

GEN 444 Gender and Sexuality in Turkey

Cenk Özbay

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R 13:40-16:30 FASS 1097

<https://sabanciuniv.zoom.us/j/93071274083>

TA: Hande Cicek

Aim

This course aims to provide students a solid background on the development of feminist, women's, gender, and sexuality studies in Turkey through a social scientific lens. We will explicate how currents of thought, socio-political movements and various representations have evolved from the very end of Ottoman Empire to 2020s, while we will keep a close eye to the construction of identities, communities, sociabilities, bodies, and subjectivities of women, men, transgenders, gays, lesbians, bisexuals, queers and all other "gendered and sexualized citizens" of Turkey.

Grading

%10 Attendance; 10% Participation to discussions; 40% Mid-term exam; 40% Final exam.

Important:

* Lectures will be in class and synchronously broadcasted via Zoom.

* No Zoom recordings will be uploaded after the class.

Course Plan

Week 1 March 2nd / Introductions

- Aksu Bora, 2018, "Feminist Antropoloji," *Kultur Denen Sey*, ed. Ayfer Bartu Candan and Cenk Ozbay, Metis.

Week 2 March 9th / Feminism in Turkey I

- Jenny White, 2003, "State Feminism, Modernization, and the Turkish Republican Women", *NWSA Journal* 15(3): 145-59.
- Cagla Ciner and Sule Toktas, 2010, "Waves of feminism in Turkey: Kemalist, Islamist and Kurdish women's movements in an era of globalization", *Journal of Balkan and Near East Studies* 12: 41-57.
- Ayse Saktanber, 2001, "Kemalist Kadin Hareketi", *Kemalizm*, ed. Ahmet Insel, Iletisim.

Week 3 March 16th / Feminism in Turkey II

- Ayse Parla, 2001, "The Honor of the State: Virginty Examinations in Turkey", *Feminist Studies*.
- Demet Lukuslu, 2023, "Becoming a Young Woman through a Feminist Lens: Young Feminist Women in Turkey", *Journal of Gender Studies*.
- Zeynep Gulru Goker and Asli Polatdemir, 2022, "The quest for gender equality in universities at the crossroads of neoliberal and anti-gender pressures: the case of Turkey," *Globalization, Societies, and Education*.

Week 4 March 23rd / Gender and Politics

- Yesim Arat, 2021, "Democratic Backsliding and the Instrumentalization of Women's Rights in Turkey," *Gender & Politics*.
- Cenk Özbay and Ozan Soybakis, 2020, "Political Masculinities: Gender, Power, and Change in Turkey", *Social Politics*.
- Esra Sarioglu, 2021, "Misogynist Body Politics under the AKP Rule in Contemporary Turkey", *The Politics of Female Body in Contemporary Turkey*, edited by Hilal Alkan, IB Tauris.

Week 5 March 30th / Patriarchy Revisited

- Gul Ozyegin, 2018, "Rethinking Patriarchy through Unpatriarchal Male Desires," *Gender Reckonings*, ed. Messerschmidt, Messner, and Connell. NYUP.
- Ryan J. Donaghy, 2017, "Pedagogies of neopatriarchy: Critical reflections on occupational courses and women's economic mobility in Turkey," *Women's Studies International Forum*.
- Ayca Alemdaroglu, 2015, "Escaping Femininity, claiming respectability: Culture, class and young women in Turkey", *Women's Studies International Forum*.

Week 6 April 6th / Gender and Class

- Cenk Özbay, 2010, “Nocturnal Queers: Rent Boys’ Masculinity in Istanbul”, *Sexualities*.
- Esra Sarioglu, 2016, “New imaginaries of gender in Turkey’s service economy”, *Women’s Studies International Forum*.
- Ayse Akalin, 2007, “Hired as a Caregiver, Demanded a Housewife: Becoming a Migrant Domestic Worker in Turkey,” *European Journal of Women’s Studies*.

Week 7 April 13th / Gender and Neoliberalism

- Gül Özyeğin, 2015, “Making a New Man: Recognition, Romance, Sex, and Neoliberal Masculinity”, *New Desires, New Selves*, NYUP.
- Deniz Erkmén, 2021, “Flexible Selves in Flexible Times: Yoga and Neoliberal Subjectivities in Istanbul,” *Sociology*.
- Selin Akyuz, Feyda Sayan-Cengiz, Asli Cırakman and Dilek Cindoglu, 2019, “Married to Anatolian Tigers: Business Masculinities, Relationalities, and Limits to Empowerment,” *Turkish Studies*.

Week 8 April 20th / Holiday

Week 9 April 27th / In Class Mid-term Exam

Week 10 May 4th / Intersectionality

- Cenk Özbay and Ayfer Bartu Candan, 2023, “Intersectionality and Feminist/Queer Student Activism in Turkey,” *International Feminist Journal of Politics*.
- Asli Cennet Yalim and Filomena Critelli, 2023, “Gender roles among Syrian refugees in resettlement contexts: Revisiting empowerment of refugee women and needs of refugee men”, *Women’s Studies International Forum*.
- Irem Kavasoglu and Eric Anderson, 2022, “Gay men and masculinity in a homohysterical Turkish body building culture,” *Journal of Gender Studies*.

Week 11 May 11th / Gender and Space

- Ferhunde Özbay, 2002, “Gendered Space: A New Look at Turkish Modernization”, *Gender & History*.
- Banu Gokarikel and Anna Secor, 2017, “Devout Muslim masculinities: the moral geographies and everyday practices of being men in Turkey”, *Gender, Place & Culture*.
- Yael Navaro, 2000, “Evde Taylorizm: Türkiye Cumhuriyeti’nin İlk Yıllarında Evisinin Rasyonellesmesi,” *Toplum ve Bilim*.

Week 12 May 18th / Family, Marriage, Kinship

- Nükhet Sirman, 2005, “The Making of a Familial Citizenship in Turkey,” *Citizenship in a Global World*, edited by Fuat Keyman and Ahmet Icduygu, Routledge.
- Belgin Tekce, 2004, “Paths of Marriage in Istanbul: Arranging Choices and Choice in Arrangements,” *Ethnography*.
- Sema Erder, 2005, “Urban Migration and Reconstruction of Kinship Networks: The Case of Istanbul”, *Autonomy and Dependency in the Family*, ed. Rita Liljestrom and Elizabeth Ozdalga, Routledge.

Week 13 May 25th / Gendered and Sexual Normativities

- Yagmur Nuhurat, 2022, “Linguistic taboo, ideology, and erasure: Reproducing homophobia as norm and lesbianism as stigma in women’s football in Turkey”, *American Anthropologist*.
- Cenk Özbay, 2022, “Living Like a Hetero: Southern Homonormativity in Istanbul”, *Sexualities*.
- Elif Gezgín, 2022, “Between Privileges and Sacrifices: Heteronormativity and Turkish Nationalism in Urban Turkey,” *Journal of Homosexuality*.

Week 14 June 1st / Queering Gender, Sexuality, and the State

- Evren Savci, 2021, “Trans Terror, Deep Citizenship, and Politics of Hate,” *Queer in Translation*, Duke UP
- Asli Zengin, 2016, “Violent Intimacies: Tactile State Power, Sex/Gender Transgression, and the Politics of Touch in Contemporary Turkey,” *Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies*.
- Onur Kilic, 2021, “Every Parade of Ours is a Pride Parade: Exploring LGBTI+ Digital Activism in Turkey,” *Sexualities*.

In Class Final Exam TBA