Course Description:
This course analyzes the politics of social welfare in Turkish history. We start with contemporary debates on the crisis of welfare state. The crisis of welfare state since the late 1980s and post-modern epistemologies as the informing theoretical framework for historical studies invigorated a reconsideration of the established paradigms in the field of social policy and welfare. The course examines these new historiographical discourses and their political implications, liberal as well as radical. After these introductory discussions we focus primarily on historical studies on western Europe, Ottoman Empire, and Republican period.

This course aims to provide the students with a theoretical and historical background on social welfare and politics. Though most of the readings are from European historiography, students are encouraged to compile their own bibliographies pertinent to Turkish history and formulate short research projects with a relationship to the issues we are going to discuss in the discussion sessions. Depending on their major field students may also formulate research projects related to current social problems and policies in Turkey.

Format:
This course meets once a week for three hours. The seminar is organized around common readings as the basis for weekly discussions. One or two sessions will be devoted to paper presentations and peer critique.

Research Paper: Each student will write a research paper of at least 2,000 words. Paper topics should be chosen to reflect a relationship to one of the discussion sessions in the course. This will help to reduce preparatory reading. Students are encouraged to use ‘primary sources’ as the basis of their research. Students should submit a paper topic during week 4-5.

Oral Presentation: Each student will present a summary of his or her research paper in one of the last two sessions.

THEME 1: PAST AND FUTURE OF WELFARE STATE:


**THEME 2: THE HISTORICAL FOUNDATIONS OF WELFARE STATE:**


**THEME 3: GENDER AND THE ORIGINS OF WELFARE STATES/WESTERN EUROPE:**


**THEME 4: PHILANTHROPY, CHARITY and BENEVOLENCE:**


**Chapter 6:** From Charity to Philanthropy; Private Charitable Associations and the Origins of Civil Society, pp.99-141.


THEME 5: SOCIAL WELFARE IN THE LATE OTTOMAN EMPIRE:


THEME 6: THE POLITICS OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN REPUBLICAN TURKEY, PAST AND PRESENT


