Boğaziçi University
ATA 531
Prof. Şevket Pamuk
Fall 2019

Ataturk Institute of Modern Turkish History
Economic and Social History of Turkey since 1820

This course will offer a survey of the economic and social history of Turkey from the early nineteenth century until 2010. For each period, developments in Europe and the world will also be examined to some extent in order to provide a comparative perspective.

The emphasis will be on economic growth, human development and the role of institutions as a major explanation for economic growth and human development.

For the nineteenth century, two themes are at the center: European economic expansion and the process of Reform before and after Tanzimat.

For the twentieth century or Republican era, three distinct periods are identified: the interwar years, post-WWII expansion and the era of globalization since 1980. In each period, the course will emphasize the interaction between domestic and international forces in the shaping of institutions and and the course of economic development. Social change will be examined in connection with the economic.

The basic requirements of the course are:

i) regular attendance and participation in classroom discussion, (20 percent of the course grade) and

ii) Written assignments whose format will be discussed in the first meeting of the course.

Required readings for the course are indicated below with an (*). All other material are recommended but optional.

Students are expected to do each week's reading before class. A package including all required readings will be available for sale from (DOGA) photocopy shop.

* The following book will also be available:

Ş. Pamuk, Uneven Centuries: Turkey’s Economic History since 1820, Princeton University Press, November 2018.
I - Introduction to Some Basic Concepts: Economic Growth,
Human Development and Institutions

* Pamuk, Uneven Centuries, Chapter 1, pp. 1-21.

II - The Industrial Revolution and the Ottoman Empire (1 week)

* Pamuk, Uneven Centuries, Chaps 2 and 3, pp. 22-36 and 55-89.


(optional) İlber Ortaylı, İmparatorluğun En Uzun Yüzyılı, 1983, Bölümler I-III, pp. 7-87
(read Yapp below if you can not read Turkish).

M. E. Yapp, The Making of the Modern Middle East, 1792-1923, Chapters 1 and 2, pp. 1-96.

III - Reform in the Ottoman Empire (1 week)


* Pamuk, Uneven Centuries, Chapter 4, pp.

(optional) İ. Ortaylı, İmparatorluğun En Uzun Yüzyılı, Bölümler IV-VII, s. 88-193.
(read Yapp below if you can not read Turkish).


IV - Globalization, Dependence and Economic Growth in the 19th Century (1 week)

* Pamuk, Uneven Centuries, Chaps 5 and 6, pp. 90-111 and 112-152.

* Çağlar Keyder, E. Özveren and D. Quataert, "Port Cities in the Ottoman Empire", Review, Fernand Braudel Center, 1993, pp. 519-58.
V- Population and Human Development from the Ottoman era to the Republic (1 week)

* Pamuk, Uneven Centuries, pp. 36-54, 152-55, 200-03, 239-44, 294-302.


VI- Young Turks and the War (1 week)

* Pamuk, Uneven Centuries, Chapter 7, pp. 156-67.

Ç. Keyder, State and Class in Turkey, Chapters 3 and 4, pp. 49-90.


* İlhan Tekeli and Selim İlkın, "Osmanlı İmparatorluğu’nun Birinci Dünya Savaşındaki Ekonomik Düzenlemeleri içinde İaşe Nezareti ve Kara Kemal Beyin Yeri", in Tekeli ve İlkın, Cumhuriyetin Harcı, Cilt 2, Köktenci Modenitenin Ekonomik Politikasının Gelişimi, İstanbul, 2004, s. 1-44.


VII- The 1930s: The Great Depression and Etatism (1 week)

* Pamuk, Uneven Centuries, Chapter 7 and 8, pp. 168-200.
* Ayhan Aktar, "Varlık Vergisi Nasıl Uygulandı ?", Toplum ve Bilim, No. 71, pp. 97-147.


**VIII and IX- Turkey in the post-World War II era (2 weeks)**

a- The Democrat Party Era: A New Strategy for Development?

* Pamuk, Uneven Centuries, Chapter 9, pp. 204-14.

* Ç. Keyder, "Populism and Democracy" in Keyder, State and Class in Turkey, pp. 117-40.

İlkay Sunar, "Demokrat Parti ve Populism", in Cumhuriyet Dönemi Türkiye Ansiklopedisi, Vol. 8, pp. 2076-86 or


b- The Golden Age of Import Substituting Industrialization

* Pamuk, Uneven Centuries, Chapters 9 and 10, pp. 214-39.


**X and XI- The Era of Globalization and Neoliberal Policies since 1980 (2 weeks)**

* Pamuk, Uneven Centuries, Chapters 11, 12 and 13, pp. 245-94 and 303-17.

