” → (2,5 pts.)

Research questions: You have to work on 10 questions (minimum) that should be used as subtitles or body paragraphs in the writing process. Thus, questions that have one-word answers (such as who X is or where s/he was born, etc.) are not research questions. Research questions are different than interviews. → (2,5 pts.)

2- Methodology Quiz: 10 pts.

This quiz will be focused on the historical methodology topics which will be addressed in the first three weeks. It is totally an individual assessment, and has no effect on group works.

No make-ups. Absence will be graded with 0 pt.

3- Preliminary Report: 10 pts.

Progress Report and task distribution: You are supposed to explain your team’s progress since the formation of the groups. Show the task distribution with subtle role definitions, for the following weeks. → (2,5 pts.)

Planning/Outline: Plan of the project with a proper scheme. Main title and subtitles (if any). Every subtitle’s content will have a brief explanation. Titles must be accordance with the topic in general and with each other. Avoid many subtitles. → (2,5 pts.)

Primary and secondary source analysis: There will be an annotated/explanatory preliminary bibliography for the sources. Analyze your sources and state in which way they contribute to your

project. For the oral sources identify the contributors, their relations to the topic and add the interview questions. → (5 pts.)

4- First Draft of the Project: 15 pts.

**** Draft is not just a sketch. Consider this as an early version of the final project with all necessities addressed fully. It can be changed later on with the feedback or new findings. No missing parts (stated below), no “Hocam, we will add later on....”*

Format: Research papers must be formatted as stated in the research project guide (fonts, page numbers, line spacing, margins, indents and whatever you can imagine. **Cover page** must be standard (a blank sample will be provided – don’t change anything in terms of wording or form, not try to be creative!). Cover pages are followed by **abstracts** (first Turkish and then English, in the same page). Preferably 6-7 lines for each – no need to summarize in detail – give the topic and your aim etc., short and clear is better. AVOID GOOGLE TRANSLATE in your Turkish abstracts. As you already know, it is much fun but perhaps fatal for your labor. Then comes the **content list** in the following page. It should have page numbers in Arabic numbers. → (3 pts.)

Content and logical coherence: From the beginning to the end, it should be a **full study** in terms of form and content even though you can add/remove parts later on. Only one chapter etc. won’t be accepted. The content should be in accordance with the preliminary report. Avoid logical inconsistencies and contradictions. Repetitions (or telling the same thing in different fashion) will **DEFINITELY** affect your grades in a negative way. I will delete them and then recount. Also avoid the chronological mistakes, unrelated parts, ambiguity, subjective and exaggerated remarks (“the most important”, “the only reason”, etc. or prove it properly), very long sentences. WILL SEND A SAMPLE OF HOW TO WRITE GUIDE → (6 pts.)

Using sources: The sources you state in the proposal and preliminary report (in outline part) have to be used properly and cited in the same way, in **Chicago style** (footnotes – and I am sure you won’t write the footnotes manually rather than using “add footnote” option – yes, some did it!) There will be a bibliography in the end (also in Chicago style- be careful: in-text citation and bibliography citations are different in styles). Using primary sources is mandatory and just online/secondary sources are not acceptable (no problem with online versions of primary sources). Please do not use your primary sources just to show me you made use of them. They should be integrated in an organic way and

elaborated. TRY TO MAKE YOUR SOURCES COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER BY CONTRASTS/COMPARISONS ETC. → (6 pts.)

5- Final Draft and Presentation of the Project: 30+5 pts.
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Format: Basically same with the first draft (above). Do not change anything in format unless your instructor asks. A blank cover page form will be provided. A good format in the first draft does not mean a good format in the end – editing can cause some unseen changes, thus, please control the final product. → (5 pts.)

Content and logical-textual coherence: Basically same with the first draft necessities (above). The problems in the draft should be addressed clearly. → (10 pts.)

Using sources: Basically same with the first draft necessities (above). Do not forget to remove/add parts after the feedback in the same fashion. If there is a footnote or citation going nowhere, it will be a minus pt. AGAIN: TRY TO MAKE YOUR SOURCES COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER BY CONTRASTS/COMPARISONS ETC. → (10 pts.)

Application of the feedback: Do literally what I say, then get 5 points – grading depend on your editing performance. → (5 pts.)

Presentation: Participation is mandatory (only medical reports can be accepted) and it indeed means an *active participation* (changing slights sitting on the chair, etc. is not a participation). Absence or doing nothing but standing on the stage will bring 0 point.

Content: It will be composed of an overview of the research topic which will be accompanied by *paper's outline* and *related visual material*. A balanced content is necessary. It will be like a conference and the audience will be encouraged to ask questions – thus a good command of your topic is vital. Do not read from the paper. → (3 pts.)

Duration: Share the responsibilities. Assuming the starring role with much time on the stage as well as less participation will mean losing points for the team. → (2 pts.)

6- Peer Review: 10 pts.

The blank form will be provided in the end of the semester and filled manually (handwriting). Please explain your and your teammates' contributions in the assessment part, in detail. Instructors cannot change the average grades of the peer reviews. Those who don't submit the form in the given time will

be graded with 0 out of 10, regardless of their friends' assessments about them. IMPORTANT NOTE: The peer reviews are confidential – don't ask what X gave, etc. No complains. The submission rules are stated above. I will not accept them if the anything misses (any form, enclosed envelope etc.)

7- Attendance, General Performance Review: 10 pts.

Attendance: *Every* class hour we meet (not day) and group meeting will be assessed as 1 hour. If you don't show up in the **30 % of the total**, I am afraid we will see each other next year. Please track your own attendance via STARS. Add/drop week is not included.

Late submissions: 10 % loss in every late-submitted task/form **PER DAY**.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is presenting as one's own any idea, view, discovery, or work that belongs to another, and using that idea, view, discovery, or work in one's own homework, project, report, or similar work without proper and explicit reference. 15-50 % loss of the total grade of the given task, depending on the amount (*ie.* it means 4,5-15 out of 30 in final project).

NOTES FOR THEIR OWN: Ethics still matter even in 2018. Bargaining for grades generally work in the opposite way. I am sure you are agree with me. Please do not distract us with the smart phones. Not using them for a while is good for their battery – after the meetings you will have plenty of time to do important stuff with them or stalk on others.