MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
Department of Political Science and Public Administration
Fall 2020
ADM 3103 – POLITICAL PARTICIPATION & ELECTORAL SYSTEMS
Tuesday 9:40-12:30

CONTACT INFORMATION
Instructor: Assoc.Prof. Kürşat Çınar
Email: kursatc@metu.edu.tr
Office Hours: By appointment via email.

Course Description and Objectives
This course surveys the literature on political participation and electoral systems. After briefly recapping the universe of representation theories and electoral systems in the world, we will delve into the multiple strands of the literature on voting theories. We will then turn to political parties and political regimes, both of which are crucial to understand theories of political participation. We will finally focus on alternative notions and forms of political participation in today’s world, including polities and politics in the age of populism, the rise of social movements and civil society in the world, and old and new forms of citizenship.

All in all, the course is expected to equip students with both the classical and contemporary studies of political participation. We will dovetail theoretical readings with empirical pieces so as to better get the sense of the course material. There are many weeks in which we will focus on the Turkish case (most with a comparative angle) to increase the immersion of the students to the course material. At the end of the course, given that the students put sufficient effort to the course, the students are expected to have a much better understanding of political participation and electoral systems, both theoretically and empirically.

Course Material
All of the readings in the course outline are compulsory readings for the classes and they are available on OdtuClass. I will also post weekly interactive Powerpoint presentations on OdtuClass before our sessions so that you can better grasp the course material.

General Rules
Students are encouraged to read the general rules and regulations at Middle East Technical University at http://oidb.metu.edu.tr/orta-dogu-teknik-universitesi-lisans-egitim-ogretim-yonetmeligi-0, covering a variety of important issues such as academic integrity, procedures about assessments of students’ performances, make-up exams etc.

My task throughout the semester is to guide you in the process of research and learning. I am here to provide instruction and assistance to help you achieve the course goals outlined above. I will be available in office hours every week and by individual appointment if you have a conflict with office hours. You should also feel free to send me an email at any time should you have questions about the course.
All of the work you do in this course is expected to be your own. Absolutely no cheating or plagiarism (using someone else’s words or ideas without proper citation) will be tolerated. Any cases of cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the university committee on academic misconduct and handled according to the University policy. For questions about the University policy, see the aforementioned Rules and Regulations website http://oidb.metu.edu.tr/sites/oidb.metu.edu.tr/files/ODTU%20AkademikDurustluk-Kilavuzu-7.3.2016.son_.pdf and http://oidb.metu.edu.tr/sites/oidb.metu.edu.tr/files/ODTU%20Sinav%20Kuralari-Kilavuzu-7.4.2016.son_.pdf.

Course Requirements and Grading

Informed, active participation is a requirement of the course. This means that you need to come to class in time, do the readings in advance and contribute to class discussions. Attendance and participation is also essential for your success in this class because you will also be tested on material covered in class, in addition to assigned readings.

There will be two midterms and a final exam in this class. Please note that the make-up exams for the midterm and final examination will be strictly conducted under the eligibility rules specified by Middle East Technical University. There will be no opportunity to write a make-up exam after the formal make-up exam has taken place. Requests for a make-up exam for any of these written examination components should be submitted (with the required documentation within two working days of the ending of the official excuse) to the attention of the instructor and the Political Science and Public Administration Department Office.

The final grade for the course will be calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Total Contribution</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>60 (30 percent each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>40 percent</td>
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GRADE SCALE

| 90-100 AA  | 80-84 BB | 70-74 CC | 60-64 DD | 50-59 FD | 0-49 FF |
| 85-89 BA   | 75-79 CB | 65-69 DC | 50-59 FD | 0-49 FF |
COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: Meeting and Course Introduction

Weeks 2-3: A Brief Introduction/Recap to the Theories of Representation, Elections & Voting


--- MAJOR THEORIES OF VOTING ---

Week 4: Theories of Voting – Part I: Economic Voting


Week 5: Theories of Voting – Part II: Ideological/Issue Voting & Part III: Strategic Voting


Week 6: Midterm I.

--- POLITICAL PARTIES & POLITICAL REGIMES ---

Week 7: Political Parties


Week 8: Political Regimes I


Week 9: Political Regimes II


**Week 10: Midterm II.**

--- ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT & PARTICIPATION IN TODAY’S WORLD---

**Week 11. Populism**


**Week 12. Civil Society**


**Week 13. Social Movements**


**Week 14. Citizenship and National Membership**


