COURSE DETAIL

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE AND THE CREATION OF THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Utrecht University
Program(s) Utrecht University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Near East Studies History
UCEAP Course Number 145
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE AND THE CREATION OF THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST
UCEAP Transcript Title OTTOMAN EMPIRE
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

The Ottoman Empire was one of the four principal political, military, and cultural forces in the premodern world (together with the Qing, Mughal and Habsburg empires), and still a power to be reckoned with in the modern period until 1918. With its core in the Aegean and Balkans, the empire exercised hegemony over large parts of the Middle East, North and East Africa, and Central Europe for many centuries. Taking the perspective of world history, this course provides a basic knowledge of Ottoman history and culture, especially during the last three hundred years of its more than six centuries long existence. In a more general sense, the course introduces the developing historical fields of empire studies and court studies. The course reviews the current historiographical debates about the nature and impact of Ottoman rule, including the question of 'modernization'. Special attention is paid to the entanglements of politics, religion and ethnic identity in the region. This includes a critical appraisal of hackneyed terms and binaries, such as the east-west dichotomy, the 'clash of civilizations' thesis, and the very concept of 'the Middle East' itself. In addition, the course introduces students to Ottoman institutions of imperial rule, such as the court and the palace, the army, the role of religion, and Ottoman architecture.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
GE2V19005

Host Institution Course Title
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Host Institution Course Details
https://osiris-student.uu.nl/onderwijscatalogus/extern/cursus

Host Institution Campus

Utrecht University

Host Institution Faculty
Humanities

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Course Last Reviewed
2024-2025

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