This course has three objectives. It is intended as an introduction to the debates on the meaning and significance of equality in its relationship with equity, justice and citizenship. It seeks to highlight the tension between equality and difference as it is reflected in the approaches to class, gender, ethnicity, sexual preference and disability. It encourages the student to pursue the questions that emerge in these areas with special reference to socioeconomic and political relations in Turkey.

Course evaluation is based on a paper based on empirical research on Turkish society (around 15 pages) and a take-home final examination. Contribution to class discussions around the required readings is important.

COURSE OUTLINE

(week 1) Introduction

(week 2) What is Natural about Slavery?


(week 3) On Equality and Distributive Justice


(week 4) Class and Citizenship


(week 5) Welfare State and Inequality


(week 6) Gender and Equality: Wollstonecraft Dilemma and Beyond (I)


(week 7) Gender and Equality: Wollstonecraft Dilemma and Beyond (II)

I. Illich, Gender, Open Forum Marion Boyars, 1983, pp. 3-21 (ch. 1)

R. Lister, Citizenship: Feminist Perspectives, Palgrave MacMillan, 2003, pp. 93-116 (Ch. 4)

(week 8) Culture and Equality


(week 9) Disability, Gay Rights and the “Tyranny of the Normal”


(week 10) Is There a Tension between Redistribution and Recognition?


(week 11) Debating Equality in Turkey


(weeks 12-13) Student presentations

The students will be asked to suggest to the class one reading on the topic of their paper at least a week before their presentation.