This is an introductory course exploring the intersections of law and society around selected themes. Major lines of socio-legal inquiry will be introduced to capture the place of legality in the history of modern Turkey.

The basic requirements of the course are:

1) (Attendance and) participation in class discussions (20%)
2) Six short response papers (30 %)
3) A final research paper (50%)

Schedule

1- October 22- Introduction


2- November 5- Rationality, Legitimacy, Legality


3- November 12- Re-organizing the Ottoman Legal Domain

4- November 19- Imperial Powers and (Semi?) Peripheral Legal Formations


Turan Kayaoğlu (2010) Legal Imperialism: Sovereignty and Extraterritoriality in Japan, the Ottoman Empire and China (Cambridge), pp. 1-65


Mostafa Minawi (2020) “International Law and the Precarity of Ottoman Sovereignty in Africa at the End of the Nineteenth Century”, The International History Review (published online)

5- The Deeper Works of Law? (November 26)


Talal Asad (2003) Formations of the Secular: Christianity, Islam, Modernity (Stanford), Ch. 7 - Reconfiguration of Law and Ethics in Colonial Egypt (pp. 205-256)

Timothy Mitchell (2002) Rule of Experts: Egypt, Technopolitics, Modernity (University of California Press), Ch. 2 - Principles True in Every Country (pp. 54-79)

6- Marxism, Law and Property (December 3-10)

Karl Marx, Debates on the Law on the Theft of Wood

Karl Marx, On the Jewish Question

Karl Marx, The Secret of Primitive Accumulation


7- **Sovereignty, Property, Violence: Foundations? (December 17)**


Üğur Ümit Üngör and Mehmet Polatel (2011) Confiscation and Destruction: The Young Turk Seizure of Armenian Property, Chs. 2-3- "Ideological Foundations: Constructing the Turkish Economy” & "Legal Foundations: Using the Justice System for Injustice" (15-60)


8- **Constitutionalism in the Ottoman Empire and Beyond (December 24)**

Andreas Kalyvas (2008) "Popular Sovereignty, Democracy and the Constituent Power" Constellations (v. 12, n. 2, pp. 223-244)

Nader Sohrabi (2011) Revolution and Constitutionalism in the Ottoman Empire and Iran (Cambridge), Chs. 1-2


One more article TBA

9- **“Constituting” the Republic (December 31- January 7)**

Ruth Miller (2005) Legislating Authority: Sin and Crime in the Ottoman Empire and Turkey (Routledge)


10- The Republican Legal Complex (January 14)

Ceren Belge (2006) “Friends of the Court: The Republican Alliance and the Selective Activism of the Constitutional Court of Turkey” Law and Society Review, 40(3)

Dicle Koğacıoğlu (2012) "Hukukçu Otobiyografileri ile 12 Eylül Yasallığının Dinamiklerini Düşünmek" European Journal of Turkish Studies (v. 15)

More articles TBA

11- Authoritarian Present? (January 21)

