Undergraduate courses abstracts | Winter semester 2023-2024 Department of History & Archaeology

AIΣ 503: Greeks and Barbarians: Interconnected Histories (Lecture course) | Associate Professor Kostas Vlassopoulos

The subject of the course is the political, social, economic and cultural interactions between the ancient Greeks and the other societies and cultures of the ancient Mediterranean and the Near East, during the archaic and classical periods (800-300 BC). These interactions took place in the context of four parallel worlds, each with its own characteristics and emphases: the world of the colonies, the world of networks that moved goods, people, and ideas, the world of empires, and the Panhellenic world. As a result of these interactions, the processes of globalization that created material, linguistic and cultural koinai that spread across the Mediterranean and the Near East will be examined, as well as the processes of local use (glocalisation) of various aspects of these commons by different societies and cultures.

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AIΣ 515: From City-States to the Hellenistic Kingdoms: Classical and Hellenistic Institutions (Lecture course) | Assistant Professor Katerina Panagopoulou

Polis in the historical longue durée has been a seminal institution, which outlasted antiquity, and which inevitably underwent significant changes in its nature and functions during its long history. By the end of the Classical period, the polis-state had been established as the most representative political formation in ancient Greece. The transition from city-states to the formation of kingdoms in the Hellenistic period fostered a good number of reforms upon certain institutions. The present course focuses on the changes cities underwent (as political, social religious and economic entities) between the Archaic and the Classical period, in order to become integrated into the states which emerged from Alexander's Macedonian realm. Focus will be shed, through study of the ancient sources, upon the adaptation process of Classical (political, economic, social, cultural and religious) institutions and on the spectrum of the new features and innovations which emerged during the Hellenistic period.

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•Chaniotis, Angelos (2018), Age of Conquests: The Greek World from Alexander to Hadrian (336 BC-AD 138). London: Profile Books. DF214 .C43 2018

AIΣ 343: Alexander the Great and his Era (Seminar) | Assistant Professor Katerina Panagopoulou

The present seminar explores aspects of Alexander the Great's era, through study of the ancient evidence (literary texts, inscriptions, papyri, coins), which is related to his rise to power and to the conduct of the Asia Minor campaign. Priority will be given to the analysis of primary sources over the affluent secondary bibliography on Alexander the Great. Our ultimate aim is to reconstruct the historical context within which the global Hellenistic world was formed and to understand better the limits between historical facts and the construction of a myth regarding a historical figure.

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Source Collections

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BIΣ 506: The Byzantine Empire, 1000-1200: two centuries of change (Lecture course) | Assistant Professor Demetrios Kyritses

Just a few decades ago, historians tended to view the eleventh and twelfth centuries as a period of steady Byzantine decline, between the so-called "apogee" of the Macedonian era and the fall of Constantinople to the Fourth Crusade in 1204. Today, the profound examination of the economy and cultural production have radically revered that image. These two centuries are seen as a period of impressive economic growth and profound social

transformation, during which Byzantine art and literature change in form and content, exploring new ways of expression.

This introductory lecture course includes the use of selected sources of all kinds, in order to illustrate this exciting period.

IMX 001: Introduction to European Medieval History: a Toolkit for the Middle Ages (Lecture course) | Associate Professor Eleni Sakellariou

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the main political, institutional, social, economic and cultural characteristics of the first six centuries of the Middle Ages. The comprehension of this crucial historical period is complemented with representative examples taken from the historical sources of the time.

ΠΠΔΕ/INX 156: Gender and Education in Greece (19th-20th Centuries) (Lecture course) | Associate Professor Katerina Dalakoura

The course presents and analyses the education system in Greece in the 19th and 20th centuries from a gender point of view. It focusses on the gendered priorities of the state provision in the formation of the education system, and the interventions of the private sector (individuals, missionaries e.tc.) and women's and feminist associations in filling in the gaps in the education system for women. The education system which gradually was formed, the professional training and its association with the labor market and public sphere will be also analyzed under the same perspective.

INX 302: Identities in negotiation, lives in transition: Life stories of refugees (1920-1960) (Seminar) | Associate Professor Katerina Dalakoura

The seminar examines the question of identities and their transformations in the period of transition from empires to nation-states. It will focus on refugee populations from the Ottoman space to the Balkan nation-states (primarily to Greece) and vice versa, from the eve of the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire and after the Asia Minor disaster. By following the lives of refugees (both men and women), through written and audiovisual sources, from the Ottoman Empire to their settlement in Greece and the organization of their lives there, it will

explore the issue of (multiple) identities in an imperial and post-imperial historical context, their transformation, as well as the refugee memory and trauma.

TOY124: Portraits of Ottoman sultans and their eras (Undergraduate lecture-type class) | Instructor: Associate Professor Antonis Anastasopoulos | Office hours (no. 78): Mondays, 10.00-11.30; Tuesdays, 11.30-13.00

Course summary

The course will examine the reigns of various Ottoman sultans. The aim of the course is to place the sultans in the context of their times so that students can reflect on the issue of the personal role of the 'leader' in historical events. More specifically, each week we will examine the reigns of two or three sultans, discussing the important events and phenomena associated with them and interpreting them through the prism of the role of the sultans, high-ranking state officials and their environment, as well as of the interaction such figures had with various social and professional groups and other collectivities.

Course structure

Week 1: Introduction

- Week 2: The institution of sultan (Part I)
- Week 3: The institution of sultan (Part II)
- Week 4: Orhan (1324–62) Bayezid I (1389–1402)
- Week 5: Mehmed II (1444-46, 1451-81) Bayezid II (1481-1512)
- Week 6: Selim I (1512–20) Selim II (1566–74)
- Week 7: Osman II (1618–22) Murad IV (1623–40) Mehmed IV (1648–87)
- Week 8: Ahmed III (1703–30) Mahmud I (1730–54)
- Week 9: Abdülhamid I (1774–89) Selim III (1789–1807)
- Week 10: Mahmud II (1808–39) Abdülmecid (1839–61)
- Week 11: Abdülhamid II (1876–1909) Mehmed V (1909–18)
- Week 12: Ottoman sultans in literature, painting, cinema, television
- Week 13: Revision general discussion
- Recommended literature

- Caroline FINKEL, Osman's Dream: The Story of the Ottoman Empire, 1300-1923, London: John Murray, 2005
- Douglas A. HOWARD, A History of the Ottoman Empire, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017
- Halil iNALCIK, The Ottoman Empire: The Classical Age, 1300-1600, trans. Norman Itzkowitz & Colin Imber, London, 1973
- Donald QUATAERT, The Ottoman Empire, 1700-1922, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000
- Erik J. ZÜRCHER, Turkey: A Modern History, London: I.B. Tauris, 2004

TOY309: Ottoman burial culture and gravestones (Undergraduate seminar) | Instructor: Associate Professor Antonis Anastasopoulos | Office hours (no. 78): Mondays, 10.00-11.30; Tuesdays, 11.30-13.00

Course summary

The seminar examines the established customs of the Muslim society of the Ottoman period regarding the burial of its dead and the ways of honouring their memory. In this context, particular emphasis is placed on examining the traits and particularities of Islamic gravestones from the Ottoman period, and their significance as historical sources. Students are given the opportunity to see and discuss original Ottoman tombstones. The main objective of the seminar is for the students to reflect on the ways and importance of commemorating the dead through the construction of funerary monuments.

Recommended literature

- Jean-Louis Bacqué-Grammont and Aksel Tibet (eds), Cimetières et traditions funéraires dans le monde islamique / Islâm Dünyasında Mezarlıklar ve Defin Gelenekleri, 2 volumes, Ankara: Türk Tarih Kurumu, 1996
- Amila Buturović, Carved in Stone, Etched in Memory: Death, Tombstones and Commemoration in Bosnian Islam since C.1500, Farnham and Burlington: Ashgate, 2015.
- Edhem Eldem, Death in Istanbul: Death and Its Rituals in Ottoman-Islamic Culture, Istanbul: Ottoman Bank Archives and Research Centre, 2005
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- Hans-Peter Laqueur, Osmanische Friedhöfe und Grabsteine in Istanbul, Tübingen: Ernst Wasmuth Verlag, 1993

• Gilles Veinstein (ed.), Les Ottomans et la mort: permanences et mutations, Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1996