POLS310: TURKEY AND ITS NEIGHBOURS

2018

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Phone: 4798360

Lectures

Monday: 3.00 - 3.50pm
Thursday: 11.00 - 12.50pm

Office Hours (Arts 4N1) - Monday: 10.00am – 12.00pm
COURSE DESCRIPTION

The area of Asia Minor, the Balkans, and the Caucasus is the crossroads of Europe and Asia, with the Turkish republic as its core and largest modern state. Modern Turkey is the principal successor state of the Ottoman and Byzantine empires, two of the major centres of civilisation in world history. The course considers the politics and society of contemporary Turkey. It explores the complexities and tensions at the meeting-point of the West and the Middle East, Islam and Eastern Christianity, and a variety of ethnic identities – Turks, Greeks, Armenians, Kurds, Arabs and more. The main focus is on Turkey’s affairs, but the course also reviews the legacy of the two great empires across a wider territory, and surveys contemporary international relations in this wider territory.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course you should have:

- An understanding of the political implications of social, ethnic, and religious diversity in one of the great geopolitical fracture zones of the contemporary world
- An appreciation of the imprint of the past on the present in a region with a long and dramatic history
- An insight into the characteristics and dilemmas of modern Turkey, one of the world’s prominent “regional powers”, a dynamic emerging economy, and a country poised between different civilisations
ASSESSMENT

Assessment comprises two class tests worth 30% each, and an essay worth 40%.

Two Class Tests (30% each)

There will be class tests under closed-book conditions in the 23 April and 31 May lecture slots. The first test will cover background topics and Turkey’s domestic affairs. The second test will cover Turkey’s foreign policy and international relations. In each test, you will need to write an examination style answer in response to any one out of three questions.

Essay (40%)

Your essay should answer the question as set and should not be a compilation of “everything I know” that might be vaguely related to the topic. Your essay should comprise:

(a) An introduction briefly explaining your approach and major themes/arguments being used to address the question (in other words, your “road map”)

(b) A main body of coherent interconnected themes exploring various possibilities inherent in the question, backed by concrete exemplification

(c) A conclusion presenting an integrated summary of your argument and evidence, highlighting the two or three most important features of your answer.

Your arguments and exemplification should cite relevant sources. For referencing styles, consult http://www.otago.ac.nz/library/quicklinks/citation/. At the end of the essay you must provide a bibliography of sources that you have used in your essay. For notes and bibliography, you may use EITHER the Chicago OR Harvard referencing style, but NOT a mixture.
Your composition must be your own original work. Copying or close paraphrasing from the sources or other student essays is plagiarism, and will be penalised.

Essay topics

Assess Recep Tayyip Erdoğan as prime minister and president of Turkey, 2003-2018.

OR
Evaluate the contributions of Mustafa Kemal ( Atatürk ) to the creation and character of the modern Turkish republic.

OR
Compare Turkish-American relations since 2011 with Turkish-Russian relations in the same period.

OR
Critically review the Turkish government’s policies and behaviour regarding northern Syria since 2012.

Your essay “word limit” is 2,500 words.

Readings
Books on Turkey may be found under DR, JQ, and BP in the library. Check the journals Turkish Studies and Insight Turkey, for which we have electronic access. Visit the Politics subject guide on the library web site – you can use journal article search engines such as Academic Search Complete, JSTOR, IBSS, ProQuest Central, and Historical Abstracts, as well as news/commentary databases such as Factiva. On the Internet, Hürriyet Daily News and Al-Monitor also provide useful commentaries. Check out the Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Brookings, and Open Democracy websites.
Hand-in date and place
All essays must be submitted by **12pm, Friday 18 May 2018**. You should put your essays into the 300-level box, fourth floor foyer, Burns Building. Late work for which an extension or exemption has not been obtained will **NOT be accepted**.

Criteria for assessment
Grading will reflect performance in relation to the following criteria:

- Identification and exploration of possibilities inherent in the essay
- Appropriate use of a range of sources
- Ability to summarise evidence, arguments, and debates
- Ability to support argument with appropriate exemplification
- Logical organisation of material
- Evidence of care in preparation
- Clarity and correctness of writing
- Attention to conventions of referencing

If you wish clarification of your grade in addition to the commentary on your essay, you should contact me. Reconsideration of grades is possible and would mean another staff member reading the work – it should **NOT** be considered a normal procedure.

Meaning of grades
The grades awarded have the following meanings:

- **A+**: Outstanding (fulfils criteria to an unusually high standard)
- **A**: Excellent (fulfils criteria to a very high standard consistently)
- **A-**: Verge on excellent (fulfils criteria to a high standard, but not consistently)
- **B+**: Very good (fulfils most criteria to a good standard)
- **B**: Good (fulfils most criteria to a good standard)
- **B-**: Very reasonable (fulfils most criteria to a good standard, but not consistently)
- **C+**: Reasonable (fulfils some criteria to a competent standard)
- **C**: Fair (fulfils some criteria to a competent standard, but not consistently)
- **C-**: Marginally passable (fulfils some criteria to an adequate standard)
- **D+**: Inadequate (fails to fulfil enough criteria to an adequate standard)

The University of Otago grade schedule allows for greater degrees of inadequacy.
COURSE SUMMARY

Lecture Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<td>26 February</td>
<td>Signposts for modern Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 March</td>
<td>The AKP government, 2002-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 March</td>
<td>The Byzantine past</td>
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<td>8 March</td>
<td>The Ottoman past</td>
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<td>Atatürk DVD</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>The Ottomans and Europe</td>
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<td>15 March</td>
<td>Ottoman Fall and Kemalist Turkey</td>
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<td>Atatürk DVD</td>
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<td>19 March</td>
<td>Turkey After Atatürk, 1938-1982</td>
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<td>22 March</td>
<td>Turkish political system, 1982-2002</td>
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<td>26 March</td>
<td>Army in politics/July 2016 failed coup</td>
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<td>9 April</td>
<td>Islam in politics: Sunnis and Alevis</td>
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<td>12 April</td>
<td>Islam in politics: AKP and the Gülenists</td>
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<td>16 April</td>
<td>The Kurdish Question</td>
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<td>23 April</td>
<td>Test</td>
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<td>26 April</td>
<td>The AKP and foreign policy</td>
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<td>30 April</td>
<td>Turkey and the United States</td>
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<td>3 May</td>
<td>Turkey, Russia, and the Caucasus</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>7 May</td>
<td>Turkey and the European Union</td>
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<td>10 May</td>
<td>Turkey and the Middle East I</td>
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<td>14 May</td>
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<td>18 May</td>
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<td>21 May</td>
<td>Turkey and Greece</td>
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<td>24 May</td>
<td>Turkey and the Cyprus issue</td>
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<td>28 May</td>
<td>Revision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 May</td>
<td>Test</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**References**

**Highly Recommended**


**Scott, Alev**, *Turkish Awakening: A Personal Discovery of Modern Turkey* (London: Faber, 2nd edition, 2014)

**Tuğal, Cihan**, *The Fall of the Turkish Model: How the Arab Uprisings Brought Down Islamic Liberalism* (London: Verso, 2016)


**Hale, William**, *Turkish Foreign Policy since 1774 3rd Edition* (London: Routledge, 2013)

**Altunışık, Meliha, and Tür, Özlem**, *Turkey: Challenges of Continuity and Change* (New York: Routledge, 2005)

**Zanotti, Jim, and Thomas, Clayton**, (Congressional Research Service). *Turkey: Background and U.S. Relations in Brief*, March 21, 2017  
(https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R44000.pdf)
Hale, William and Özbudun, Ergun, Islamism, Democracy and Liberalism in Turkey: The Case of the AKP (Abingdon, UK: Routledge, 2010)

Anthology of top articles and book chapters up to 2008
Vol. I: Historical Heritage of Politics in Modern Turkey
Vol. II: Political Institutions and Processes
Vol. III: Modern Turkey’s Foreign Policy
Vol. IV: Major Issues and Themes in Contemporary Turkish Politics

Other journal articles
I shall recommend articles from recent issues of Turkish Studies, Insight Turkey and other journals in information for individual course topics.

Tutorials
I shall use the second hour on Thursdays for Q and A, current affairs analysis, discussion of assigned journal articles, and DVD screenings. The material will round out the lecture topics and will be directly relevant to the course assessments.
Student Information

THIS IS IMPORTANT

You will find there is a lot of helpful information and resources on the Department’s website. In particular, we require you to check out the section called ‘Essential Student Information’. You’ll find it here: [http://www.otago.ac.nz/politics/study/current-students](http://www.otago.ac.nz/politics/study/current-students). This page provides a number of useful resources such as the Study and Style Guide and the Plagiarism Declaration Form you must attach to your assignments. It supplies detailed information on assessment and student support. In particular, it contains guidance on the topics of plagiarism and deadlines, both of which can incur penalties if not heeded. This also is where you will find instructions for making online discussion posts and submitting assignments electronically if required, as well as guidance on using Otago Connect and Blackboard. So, it is very important you make yourself familiar with this material. Our assumption is that you have read it.

GETTING INFORMATION AND ASKING QUESTIONS

Information about the course is communicated to you through the course outline, through emails sent to your student email address, and through lectures and tutorials. It is your responsibility to ensure that you read the course outline, attend the lectures and tutorials, and read your emails.

STUDENT EMAIL

The University’s online learning tools use your student email address to communicate with you. If you do not wish to use this address, you should forward all incoming emails to your preferred email address. Instructions on how to do this can be found on the ITS FAQ webpage.

If you choose to use your student email address for all correspondence related to the online learning tools which your course uses (the default) then it is essential that you check your student email address regularly.

BLACKBOARD
Blackboard is the learning management system used at the University of Otago. It allows lecturers to upload lecture notes, reading lists, assessment information and other course-related material to each paper's Blackboard site so that students may access them. It may also hold things such as additional literary resources, videoconference podcasts, audioconference podcasts, Otago Connect recordings and facilities for online discussion. It also contains functions that enables students and teachers to interact via class announcements, email, discussion boards and tools used for assessing students, such as on-line tests and assignment submission.

To access Blackboard go to http://blackboard.otago.ac.nz, login using your University Username and Password. For further help go to the ITS Frequently Asked Questions

If you experience any difficulties using Blackboard, contact the ITS Service Desk on 0800 479888 (8.30am to 9.00pm Monday to Friday, 10:00am to 5:00pm Weekends) or email its.servicedesk@otago.ac.nz

REFERENCING SYSTEM
The department does not have a specific referencing style, the emphasis is on the consistent application of the chosen style selected by the student. For recommended referencing styles please go to http://www.otago.ac.nz/politics/study/current-students/index.html#assessment and scroll down to Style and Formatting.

SUBMITTING WRITTEN WORK
All assignments shall be submitted electronically via the ‘Assignment’ feature on Blackboard by noon on the due dates notified. All hard copies need to be submitted to the appropriate level box on the 4th floor of the Arts Building. For full instructions about how to submit assignments electronically via Blackboard as well as other important information on plagiarism, grading, and deadlines, please see the 'Essential Student Information' web page.

RETURN OF MARKED WORK
Assignments will be handed back in tutorials or lectures in the first instance. After that they will be available for collection from Politics reception (room 4C12, 4th floor, Arts Building) between 9.00 – 10.00am or 1.30 – 2.30pm Monday to Friday.
PLEASE NOTE: Assignments/exams will only be available for collection during these hours.

PLAGIARISM

All Assignments submitted in the Department of Politics must be prefaced with a student Plagiarism Declaration Form. These forms can be downloaded from the Department website http://www.otago.ac.nz/politics/index.html under Quick links.

It is also on the Blackboard site for this course. Students should make sure that all submitted work is their own. Plagiarism is a form of dishonest practice. Many students seem to be unsure of what plagiarism is, or why it is penalised heavily. Here is a definition. According to the Senate of the University of Otago: “Plagiarism is defined as copying or paraphrasing another’s work, whether intentionally or otherwise, and presenting it as one’s own (approved University Council, December 2004). In practice, this means plagiarism includes any attempt in any piece of submitted work (e.g. an assignment or test) to present one’s own work as the work of another (whether of another student or a published authority).”

The Penalty for Plagiarism

Any student found responsible for plagiarism in any piece of work submitted for assessment shall be subject to the University’s dishonest practice regulations which may result in various penalties, including forfeiture of marks for the piece of work submitted, a zero grade for the paper, or in extreme cases exclusion from the University. Students may be required to submit electronic versions of assignments. These will be subject to a plagiarism check.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity means being honest in your studying and assessments. It is the basis for ethical decision-making and behaviour in an academic context. Academic integrity is informed by the values of honesty, trust, responsibility, fairness, respect and courage. Students are expected to be aware of, and act in accordance with, the University’s Academic Integrity Policy.
Academic Misconduct, such as plagiarism or cheating, is a breach of Academic Integrity and is taken very seriously by the University. Types of misconduct include plagiarism, copying, unauthorised collaboration, taking unauthorised material into a test or exam, impersonation, and assisting someone else’s misconduct. A more extensive list of the types of academic misconduct and associated processes and penalties is available in the University’s Student Academic Misconduct Procedures.

It is your responsibility to be aware of and use acceptable academic practices when completing your assessments. To access the information in the Academic Integrity Policy and learn more, please visit the University’s Academic Integrity website at www.otago.ac.nz/study/academicintegrity or ask at the Student Learning Centre or Library. If you have any questions, ask your lecturer.

Academic Integrity Policy -
http://www.otago.ac.nz/administration/policies/otago116838.html

Student Academic Misconduct Procedures -
http://www.otago.ac.nz/administration/policies/otago116850.html

STUDENT SUPPORT
The ‘Essential Student Information' link on the Department of Politics web page provides helpful information on how to access the University Library’s resources, as well as a guide to the support services available to students at the University of Otago, including the Student Learning Centre and Disability Support.

For all administrative enquiries, please contact:
Malle Whitcombe, Assistant Administrator for Politics.
Email: politics@otago.ac.nz    Phone: 03 479 8663

Subject Librarian (Humanities)
Christopher Seay
Office: Central Library: meetings by appointment only.
Phone: 479 8976    Email: christopher.seay@otago.ac.nz
We recommend that you contact the Department as soon as possible if you have any problems participating in the course or accessing resources. Please remember to check your University email account regularly for updates and announcements.

**Politics Department Policies**

**ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION**
All assessments must be submitted through the appropriate box (100-, 200-, 300- or 400-level) in the 4th floor lobby (north). Students must keep a copy of their essay.

A coversheet for attaching to the front of your essays is available on Blackboard, and under the forms section of the departmental website. Ensure that you put your name, student number, paper code, and tutor’s name (if appropriate) on the front page of your assignments and essays.

Some papers may have a customised coversheet which you will be required to use instead of the generic department version. Please refer to your course outline prior to submitting your assignments.

**EXTENSIONS**
Essays must be handed in by the due date unless an extension has been granted by the lecturer in charge of the paper.

The Extension Request form can be downloaded from the Politics webpage, or may be available on Blackboard. Completed forms must be emailed to the Department at politics@otago.ac.nz in advance of the assignment due date. No retrospective application will be accepted except in the case of serious medical condition, for which a medical certificate is required.

Extensions will be granted only for the following cases:
1. Ill-health
2. Bereavement
3. Personal difficulties of a serious nature
4. Provincial or national representative activities
5. Job interviews outside Dunedin

Nothing else (such as pressure of other university work) will be accepted as a legitimate reason for extensions. Computer problems do not constitute an exceptional circumstance unless it is an officially notified failure of University equipment.

Your application for an extension must be accompanied by evidence:
1. Medical certificate for ill-health
2. Documentary evidence for bereavement
3. Written statement in support of your application from another university officer for personal difficulties of a serious nature
4. Documentary evidence for provincial or national representative activities

No other evidence will be accepted. The evidence must be submitted to the Department at politics@otago.ac.nz, at the same time as, or within three working days after, the application for an extension either in hardcopy or as an email attachment of scanned image.

Applications with evidence does not guarantee the grant of extensions. The maximum length of an extension is ONE WEEK, i.e. five working days (except the case of serious medical conditions). Work that is more than one week late without an extension may be commented on but will not be graded.

QUESTIONS
For general inquiries about the course, please write to the course co-ordinator. Please do not write about things that you can easily find out yourself from this coursebook, Blackboard, eVision, or the departmental noticeboard (such as tutorial locations.)

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES
You will be asked to nominate class representatives who will meet with the Head of Department to provide feedback on each course. This is an important role which is valued by the department and can be added to the service section of your CV. OUSA provide training and resources.
CONCERNS ABOUT THE COURSE
We hope you will feel comfortable coming to talk to us if you have a concern about the course. The Course Co-ordinator will be happy to discuss any concerns you may have. Alternatively, you can report your concerns to the Class Representative who will follow up with departmental staff. If, after making approaches via these channels, you do not feel that your concerns have been addressed, there are University channels that may aid resolution. For further advice or more information on these, contact the departmental administrator or head of department.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT
Any student should feel free to approach their tutor or lecturer, if they are having any problems or concerns with a course.

1. Student Learning Centre
The Student Learning Centre at the University of Otago provides support for students in reading, writing, study skills, note taking and much more. They even provide individual essay consultations and can assist with your grammar and essay planning. Check their website for information and contacts:
http://hedc.otago.ac.nz/hedc/sld.html

2. Support for International Students
The Department of Politics encourages international students to seek support if they are having difficulties with their studies or meeting other challenges while they are a student at Otago. The Department of Politics contact is Lena Tan, politics@otago.ac.nz

Students can also contact International Student Support:
Telephone: 479 8344
Email: international.support@otago.ac.nz
Website: www.otago.ac.nz/international
Location: Archway West Building
3. Maori and Pacific Students

Humanities Division contacts:

Ana Rangi is the Kaiāwhina Māori – Māori Student Support Officer for the Division of Humanities. She is of Ngāti Porou/Ngāti Kahungunu/Whakatōhea/Ngāti Kuia/Ngāti Koata descent, and originally from Christchurch. Her contact details are: Room 5C9, 5th Floor, Te Whare Kete Aronui (Arts Building). Email: ana.rangi@otago.ac.nz Tel: 479 8681

Inano Walter is the Pacific Islands Students' Support Officer for the Division of Humanities. Her hours for working with students are Tuesday to Thursday 9.30 am to 2.30 pm. Her contact details are: Room 5C9a, 5th Floor, Arts Building. Email: pacificsupport.humanities@otago.ac.nz Tel: 479 9616

4. Disability support

If you are experiencing difficulty with your studies due to a disability, temporary or permanent impairment, injury, chronic illness or deafness, you may contact, in confidence, the department’s support person, or the University support staff (contacts below) to discuss adaptations in teaching and learning strategies and resources that may be helpful.

University Contact: Disability Information and Support
Email: disabilities@otago.ac.nz
Phone: 479 8235
Website: http://www.otago.ac.nz/disabilities

Library Search Video Tutorial
This 3 minute video covers the basics
https://unitube.otago.ac.nz/view?m=qlU154rkNHj

Self Help resources
This guide offers tips and techniques in developing independent research & information skills. http://otago.libguides.com/selfhelp
Library Website
The Library website provides online access to resources and services, including the Catalogue, Library Search, Article Databases, Group Room Bookings, Hours, Library Locations, Library News, New Books, Exam Papers, Subject Guides, and more!
Library Website: http://www.otago.ac.nz/library

Politics Subject Guides
These guides will help you find information for your assignments including articles, books, websites and more! http://otago.libguides.com/politics

Ask a Question
Library staff at any Lending and idesk are available Monday to Friday, 9am to 6pm.
Try these people first to answer any questions you might have about using the Library and its resources.
Phone: 64 3 479 8910
Email: ask.library@otago.ac.nz

DISCLAIMER
While every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in this document is accurate, it is subject to change. Changes will be notified in class and via Blackboard. Students are encouraged to check Blackboard regularly. It is the student’s responsibility to be informed.