

BΙΣΑ 651: Byzantium and the Ottomans (Lecture course) | **Associate Professor Konstantinos Moustakas**

### Syllabus

This lecture summarizes the developments of the last period of byzantine history in relation to the Ottoman conquest and the formation of the Ottoman empire. In the first place, we examine the broader historical context of the fall of Byzantium and the Ottoman take over (balance of power, political developments, diplomacy). Then, we proceed to examine the social and cultural aspects of the conquest of the byzantine world and its incorporation into the rising Ottoman establishment, as well as the experiences of contemporaries toward those historical developments.

More specifically, the course is structured as follows: - the initial Turkish conquest of Asia Minor in the 11th century, the settlement of Turks and the Byzantine efforts to retaking the country; - the formation of the Seljuk sultanate and its relations with Byzantium; - the fall of Seljuks, the formation of the Turkish emirates and the final fall of byzantine Asia Minor; - the theories Ottoman origins and the features of the early Ottoman state in Bithynia; - the Turkish, and especially the Ottoman involvement into the Byzantine civil wars of the mid 14th century, the wedding of emir Orhan with Theodora Kantakouzene and its repercussions, the Ottoman capture of Gallipoli; - the development of the Ottoman state into a great power of the age, the Ottoman take over of Byzantium, Byzantium between the Ottomans and the Latins; - Byzantine policies in the years of the Ottoman interregnum; - the final fall of Byzantium; - the stance of Byzantine population toward the Ottoman conquest.

To attend this lecture, the students are not expected to have an especial background of knowledge in Byzantine history (apart of the basic knowledge that should be attained in secondary education), therefore beginning students are also welcome.

### Bibliography

#### A. Sources

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## B. Literature

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**IMXA 271: "To bind and to loose": the papacy and medieval society (Lecture course) |**

**Assistant Professor Nickiphoros Tsougarakis**

This module examines the history of the institution of the papacy, from the first Christian centuries to the end of the Middle Ages. The position of bishop of Rome was one of the most important institutions of the Middle Ages, and shaped the medieval world in various ways. The ideology developed by the papal see, the connection between the see and the ancient capital of the Empire, and the particular needs of the bishop of Rome, all led the papacy to the development of a specific political and religious programme, which, in the long run, affected almost every aspect of medieval society, from relations between states, to the lives of everyday people. At the same time, the history of the papacy is surrounded by a certain mythology, connected to the religious conflicts of past centuries (e.g. Orthodox vs Catholic, Catholic vs Protestant etc.), all of which continue to affect the way we perceive this institution.

In this module, we will examine how and why, from its humble beginnings as the head of a persecuted sect, the papacy managed to impose its authority over a large part of the medieval world, and we shall try to explain how the history of the papacy intersects with the major turning points of medieval history.

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**IMXA 273: State building and social change in Europe: France and England compared, 1000-1300 (Lecture course) | Associate Professor Eleni Sakellariou**

The subject of the course is the state formation and social changes in two important entities of medieval Europe, England and France, during the central and late Middle Ages. During this period, the two countries organized their governance and society using methods that were sometimes similar and sometimes different. However, by the end of the Middle Ages both had established strong state institutions and channels of communication and negotiation between rulers and ruled, which influenced the shaping of social relations and which, despite the differences between the two systems, were a model for other state formations of the time. The aim was to make central power more effective and perceptible to as much of society and of the territory as possible; but also to achieve a sufficient degree of consensus towards central power and to ensure political stability. These processes contributed to the emergence of new social strata competing with the traditional aristocracy, precursors of the middle classes. They are of particular interest today, when the public sphere is relinquishing powers that have been the product of long-standing efforts to secure them.

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## IMXA 339: Missionaries, Travellers, Traders: the Expansion of Medieval Europe (Seminar) |

**Associate Professor Eleni Sakellariou**

The seminar will examine the close continuity between the Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period in terms of the communication of Europeans with cultures and political systems outside the borders of Europe. Without the knowledge accumulated and recorded by medieval travellers, sailors and shipbuilders, and without the fantasies and false expectations that were an integral part of European perceptions of the outside world, the discovery of sea routes to the Americas and the Pacific in the late 15th and early 16th centuries would have been unthinkable. The extent of medieval European contact with other continents was much greater and much more persistent than has generally been realized; the history of European expansion in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries has been written with little attention to the medieval accounts of European presence and activity in central Asia, the Far East, and Africa. Missionaries, travelers, traders, slave dealers and plantation owners will feature prominently in the seminar sessions.

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## INXA 344: Peace Movements in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (Seminar) | **Associate Professor Katerina**

**Dalakoura**

The seminar explores the peace and anti-war movement as they manifested after the two great wars (WW I and II), respectively. More precisely, it will explore the international movement for peace and establishment of the social and political conditions for its maintenance (e.g. equality of rights for all, protection of minorities, etc.), which was developed after the WWI, and the strong anti-war movement (movement against nuclear weapons and wars, military interventions in third countries) emerged after the WWII. Emphasis will be placed on the period following the WWI, while for the period after the WWII, the movement against nuclear weapons, and the May '68 movement will be studied. Students will be required to write and present an essay on a particular international peace association, movement, international organization (League of Nations, International Peace Bureau, etc., established with the aim of cooperation between states and the peaceful resolution of disputes) or great event of the time concerning the subject of the seminar (e.g. Women's Congress in Hague, 1915).

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### Abstract

The course deals with the history of the Janissaries in the Ottoman Empire. In the narrow sense, the Janissary corps, which was established in the second half of the 14th century and officially disbanded in 1826, was the central infantry of the Ottoman army. The course will examine issues related to the establishment, organization and historical evolution of the Janissary corps. In addition, it will highlight the variety of roles that Janissaries played, in Ottoman society, either as individuals or as a group, and in this context we will address the political, economic and social aspects of their activities.

### Recommended literature

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### Research project

*JaNet: Janissaries in Ottoman Port-Cities: Muslim Financial and Political Networks in the Early Modern Mediterranean*, research project funded by the European Research Council, Principal Investigator: Yannis Spyropoulos, Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH, 2020-2025, <https://janet.ims.forth.gr/>

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### ΠΑΡΑ 156: Arts, techniques and networks of the Neolithic cosmos (Lecture course) |

#### Academic Scholar Christina Papoulia

This lecture aims to familiarize students with key aspects of the Neolithic material culture in Greece, the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean. Topics related to architecture, ceramics, stone tool manufacture, weaving, personal adornment, sculpture and rock art are examined under the prism of the Neolithic household and the circulation and exchange networks of Neolithic communities. Key sites from Anatolia, Syro-Palestine, Cyprus, and the Balkan peninsula and their material culture will be examined as case studies. Upon successful completion of the course, students (a) acquire a general knowledge of the basic manufacture techniques, (b) appreciate the importance of mobility and exchange networks in the Neolithic world, (c) are able to identify and describe the basic cultural elements of the Neolithic Aegean, East Mediterranean and Balkans.

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### ΠΑΡΑ 332: The prehistory of seafaring (Seminar) | Academic Scholar Christina Papoulia

The seminar course deals with the study of seafaring in prehistory and the prehistory of seafaring, in the sense of the initial contacts of the human species with sea. It examines the gradual familiarization with the risks and perils of sea navigation and the first recorded sea voyages in the Mediterranean and worldwide. Through case studies, students will appreciate the importance of sea-level reconstructions, reflect on issues of organic material preservation and archaeological visibility, and learn the basics of prehistoric shipbuilding. Upon completion all participants acquire an in-depth assessment of the historical process that led to the



development of seafaring on a local and global scale. The seminar draws from the principles and methodological frameworks of Maritime Archaeology, Ethnoarchaeology and Experimental Archaeology.

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**KAPA 105: The Archaeology of Magna Graecia: An Introduction (Lecture course) | Academic Scholar Panagiotis Georgopoulos**

The course introduces the student to the archaeology of Magna Graecia (Italy and Sicily) from the 8th to the 3rd BCE. Focusing on material evidence from the Italian peninsula it examines the EIA's archaeological context (precolonial evidence), it presents the phenomenon of Greek colonisation (8th – 6th BCE) and discusses its perception by modern and contemporary approaches. Towards the comprehension of the apoikiai (Greek Colonies), the course presents and explains the archaeological evidence of Magna Graecia up until the 3rd BCE. Main topics are the architectural remains of each period (urban planning, monumental, religious, secular, funerary architecture), the ancient Greek sculpture – including architectural, funerary and votive sculptures - as well as ancient pottery, jewelry and painting. The course is divided into 13 lectures (3hrs per week). Upon completion of the course, students will acquire an overview of the Greek colonies' archaeological evidence in Italy and Sicily throughout the given timeframe; be informed of the phenomenon of Greek colonisation and its contemporary theoretical approaches; be able to examine and describe the archaeological material in a structured and proper to the discipline of archaeology manner.

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**KAPA 309: Temples of Magna Graecia (Seminar) | Academic Scholar Panagiotis Georgopoulos**

The seminar explores the ancient Greek temples and sanctuaries of Magna Graecia from the 8th to the 3rd BCE. It examines the temples' location and their connection with the polis' urban arrangement, and studies the evolution of religious Greek architecture in ancient Italy and Sicily. It, furthermore, investigates the possible relevance of ancient Greek religion to architecture whilst seeking to explain specific architectural and religious traits of Magna Graecia's communities. Upon completion the students will be able to have a full archaeological overview of the ancient Greek temples in Italy and Sicily; to grasp their specifics and features while understanding their structure and place within the general architectural and cultural

context. Students are required to proceed to independent research, present their topics in class and compose a small-scale final paper of their research.