

Middle East Technical University
Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences
Department of Political Science and Public Administration

ADM 4344
Labour Market Issues in Turkey

2016-2017 Spring Semester

Monday – 13:40-16:30 – F17

Asst. Prof. Asuman Göksel

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Course description:

The course aims to familiarise students with the issues of neo-liberal transformation and changing understanding of labour market in Turkey throughout the 2000s, especially exacerbated with the heavy conditionality from international organisations such as the European Union, World Bank and International Monetary Fund. In this context, policy areas to be analysed include labour market, labour relations and labour law, gender equality, social security, employment, informal labour market and child labour.

For each issue, the course will provide an environment for the theoretical exploration of the issue in question, systematic exploration of the actual policy problems and situation in Turkey, the basic institutional and legal framework, as well as the policies made and implemented in Turkey, from a critical perspective.

Course requirements:

The course requires active participation of the students throughout the semester. All the students are expected to make in-class presentations on the reading material of their own choice. All the presentations will be discussed by the instructor and by other students in the class. Reading the course materials is a must. To ensure this, students are expected to prepare four reflection papers throughout the term. Overall grading will be based on the following elements:

In-class presentation (15%)

Each student will present and discuss in the classroom one of the articles of her/his own interest from the reading list. A guide for the presentations will be provided by the instructor.

Reflection papers (30%)

Each student will prepare three reflection papers throughout the semester on three different articles from the reading materials, as indicated by the instructor. Each reflection paper should be structured around a major concern/question derived from the reading materials, and discuss this concern in an analytical way. Additional guidelines and evaluation criteria for the reflection papers will be provided by the instructor. All the reflection papers MUST be uploaded to ODTÜ Class.

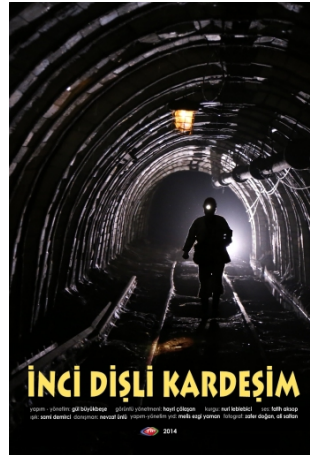
Final Exam (35%)

The final exam (in-class closed-book) will cover all the topics studied throughout the semester.

Participation (20%)

All the students are expected to actively participate in the in-class discussions. In addition, the students will prepare a short note about what they have learned from each presentation (0.5 points each, minimum 20 notes) and upload it to ODTÜ Class. Attendance, comments and questions in the class and consultation with the instructor are also considered as different forms of participation.

Some documentaries and movies relevant to the course topics:



<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0319769/>

<http://www.incidislikardesim.org/2014/>

Course Outline and Reading Materials

Week 1: Introduction: Labour market within the context of social policy (20 February 2017)

Week 2-3: Neo-liberal transformation of labour markets (27 February and 6 March 2017)

Macgregor, Susanne (2003) "The Welfare State and Neoliberalism", in Alfredo Saad-Filho and Deborah Johnston (eds) *Neoliberalism: A Critical Reader*, Pluto Press: London, pp. 142-148.

Palley, I. Thomas (2003) "From Keynesianism to Neoliberalism: Shifting Paradigms in Economics", in Alfredo Saad-Filho and Deborah Johnston (eds) *Neoliberalism: A Critical Reader*, Pluto Press: London, pp. 20-29.

Jessop, Bob (2003) "Changes in welfare regimes and the search for flexibility and employability", in H. Overbeek (ed), *The Political Economy of European Employment: European integration and the transnationalization of the (un)employment question*, Routledge: London and New York, pp. 29-51.

Week 4: Neo-liberal transformation of labour markets in Turkey (13 March 2017)

Aybars, Ayşe İdil and Tsarouhas, Dimitris (2010) "Straddling Two Continents: Social Policy and Welfare Politics in Turkey", *Social Policy & Administration*, Vol. 44, No. 6, December 2010, pp. 746–763. (P)

Buğra, Ayşe and Adar, Sinem (2008) "Social Policy Change in Countries without Mature Welfare States: The Case of Turkey." *New Perspectives on Turkey*, 38: 83-106. (P)

Yalman, Galip (2011) "Discourse and Practice of Poverty Reduction Strategies: Reflections on the Turkish Case in the 2000s", in İ. Eren-Vural (ed) *Converging Europe: Transformation of Social Policy in the Enlarged European Union and in Turkey*, Ashgate Publications, pp.227-249. (P)

Yılmaz, Zafer (2015) ""Strengthening the Family" Policies in Turkey: Managing the Social Question and Armoring Conservative–Neoliberal Populism", *Turkish Studies*, 16:3, pp. 371-390. (P)

Week 5: Labour Market in Turkey (20 March 2017)

Özdemir, Ali Murat and Yücesan-Özdemir, Gamze (2004) “Living in Endemic Insecurity: An Analysis of Turkey’s Labour Market in the 2000s”, *South East Europe Review*, 7(2), 33-42. (P)

Taymaz, Erol and Özler, Şule (2004) “Labor market policies and EU accession: Problems and prospects for Turkey”, *ERC Working Paper in Economic 04/05*, Economic Research Center, Middle East Technical University, March 2004. (P)

World Bank (2006) *Turkey Labor Market Study*, Report No. 33254-TR, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Unit, Europe and Central Asia Region, *Document of the World Bank*, 14 April 2006. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

Auer, Peter and Popova, Natalia (2003) “Labor Market Policy for Restructuring in Turkey: The Need for More Active Policies”, *Employment Paper 51, International Labor Office*, Geneva. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

Week 6: Labour Relations (27 March 2017)

Coates, D. (1999) “Labour Power and International Competitiveness: A Critique of Ruling Orthodoxies”, *Socialist Register*, Vol. 35, pp. 108-136.

Akkaya, Yüksel (2002) “The working class and Unionism in Turkey under the shackles of the system and developmentalism” in Balkan, N. and Savran, S. (eds), *The Ravages of Neo-liberalism: Economy, Society and Gender in Turkey*, Nova Publications, pp.129-144. (P)

Buğra Ayşe and Savaşkan, Osman (2012) “Politics and class: The Turkish business environment in the neoliberal age”, *New Perspectives on Turkey*, No.46: 27-63. (P)

Ongan, Nilgün (2012) “Constitutional Provisions on Union Rights in Turkey: A Comparative Review”, *Societal Studies*, 4(3), pp. 901–921. (P)

Adaman, Fikret; Buğra, Ayşe; Insel, Ahmet (2009) “Societal Context of Labour Union Strategy: The Case of Turkey”, *Labour Studies Journal*, Vol. 34, No. 2; June; pp. 168-188. (P)

Çelik, Aziz (2013) *A General Evaluation of Turkey’s New Act on Trade Unions and Collective Agreements*, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Turkey Analyses, January 2013, pp. 1-7. (P)

Toksöz, Gülay (2008) “Employers’ and Workers’ Organizations”, in *Decent Work Country Report-Turkey*, *International Labour Organisation (ILO)*, pp. 59-65.

Uzgören, Elif (2014) “Globalisation and trade unions in Turkey: Two class strategies in countering neo-liberal restructuring”, *METU Studies in Development*, 41 (December), 2014, pp. 441-464.

Week 7: Labour Law (3 April 2017)

Kalleberg, Arne L. (2000) “Nonstandard Employment Relations: Part-time, Temporary and Contract Work”, *Annual Review of Sociology*, Vol. 26, pp. 341–65. (REFLECTION PAPER # 1)

Çelik, Aziz (2003) “Yeni İş Yasasının anlamı”, *Türkiye Barolar Birliği Dergisi*, Issue: 48, September/October 2003. (P)

Özdemir, Ali Murat and Yücesan-Özdemir, Gamze (2011) "Labour, Law and Society in Turkey: The New Labour Act in a Wider Context", *Critique of Political Economy*,1, pp. 64-87. (P)

Süral, Nurhan (2006) “The Issue of Flexibility under the New Turkish Labour Act”, *İstanbul Üniversitesi İktisat Fakültesi Mecmuası*, 55, (2006), pp. 441-467. (P)

Dereli, Toker (2013) *Flexicurity and Turkey’s New Labour Act: Problems and Prospects*, Işık University, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Working Paper Series No. 2013-03, pp.1-33. (P)

Week 8: Social Security Reform (10 April 2017)

Buğra, Ayşe and Candaş, Ayşen (2011). “Change and Continuity under an Eclectic Social Security Regime: The Case of Turkey”, *Middle Eastern Studies*, 47 (3):515-528. (P)

Coşar, Simten and Yeğenoğlu, M. (2009) “The Neoliberal Restructuring of Turkey’s Social Security System”, *Monthly Review*, <http://www.monthlyreview.org/090420-cosar-yegenoglu.php>.

Elveren, Adem Y. (2008) “Social Security Reform in Turkey: A Critical Perspective”, *Review of Radical Political Economics*, 40, 212-232. (P)

Özdemir, Ali Murat and Yücesan-Özdemir, Gamze (2008) “Opening Pandora’s Box: Social Security Reform in Turkey under AKP Rule”, *South East Europe Review*, 9(3). (P)

Üçkardeşler, Emre (2015) “Turkey’s Changing Social Policy Landscape”, *Turkish Policy Quarterly*, Vol. 13, No 4, pp. 149-161. (P)

Week 9-10: Gender Equality: Equal Opportunities, Anti-Discrimination and Women’s Employment (17 April and 24 April 2017)

Fraser, Nancy (2016) “Contradictions of Capital and Care”, *New Left Review*, Vol. 100, July-August 2016, pp. 99-117. (REFLECTION PAPER # 2)

Coşar, Simten and Yeğenoğlu, Metin (2011) “New Grounds for Patriarchy in Turkey? Gender Policy in the Age of AKP”, *South European Society and Politics*, 16:4, pp. 555-573. (P)

İlkkaracan, İpek (2012) “Why so Few Women in the Labor Market in Turkey?”, *Feminist Economics*, Vol: 18:1, pp. 1-37. (P)

Göksel, İdil (2013) “Female labor force participation in Turkey: The role of conservatism”, *Women’s Studies International Forum*, 41 (2013) 45–54. (P)

Ecevit, Yıldız (1985) “Üretim ve Yeniden-Üretim Sürecinde Ücretli Kadın Emeği”, *Yapıt, Kadın Sorunu Özel Sayısı*, Sayı: 9, s. 72-93.

Toksöz, Gülay (2007) *Women’s Employment Situation in Turkey*, International Labour Office, Ankara, ILO Publication. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

KEİG (2009) *Women’s Labor and Employment in Turkey, Problem Areas and Policy Suggestions*, KEİG Publishing: Report, June 2009. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

KEİG (2014) *Women’s Labour and Employment in Turkey, in the Snare of Flexibilization and Informalization: An Analysis within the Frame of Policy Documents*, September 2014. Available at <http://www.keig.org/content/english/policy%20report%202014%20ENG.pdf>. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

KSGM (2008) *National Action Plan Gender Equality (2008-2013)*, Republic of Turkey, Prime Ministry, General Directorate on the Status of Women (Kadının Statüsü Genel Müdürlüğü – KSGM), Ankara. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

KSGM (2008) *Policy Document: Women and Economy*, Republic of Turkey, Prime Ministry, General Directorate on the Status of Women (Kadının Statüsü Genel Müdürlüğü – KSGM): Ankara. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

World Bank (2009) *Female Labor Force Participation in Turkey: Trends, Determinants and Policy Framework*, TR Prime Ministry, State Planning Organisation and World Bank, Report No 48508-TR. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

KEİG (2013) *Women’s Labor and employment in Turkey Problem Areas and Policy Suggestions II*, May 2013. Available at <http://www.keig.org/content/english/keig%20policy%20report%202013.pdf>. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

Week 11: Employment Policy I: Policy priorities of the 2000s and the National Employment Strategy (8 May 2017)

Kesici, Mehmet Rauf (2013) Alternative Suggestions to Flexibility and Deregulation Policies on Enhancement of Interactive Relation between Growth and Employment in Turkey, in Hülya Kendir Özdiñç and Selime Güzelsarı (eds) *Flexibility*, International Journal of Politics & Economics, IJOPEC Publication: London / United Kingdom, İstanbul / Turkey, pp. 123-150. (P)

Yeldan, Erinç (2012) “Ulusal İstihdam Stratejisi” Belgesi Üzerine Makro Ekonomik bir Bakış, in *Ulusal İstihdam Stratejisi: Eleştirel Bir Bakış, Ulusal İstihdam Stratejisi Sempozyumu*, 13 Nisan 2012, Ankara, Türk-İş, pp. 7-13. (P)

İŞKUR (2009a) İŞKUR V. Genel Kurul Çalışma Raporu, Kasım 2009, Ankara. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

İŞKUR (2009b) İŞKUR V. Genel Kurulu İstihdam Politikası Önerileri. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

Ulusal İstihdam Stratejisi (2014-2023) ve Eylem Planları (2014-2016) (National Employment Strategy 2014-2023 and Action Plans 2014-2016. Available in English at <http://www.uis.gov.tr/Media/Books/UIS-en.pdf> (ELECTRONIC COPY).

Week 12: Employment Policy II: From Passive to Active Measures: Unemployment and Severance Payment and Active Labour Market Policies (15 May 2017)

Çelik, Aziz (2012) “Ulusal İstihdam Stratejisi: Ucuzluk, Esneklik, Güvencesizlik”, in *Ulusal İstihdam Stratejisi: Eleştirel Bir Bakış, Ulusal İstihdam Stratejisi Sempozyumu*, 13 Nisan 2012, Ankara, Türk-İş, pp. 13-36. (P)

Sayın, Ali Kemal (2009) Private Employment Agencies: Case of Turkey, *Sosyal Siyaset Konferansları Dergisi*, Vol. 57, pp. 269-280. (P)

Erol, Hatice and Özdemir, Abdullah (2012) The Effectiveness of the Employment Policies Implemented in Turkey in the Times of Economic Crisis, *TODAİE's Review of Public Administration*, Volume 6 No2 June 2012, p.71-104. (P)

İŞKUR (2009) İŞKUR V. Genel Kurul Çalışma Raporu, Kasım 2009, Ankara. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

World Bank (2006) *Turkey Labor Market Study*, Report No. 33254-TR, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Unit, Europe and Central Asia Region, Document of the World Bank, 14 April 2006. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

DPT (2007) *Dokuzuncu Kalkınma Planı (2007-2013), İşgücü Piyasası Özel İhtisas Komisyonu Raporu*, Devlet Planlama Teşkilatı (DPT): Ankara. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

Week 13: Informal Labour Market and Child Labour (22 May 2017)

Standing, Guy (2011) “The Precariat” in *The Precariat: The New Dangerous Class*, Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 1-22. (REFLECTION PAPER # 3)*

Informal Labour Market

Özdemir, Ali Murat; Erel, Derya and Yücesan-Özdemir, Gamze (2004) “Rethinking the informal labour market in Turkey: A possible politics for the trade unions”, *South-East Europe Review for Labour and Social Affairs*, Issue 03/2004, pp. 79-92. (P)

Del Carpio, Ximena Vanessa; Wagner, Mathis Christoph (2015) *The impact of Syrians refugees on the Turkish labor market*, Policy Research working paper; no. WPS 7402. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/08/24946337/impact-syrians-refugees-turkish-labor-market> (P)

TÜSİAD (2006) *Kayıtdışı Ekonomi ve Sürdürülebilir Büyüme: AB Yolunda Değerlendirme ve Çözüm Önerileri*, Yayın No. TÜSİAD T/2007-01/428, Aralık 2006. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

World Bank (2010) *Turkey Country Economic Memorandum Informality: Causes, Consequences, Policies*, Report No. 48523-TR, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Unit, Europe and Central Asia Region, World Bank, 2 March 2010. (ELECTRONIC COPY)

Child Labour

Bakırcı, Kadriye (2002) “Child labour and legislation in Turkey”, *The International Journal of Children's Rights*, 10: 55–72, 2002. (P)

Değirmencioğlu, Serdar M; Acar, Hakan; and, Baykara Acar, Yüksel (2008) “Extreme Forms of Child Labour in Turkey”, *Children & Society*, Vol. 22, pp. 191-200.

Toksöz, Gülay (2008) “Child Labour and Forced Labour”, in *Decent Work Country Report-Turkey*, International Labour Organisation (ILO), pp. 68-73.

Workers' Health and Safety

Güranlı, Emre (2014) “AKP'nin temsiliyetinde Türkiye kapitalizminin 2013 yılında işçi sağlığı ve iş güvenliği sicili”, içinde *Emek Yıllığı 2013*, Yazılama Yayınları: İstanbul, sayfa 489-498. (P)

* You can also watch two public lectures given by Guy Standing on this book “The Precariat: The New Dangerous Class” at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FRNhtGtO9pg> (The public lecture by Guy Standing on November 2, 2011)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jJt-5i_dls (uploaded on 9 February 2012)

Books in Turkish:

Bora, Tanıl; Bora, Aksu; Erdoğan, Necmi; Üstün, İlknur (2011) “*Boşuna mı Okuduk?*” *Türkiye’de Beyaz Yakalı İşsizliği*, İletişim Yayınları, Ankara.

Durak, Yasin (2013) *Emeğin Tevekkülü Konya’da İşçi-İşveren İlişkileri ve Dindarlık*, İletişim Yayınları, Ankara.

Yücesan-Özdemir, Gamze (2014) *İnatçı Köstebek: Çağrı Merkezlerinde Gençlik, Sınıf ve Direniş*, Yordam Yayınları: Ankara.