

**TURK 580-01/480A-01**  
**Ottoman Turkish**  
**4 Credit Hours**  
**FALL 2016**  
**Online**

**Dr. Greg Key**  
**Office: LT 502**  
**Office Hours: M 2.00-4.00 pm**  
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**Class website: <https://blackboard.binghamton.edu>**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This is a course in Ottoman Turkish, the administrative and literary language of the Ottoman Empire. Written in Arabic script, Ottoman has a (sometimes archaic) Turkish core, with substantial influence from Classical Arabic and Persian, and is therefore sometimes referred to as *elsine-i selâse*, “the three languages.”

Two script styles are taught: *nesih* (Arabic *nasx*) and *rika* (Arabic *ruq‘a*), respectively the standard printed and handwritten styles of the late Ottoman period (ca. 18th-20th centuries). Reading is the primary skill developed, with a secondary emphasis on *rika* penmanship, on the premise that this will aid in the reading of handwritten documents.

This course is taught entirely online and is entirely asynchronous. This means that students may access material, participate in discussions, and turn in assignments on their own schedule, so long as each weekly module is completed on time. There is no particular mandatory log-on time.

**Prerequisites:**

A minimum of intermediate proficiency in Turkish and one year of Arabic study are required prior to taking this class. The Arabic requirement may be waived (at the instructor’s discretion) in the case of students who are familiar with the Arabic alphabet, particularly those who have previous experience reading Ottoman or Persian.

**Weekly work**

This course is a 4-credit course, which means that students are expected to do at least 9.5 hours of course-related work each week during the semester. This includes things like: completing assigned readings, studying for tests and examinations, preparing written assignments, and other tasks that must be completed to earn credit in the course.

### **Graduate Project**

In addition to the regular assignments, the graduate section includes an individual project. Each graduate student will choose a primary source in Ottoman to work on over the course of the semester, culminating in a final paper and presentation. Texts, which will vary according to each student's research interests, are to be chosen in consultation with the instructor, drawing on the extremely rich corpus left by the Ottoman Empire, which includes imperial edicts (*ferman*), statute books (*kanunname*), imperial decrees from the Sultan to the Grand Vizier (*hatt-ı hümayun*), official surveys of provinces (*tahrir defteri*), records of the Assembly of State (*mühimme defteri*), court records (*kadı sicili*), and much more. Graduate students will work on their texts throughout the semester, on their own as well as in regular meetings with the instructor. The final paper and presentation will include a translation of all or part of the text (depending on the nature of the text), a discussion of linguistic features, ambiguities, and translation issues, as well as a treatment of the historical context and relevance of the text to the student's research, with appropriate citations and bibliography.

### **COURSE POLICIES:**

#### ***Expectations and Rules of Conduct:***

1. Students are expected to participate in creating a non-intimidating environment. Any intimidating, belittling, or belligerent behavior by students will NOT be tolerated. If such behavior occurs students will be warned. If this sort of behavior continues then they will be removed from the course.
2. **Late Assignments:** All assignments are due at 11:59 pm on the assigned day and must be turned in electronically to the course website in blackboard. Late assignments will not be accepted except in rare circumstances; however, in order to obtain an extension the student must obtain the instructor's approval in writing (i.e. email correspondence) prior to the assignment's due date.

#### ***Plagiarism and Academic Integrity:***

Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses and will not be tolerated. They are violations of university regulations. Students in this class will be held to a high standard of academic integrity, which is defined as "the pursuit of scholarly activity free from fraud and deception." Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating of information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. Such actions will be subject to disciplinary action. A single instance of cheating and plagiarism will result, at the very least, in a failing grade for that assignment. Depending on the severity of the case, other consequences may include a failing grade for the class, regardless of performance on other assignments, and further disciplinary actions that could include suspension and expulsion, based on University policies.

**Referencing your Work:**

You must clearly cite all ideas and information that are not yours. This means that if you take an idea, information, or concept from any of the course readings or any other source with the exception of class lectures you must cite the source of that information whether paraphrased or directly quoted. The bare minimum citation required for this course is the author's name and page number in brackets at the end of a quotation or paraphrased item, i.e. (Quataert, pp. 101-109) and then a works cited page containing the authors, titles, publishers and years published of the sources utilized for the paper. You are **NOT** allowed to quote secondary sources for this course. You are required to paraphrase these statements and then provide a citation as to the source of your borrowed concept, information, and assertion as stipulated above. This practice facilitates analysis of the course materials.

**Students with Disabilities:**

Students who are registered with Binghamton University's Services for Students with Disabilities Office and supply the course instructor with an Academic Accommodation Authorization memo as early as possible in the beginning of the semester will be fully and confidentially accommodated for this course. This course provides equal access for all enrolled. Please consult the SDD website at <http://www2.binghamton.edu/ssd/> for further information and come see the course instructor.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:**

## Graduate section (TURK 580-01)

Homework	16%
Participation	16%
Module Quizzes	16%
Mid-term	16%
Final	16%
Graduate project	20%

## Undergraduate section (TURK 480A-01)

Assignments	20%
Participation	20%
Module Quizzes	20%
Mid-term	20%
Final	20%

## Grading Scale

A = 94-100%

A- = 90-93%

B+ = 87-89%

B = 84-86%

B- = 80-83%

C+ = 77-79%

C = 74-76%

C- = 70-73%

D = 67-69%

F = 0-66%

## Outline of Course (subject to change)

Ottoman texts to be read throughout, TBA.

There is a quiz at the end of each module, with the exceptions of Module 1, which is the introductory module, and 10, which is followed by the mid-term. The final exam is due by December 16th.

### Module 1: Introduction (Aug 25-28)

Reading: 'Ottoman Turkish' (Celia Kerslake)

### Module 2 (Aug 26-Sep 4)

Orthography: Turkish vowels in Ottoman script  
*sağır nun*

### Module 3 (Sep 6-11)

Orthography: Idiosyncratic Turkish spellings

Paleography: Introduction to *rika* script

dots

'teeth'

- What is (and is not) a tooth
- tooth clusters

#### **Module 4 (Sep. 12-18)**

Orthography:	Arabic and Persian vowels Persian consonants silent <i>vav</i> Arabic consonants
Persian Grammar:	noun-noun <i>izafet</i> plural suffixes
Paleography:	tooth preceding... <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>dal</i> and <i>re</i> shapes</li><li>• <i>jim</i> shape</li><li>• final <i>nun</i></li></ul> initial tooth preceding <i>elif</i>

#### **Module 5 (Sep. 19-25)**

Persian Grammar:	noun-adjective <i>izafet</i>
Arabic Grammar:	gender
Arabic Orthography:	orthographic conventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>tenvin</i></li><li>• <i>teşdid</i></li><li>• <i>elif-i maksure</i></li><li>• <i>yuvarlak te</i></li></ul>
Paleography:	letters by position <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>kaf</i></li><li>• <i>fe</i></li><li>• <i>ayın, gayın</i></li></ul>

#### **Module 6 (Sep. 26-Oct. 2)**

Arabic Grammar:	plurals
Persian Grammar:	<i>izafet</i> agreement with plurals
Paleography:	<i>jim</i> -shape and 'descenders'

#### **Module 7 (Oct. 5-9)**

Persian grammar:	participles (active, passive)
Arabic grammar:	the definite article
Paleography:	<i>kef</i>

#### **Module 8 (Oct. 10-16)**

Arabic grammar:	Verbal forms: <i>masdar</i> , <i>ism-i fail</i> , <i>ism-i meful</i> (form I)
Paleography:	letters by position <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>mim</i></li><li>• <i>güzel he</i></li></ul>

**Module 9 (Oct. 17-23)**

Arabic grammar: Form I: weak roots  
Form II (all roots)  
Paleography: special ligatures

**Module 10 (Oct. 24-30)**

Arabic grammar: Form V (all roots)  
Paleography: 'illicit' ligatures  
Mid-term exam (due Oct. 30)

**Module 11 (Oct. 31-Nov. 6)**

Arabic grammar: Form III (all roots)  
Persian grammar: compound agent participles

**Module 12 (Nov. 7-13)**

Arabic grammar: Form IV (all roots)  
Persian grammar: double substantive compounds

**Module 13 (Nov. 14-20)**

Arabic grammar: Form X (all roots)

**Module 14 (Nov. 21-23)**

Arabic grammar: Form VIII (sound and weak roots)

**Module 15 (Nov. 28-Dec. 4)**

Arabic grammar: Form VIII (infix-assimilating roots)

**Module 16 (Dec. 5-8)**

Arabic grammar: Forms VI, VII  
(Module 16 quiz due Nov. 27)

Final Exam due Dec. 16