

**European University Viadrina
Master Program in European Studies**

Istanbul in Anthropological Perspective

19 October – 11 November 2011

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Course Description

This course focuses on the demographic, social, and cultural transformations that Istanbul underwent during the 20th century, considering the city both as it has been experienced and as viewed from a more distanced “sociological” perspective. Readings are selected from a variety of disciplines with the goal of more fully grasping what Istanbul was during this period of rapid and unprecedented change.

Course requirements

Students are expected to attend class and participate in class discussions, make class presentations on topics to be specified, and write a take-home (out of class) final examination.

Topics and Readings

1. Overview of Issues and Approach (19.10)

Murat Gül, “The demise of classical Istanbul” in M. Gül, *The Emergence of Modern Istanbul: Transformation and Modernisation of a City*. Tauris Academic Studies, 2009.

Alan Duben, “The fall and rise of Istanbul,” unpublished paper presented at the *European Association for Urban History* conference, September 2006

Çağlar Keyder, “Istanbul in the twenty-first century” in D. Göktürk, *et al.*, *Orienteering Istanbul*. Routledge, 2010. (R)

Aziz Nesin reading (to be provided)

Recommended background reading: Eric J. Zürcher, *Turkey: A Modern History*. London: I.B. Taurus: 2005, esp. Parts II and III

2. An Urban Geography of Istanbul: Socio-Economic Structures on the Ground (21.10)

Murat Güvenç and Oğuz Işık, “A metropolis at the crossroads: the changing social geography of Istanbul under the impact of globalization” in P. Marcuse and R. van Kempen, eds., *The Partitioning of Urban Space*. Oxford University Press, 2002.

Çağlar Keyder, “The setting” in Ç. Keyder, *Istanbul: Between the Global and the Local*. Boston: Rowman and Littlefield, 1999.

Selections from *Istanbul: City of Intersections*. Urban Age, 2009

3. Population: Decline, Growth and Movement (26.10)

Duben and Behar, selections from “City, Mahalle, Incomes and Subsistence” pp.23-28 a in A. Duben and C. Behar, *Istanbul Households: Marriage, Family, and Fertility 1880-1940*. Cambridge University Press, 1991.

Selections on Istanbul from *The Population of Turkey 1923 – 1994*, State Institute of Statistics (SIS), 1995 pp. 20-21, 45-46, 53-59.

Murat Güvenç, “Turkey’s demographic and economic geography: an overview” *Südosteuropa Mittelingen*, 6 (2004)

Recommended: Duben and Behar, “Fertility and birth control: Istanbul’s particularities” in Duben and Behar, *op. cit.*; Frederic C. Shorter, “Turkish population in the great depression” *New Perspectives on Turkey*, 12 (fall 2000)

4. A City of Families (28.10)

Gülbin Gökçay and Frederic Shorter, “Who lives with whom in Istanbul” *New Perspectives on Turkey*. 9 (1993)

Alan Duben, “Twentieth century Istanbul: households, families, demographic realities and Ordinary Lives” (English version of “20. yüzyılda İstanbul: haneler, aileler ve demografik gerçekler”, in *Eski İstanbullular, Yeni İstanbullular*. Osmanlı Bankası Arşiv ve Araştırma Merkezi, 2009.)

Orhan Pamuk, “The photographs in the dark museum house” (ch. 2) in Orhan Pamuk, *Istanbul: Memories of a City*. Faber and Faber, 2005.

Recommended: Alan Duben, “The significance of family and kinship in urban Turkey” in Ç. Kağıtçıbaşı, ed., *Sex Roles, Family and Community in Turkey*. Bloomington: Indiana University Turkish Studies, 1982.

5. Social Differentiation, Class, Ethnicity-Religion (2/11)

Çağlar Keyder, “Looking for the missing bourgeoisie” (ch 4) in *State and Class in Turkey: A Study in Capitalist Development*, London: Verso, 1987.

Alan Duben, “Class and community in urban Turkey” in C.A.O. van Nieuvenhuijze, ed., *Commoners, Climbers and Notables: A Sampler of Studies of Social Ranking in the Middle East*. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1977.

Çağlar Keyder, “Globalization and social exclusion in Istanbul” *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 29 (2005).

Ayşe Öncü, “Istanbulites and others: the cultural cosmology of being in the middle class in the era of globalism” in Keyder, *op. cit.*

Amy Mills, “The Turkish nation in the urban landscape: cultural geographies of a nationalizing city” in Mills, *Streets of Memory: Landscape, Tolerance, and National Identity in Istanbul*. University of Georgia Press, 2010.

Orhan Pamuk, “Conquest or decline: the Turkification of Constantinople” in Pamuk, *op. cit.*

6. Neighborhood and Community (4.11)

Duben and Behar, selections from ch. 2 “*Mahalle*” pp. 29-35 in Duben and Behar, *op. cit.*; Orhan Pamuk, “The melancholy of ruins: Tanpınar and Yahya Kemal in the city’s poor neighborhoods” (ch. 26), “The picturesque and the outlying neighborhoods” (ch. 27), “To be unhappy is to hate oneself and one’s city (ch. 34) in Pamuk, *op. cit.*

Sema Erder, “Where do you hail from? Localism and networks in Istanbul” in Keyder, *op. cit.*

7. Land, Housing, Gentrification: Connecting the Old and the New (9.11)

Çağlar Keyder, “The housing market from informal to global” in Keyder, *op.cit.*

Özlem Ünsal and Tuna Kuyucu, “Challenging the neoliberal urban regime: regeneration and resistance in Başibüyük and Tarlabası” in Göktürk *et al.*, *Orienteering Istanbul: Cultural Capital of Europe?* Routledge, 2010.

Ayfer Bartu, “Who owns the old quarters? Rewriting histories in a global era” in Keyder, *op. cit.*

Zeynep Çelik, “Urban Preservation as Theme Park: The Case of Soğukcesme Street” in Z. Çelik, Diane Favro and Richard Ingersoll, eds. *Streets: Critical Perspectives on Public Spaces*. University of California Press, 1995.

Recommended: Ayşe Buğra, “The immoral economy of housing in Turkey” *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 22 (1998).

8. Identities: Istanbul East/West, Male/Female, Islamist/Secular (11.11)

Duben and Behar, “Conclusion” in *Istanbul Households*, *op. cit.*

Orhan Pamuk, “Black and white” (ch. 5), “*Hüzün*” (ch.10), “Four lonely melancholy writers” (ch.11), Pamuk, *op. cit.*

Ayşe Saktanber, “Formation of a middle-class ethos and its quotidian: revitalizing Islam in urban Turkey” in A. Öncü and P.Weyland, *op.cit.*

Yael Navaro-Yasin, “The market for identities: secularism. Islamism, commodities” in Kandiyoti and Saktanber, eds., *Fragments of Culture: The Everyday of Modern Turkey*. London: I.B. Taurus, 2002.

Amy Mills, “Conclusion: Nostalgia for cosmopolitanism in Istanbul” in Mills, *op.cit.*