

NES 379: *The Ottoman Turkish Empire* **1300-1924**

A survey of Ottoman history noting its expansion into Europe and the Middle East and its political and social institutions.

INTRODUCTION:

This introductory course in Ottoman history will cover the period from 1300 to 1924. It will examine the origins of Turkic peoples from their origins in Central and Inner Asia, their connection to the Mongols, and their eventual migration to Anatolia.

The course will explore Ottoman policies towards their subject peoples, their methods of conquest and administration, and the culture this military empire created. We will also examine the relationship the Ottomans had with European powers and the reforms they initiated in an effort to stay competitive with the West. The course ends after the close of World War I when the Ottoman Empire dissolved under the onslaught of new social and political ideas embodied by the Young Turks.

READING ASSIGNMENTS:

The assigned books are all paperback printings. I have included the chapter numbers in case you have a different edition from the ones used to compile the reading assignments.

Required Readings:

Cleveland, William L. *A History of the Modern Middle East*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1994.

Manz, Beatrice Forbes. *The Rise and Rule of Tamerlane* Cambridge Studies in Islamic Civilization, ed. Josef van Ess et al. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989, 1999.

McCarthy, Justin. *The Ottoman Turks: An Introductory History to 1923*. New York: Addison Wesley Longman Inc., 1997.

Morgan, David. *The Mongols*. The Peoples of Europe, ed. James Campbell and Barry Cunliffe. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Publishers Inc., 1986, 1990.

Nicol, Donald M. *The Byzantine Lady: Ten Portraits, 1250-1500*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1994.

Zürcher, E. J. *Turkey: A Modern History*. New revised & corrected ed. London: I. B. Tauris & Co. Ltd. Publishers, 1998.

Suggested Readings:

The required texts all have useful bibliographies with numerous books that provide in-depth information on a variety of relevant subjects.

EXAMS AND GRADING:

The final grade will be based on three reading assignments, two exams, and one final. The reading assignments will be worth 20 points each. The two exams have a value of 100 points each, while the final will be worth 140 points.

Each exam will consist of:

three essay questions of which the student answers one;

10 multiple choice questions;

10 TRUE/FALSE questions.

The time allotted for each exam will be approximately one hour.

The final will be comprehensive and contain:

four essay questions of which the student answers two;

15 multiple choice questions;

15 TRUE/FALSE questions;

5 short identifications.

The final will take up to a maximum of two hours.

Please feel free to contact me at any point if questions pertaining to the material arise.