The Principle of the Course:
The course will scrutinize Turkish foreign policy (TFP) in a global and regional perspective. The main objective of the course is to provide a framework for TFP on the principles of realpolitik. A rationalist approach will be taken to present a notion of TFP that helps distinguishing facts and conspiracies. The students are expected to develop skills to analyze TFP with comparisons of the actors, the interests of those actors, the clash of interests and the events that reveal all of them.

Focus of the Course:
The context of the course in this semester is the new form of the globalization. Therefore, the political contradictions over the direction of the globalization and placing Turkey within the new framework will be the main theme of the semester. To find answers to the questions of "Where the world is heading towards in the 21st century" and "Where's Turkey's exact position?", the constant investigation will focus on the topics like the political change brought by the successes of populist anti-globalism in the West and its impacts on the political organizations of the Western bloc, the limitations to this wave, and the counter-globalization of the East.

The flow of the semester will follow the developments in Turkey's region. The new formations of the Middle East and their impacts upon the Middle Eastern dimension of TFP will be main problematics of the semester. The emergence of a new Middle East order as an outcome of finalization of the instability in Syria and Iraq will be discussed with references to various post-war scenarios. The new developments in the Northern Syria and Northern Iraq, the Russian presence in the Eastern Mediterranean, the future of Western interventionism, sectarian dimensions of Middle Eastern politics are among the topics to be handled. The new alignments are key to understand these developments. Therefore, the discussions on the impact upon the TFP will problematize the probability of a Turkish detachment from Western bloc. Formation of a Eurasian bloc consisting of Turkey, Russian Federation, Iran will be handled in the context of the consolidation of the Sunni bloc composed of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Gulf states, and Israel's role in the region. Apart from global and regional dynamics, the local dimensions of the new alignments of Turkey will also be handled to study the role of domestic politics in the formation of foreign policy. A special treatment will be given to Turkey's relations with the EU and the US within this framework.

If needed, our course schedule will be revised according to new developments in TFP and world politics in general. In that case, any revision will be announced beforehand.
Process of the Course:
A weekly session is completed in two parts. The first part is reserved for the lecture and the second part to the open discussions. Guest speakers on the topics covered in the lectures may be hosted throughout this semester.

Evaluation of attendance and active participation during open discussions will constitute 50% of overall grade.

The syllabus will not provide a reading list for students. Students are expected to follow developments from news agencies and analyses published in major media organs. They are strongly encouraged to share those pieces.

Students will take one take-home examination at the end of the semester in which they will answer a specific question asked by the lecturer. Papers are expected to be four pages at maximum (1500 words). Evaluation of the paper will constitute 50% of overall grade.