

ATA 547

WOMEN AND GENDER IN MODERN TURKEY

Spring 2014

Associate Professor Duygu Köksal

This course will introduce the student to some major theoretical questions in women's history writing such as public and private spheres, women's emancipation, women's agency, imperialism, nationalism, family, motherhood etc. It will provide a critical analysis of women and gender studies in late Ottoman and early Republican Turkey but will also focus on some contemporary theoretical developments such as the equality-difference debate, feminist citizenship and social citizenship.

Course Requirements: The course will be held in a discussion format where each week two students will be expected to lead the discussion while the instructor and the rest of the group brings up important questions and comments. The students are expected to write two take home essays and one term paper. All of these will make up the final grade. [Take Home Essays (20 %)+ Term Paper (40 %)+ Attendance, Participation/Presentations (20%)].

OUTLINE

Feb. 17 Introduction.

Gisela Bock, "Women's History and Gender History, Aspects of an International Debate," in *The Feminist History Reader*, ed. Sue Morgan, Routledge, 2006, 104-147.

Kathleen Canning, "Gender History, Meanings, Methods and Metanarratives," in K. Canning, *Gender History in Practice, Historical Perspectives on Bodies, Class, Citizenship*, Cornell University Press, 2006, pp. 3-62.

Febr. 24 Theoretical and Methodological Questions.

Belinda Davis, "Reconsidering Habermas, Gender and the Public Sphere: The Case of Wilhelmine Germany", in G. Eley (ed.), *Society, Culture and the State in Germany 1870-1930*, University of Michigan Press, 1996.

E. Thompson, "Public and Private in Middle Eastern Women's History," *Journal of Women's History*, Spring, Vol. 15, No. 1.

March 4 European Women and Modernity, a Historical Overview:

"Women in Industrializing, Liberalizing, and Imperializing Europe, Overview 1750-1890", 113-163.

“Women in the Era of the Interventionist State, Overview, 1890 to the Present”, 214-265 in *Connecting Spheres, European Women in a Globalizing World, 1500 to the Present* (eds.) M.Boxer and J.H Quatert, Oxford University Press, 2000 (2nd ed.).

March 11 Women, Empire and the Orient

Billie Melman, *Women's Orients, English Women and the Middle East, Sexuality, Religion and Work, 1718-1918*, Macmillan 1995 (2nd ed.), pp. 99-162.

Duygu Köksal, “From a Critique of the Orient to a Critique of Modernity: A Greek-Ottoman-American Writer, Demetra Vaka (1877-1946), in Köksal and Falierou (eds.), *A Social History of Late Ottoman Empire*, Brill, 2013, 281-296.

Elif Ekin Akşit, “Harem Education and Heterotopic Imagination,” *Gender and Education*, 23:3, 299-311.

March 18 Colonialism, Nationalism and Citizenship: the Ottoman Empire and the Middle East:

Ellen Fleischmann, “The Other “Awakening”: The Emergence of Women’s Movements in the Modern Middle East,” 1900-1940, in *A Social History of Women and Gender in the Modern Middle East*, M. L. Meriwether & J. Tucker (eds.), Westview, 1999, pp. 89-139.

Beth Baron, *Egypt as a Woman, Nationalism, Gender and Politics*, Univ. of California Press, 2005, 107-161.

March 25 Women in the Ottoman Empire

Z. Toprak, “The Family, Feminism and the State during the Young Turk Period, 1908-1918”, in *Premiere Rencontre Internationale sur l’Empire Ottoman et la Turquie Moderne* (Istanbul-Paris: Editions ISIS, 1991).

Serpil Çakır, “Feminism and Feminist History Writing in Turkey: The Discovery of Ottoman Feminism, *Aspasia*, vol. 1, 2007, 61-83.

E. B. Frierson, “Cheap and Easy: The Creation of Consumer Culture in Late Ottoman Society”, in D. Quatert (ed.), *Consumption Studies and the History of the Ottoman Empire, 1550-1922*, State University of New York Press, 2000.

Apr. 1 Women’s Labor in the Ottoman Empire:

D. Quatert, Ottoman Women, Households, and Textile Manufacturing, 1800-1914 in *The Modern Middle East: A Reader*, (eds.) Hourani, Khoury, Wilson, IB Tauris, 1993, pp. 255-269.

Emine Tutku Vardađlı, “Searching for Women’s Agency in the Tobacco Workshops: Female Tobacco Workers of the Province of Selanik,), in Köksal and Falierou (eds.), *A Social History of Late Ottoman Empire*, Brill, 2013, 47-64.

April 8 Ottoman Women in the Arts and Writing:

Hasmik Khalapyan, “Theater as Career for Ottoman Armenian Women, 1850-1910,” in Köksal and Falierou (eds.), *A Social History of Late Ottoman Empire*, Brill, 2013, 31-46.

Burcu Pelvanoglu, “Painting the Late Ottoman Women: Portraits of Mihri Müşfik Hanım,” in), in Köksal and Falierou (eds.), *A Social History of Late Ottoman Empire*, Brill, 2013, 155-172.

Apr. 15 From Empire to Republic:

Yaprak Zihnioglu, *Kadinsız İnkılap : Nezihe Muhiddin, Kadınlar Halk Fırkası, Kadın Birliđi*, Metis, 2003, selected parts.

Nermin A. Unat, “The Impact of Legal and Educational Reforms on Turkish Women,” in N. Keddie, B. Baron (eds.) *Women in Middle Eastern History*, Yale, 1991, 177-194.

Apr. 22 No Class (Spring Break)

Apr. 29 From Empire to Republic

Kathryn Libal, “Staging Turkish Women’s Emancipation: İstanbul, 1935, *J. of Middle East Women’s Studies*, Vol. 4, Number 1, Winter 2008, 31-52.

Holly Shissler, “Womanhood is not for Sale: Sabiha Zekeriya Sertel: Against Prostitution and for Women’s Employment,” *J. of Middle East Women’s Studies*, Vol.4, Number 3, Fall 2008, 12-30

May 6 Education and the Public Sphere

Elif Ekin Akşit, *Kızların Sessizliđi: Kız Enstitülerinin Uzun Tarihi*, İletişim Y., 2006, selected parts.

May 13 The Women’s Movement in Turkey

Zuhal Yeşilyurt Gündüz, “ The Women’s Movement in Turkey: From Tanzimat towards European Union Membership,” *Perceptions*, Autumn, 2004, 115-116.

Metin Yüksel, “The Encounter of Kurdish Women with Nationalism in Turkey,” *Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 42, Number 5, Sept. 2006, 777-802.

May 20 Recent Debates

Ayşe Buğra, "Revisiting the Wollstonecraft Dilemma in the Context of Conservative Liberalism: The Case of Female Employment in Turkey," *Social Politics*, Vol.0, Number 0, 1-19.

Ferhunde Özbay, "Gendered Space: A New Look at Turkish Modernisation", *Gender and History*, Vol. 11, Nov. 1999, 555-568.

Recommended Reading:

Geoff Eley, " Nations, Publics and Political Cultures: Placing Habermas in the Nineteenth Century" in C. Calhoun, *Habermas and the Public Sphere*.

Fatmagül Berktaş, " Kendine Ait Bir Tarih", *Tarih ve Toplum*, Mart 1999, sayı: 183, 47-55.

Serpil Çakır, " Tarih Yazımında Kadın Deneyimlerine Ulaşma Yolları", *Toplumsal Tarih*, Mart 2002, 28-35.

Elizabeth Brown Frierson, "Mirrors Out, Mirrors In: Domestication and Rejection of the Foreign in Late-Ottoman Women's Magazines (1875-1908)." In *Women, Patronage, and Self-Representation in Islamic Societies*, edited by Fairchild D. Ruggles, 177-204. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2000.

Efi Avdela, "Class, Ethnicity and Gender in Post-Ottoman Thessaloniki", in *Borderlines*, ed. Billie Melman, N:Y and London: Routledge, 421-438.

Nicole A.N.M. Van Os, "Osmanlı Kadın Dernekleri, Geçmişten Gelen Kaynakları Gelecek için Kaynaklar," *Toplumsal Tarih*, Mart 2002, 7-14.

Şehmus Güzel, " Tanzimat'tan Cumhuriyet'e, Toplumsal Değişim ve Kadın, *Cumhuriyet Dönemi Türkiye Ansiklopedisi*, İletişim Y., 858-875
