Course description: This graduate course aims to familiarize the students with key issues and debates regarding the urban life and government in the Ottoman Empire and important European countries. The course employs a rigorously comparative perspective and the weekly topics are arranged accordingly. The reading materials deal with European cities in different parts of the continent (namely, major urban centers in Western, Central and Eastern Europe) and Ottoman cities in different regions of the Empire (Anatolia, Balkans, Arab lands). The goal is not only to provide a general panorama of European and Ottoman urban development in historical context, but also to map key themes around which European and Ottoman cities can be meaningfully and fruitfully compared. While some of the discussions will cover earlier or later periods, the focus throughout the semester will be on the nineteenth century and early twentieth century developments.

Course Requirements: The course requires continuing preparedness, attention and participation from the students. The class sessions will be conducted mostly in seminar format while the instructor will deliver occasional lectures.

Attendance to online sessions is compulsory and will be monitored.

The class grade will be based on the following:

- Reaction papers: 50%
- Presentation(s): 30%
- Attendance and Participation: 20%

The students will write a total of 6 reaction papers. The papers will be due at 12:00 on Tuesday before the class.

Although the number of article presentations the students will deliver during the semester will be determined according to the final number of students registered, it will probably be 2.
COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK 1 – March 17
Introduction to the course

WEEK 2 – March 24
Ottoman Urban History: Sources and Problematiques

-lecture by the instructor

WEEK 3 – March 31
Cosmopolitanism: Old and New Debates

Immanuel Kant, *Political writings* (Cambridge University Press, 1991), pp. 93-130


- presentation of articles by students and seminar discussion

WEEK 4 – April 7
‘Cosmopolitanism’ in the Ottoman Empire: Port-cities and beyond

Malte Fuhrmann, *Port cities of the eastern Mediterranean: urban culture in the late Ottoman Empire* (Cambridge University Press, 2020), pp. 3-35


- presentation of articles by students and seminar discussion
WEEK 5 –April 21 (one-week interval)
Modernity and Urbanism in Western Europe


- reaction papers due

WEEK 6 –April 28
Modernity and Urbanism in Eastern Europe

Mark D. Steinberg, *Petersburg. Fin de Siècle* (Yale University Press, 2011)

- reaction papers due

Week 7 – May 5
*Fin-de-siècle in Jerusalem: The Ultimate Cosmopolitan City?*


- reaction papers due

WEEK 8 –May 19 (one-week interval)
Modernity and Urbanism in Central Europe

Carl E. Schorske, *Fin-de-siècle Vienna: politics and culture* (Cambridge University Press, 1979)

- reaction papers due

Week 9 – May 26
Between Empire and Nation-State: Ottoman Transitions and Urban Space I


-- presentation of articles by students and seminar discussion

Week 11 - June 2
The Darker Side of Victorian London

Book TBA
- reaction papers due

WEEK 12 – June 16 (one-week interval)
The Ottoman Capital in the Age of Modernity

Zeynep Çelik, The Remaking of Istanbul: Portrait of an Ottoman City in the Nineteenth Century (University of California Press, 1993)

- reaction papers due

Week 13 – June 23
Between Empire and Nation-State: Ottoman Transitions and Urban Space II

İsmail Hakkı Kadi, Ottoman and Dutch merchants in the eighteenth century: competition and cooperation in Ankara, Izmir, and Amsterdam (Brill, 2012) (Chapter 1)


Zeynep Kezer, Building Modern Turkey. State, Space and Ideology in the Early Republic (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2015) (Chapter 1)


-- presentation of articles by students and seminar discussion