

Islam and Turkey:

University of Florida Spring 2021

<u>Class meetings</u>	<u>Online sections</u>
MWF/5 (11:45am) @Flint Hall 109	MWF/5 @ Zoom
ASH 3931-1ES1	ASH 3931-VES1
EUH 3931-29278	EUH 3931-29293
EUS 3142-25061	EUS 3142-20TK
	RLG 4937-2022

Instructor Contact Information

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Phone: (352) 642-5091

Office Location: Turlington 3326; [Zoom Room](#)

Office hours: MW 3-5pm & by appointment

Meeting Times and Communication

The class will meet simultaneously in class and on zoom as scheduled (MWF 11:45-12:35). Zoom ID for class meetings is 943 8605 6195; virtual class meeting is alternately available [here](#). Instructor will admit online attendees from the waiting room shortly before the start of the meetings.

Office hours are 3:00pm-5:00pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and by appointment. Students can contact the instructor [by email](#) anytime, by phone during office hours, and also by what's app after the first week of classes. For virtual office hours, use the same Zoom ID for our meetings (943 8605 6195); or go to [here](#).

Course Information

This hybrid-flexible course is about what Islam is and what Turks believe that it is. Particular topics include, a) Islamic message, sources, and theological conflicts; b) Turkish encounters with Islam, the Ottoman legacy, and interactions between secularism and Islam; c) intellectual and mystic movements; and d) Islamist politics and the discord between political and social activists. The course explores these topics through the prism of original sources such as Quran and Islamist literature, and emphasizes ways cultural forces contribute to the making of modern Islam. Beside others, students interested in History, International Studies, European Studies, Religious Studies, and Middle Eastern Studies are welcome and encouraged to join this survey course. Sophomore standing or the instructor's approval is a prerequisite.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Recognize the significance of Turkish Islam in larger discussions about religious identities and global exchanges in culture and politics,
- Present an informed understanding of major themes in Islam and Turkey,
- Discuss Turkish and Muslim entities,
- Analyze complex historical issues with empirical evidence,
- Reconsider the nuanced dynamics that created and transformed Turkey across time, and,
- Develop skills for advanced focus on International, European, Middle Eastern, Religious, and Turkish studies.

Additionally, presentation slides will include specific objectives and expectations to be found on weekly modules.

HyFlex Teaching and Learning

What is HyFlex?

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, UF is adopting a HyFlex model, short for Hybrid-Flexible, which combines online and classroom-based instructional components. Classrooms equipped with HyFlex technology provide instructors the ability to teach in-person and remote learners simultaneously and to record their lectures for their online sections while teaching face-to-face. In a HyFlex course, all learning content and materials are designed for both classroom and online learning environments and address all learning outcomes, regardless of the delivery medium. This way, whether a student attends class in a face-to-face environment, remotely through their computer, or by watching a recording if a recording is available, the learning objectives and outcomes will remain equivalent. (see the source [here](#))

For more information on learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, refer to the [UF Keep Learning website](#).

What to expect during the class session?

You have registered to attend the class sessions in person or remotely. If you are joining a class session remotely, practice using Zoom ahead of time. Plan to have access to a microphone, speakers or headphones, and a webcam. Most laptops should have all these components. In cases of slow Internet connectivity, you can participate through your phone (audio only) by joining the Zoom meeting via a telephone number. (further information is available [here](#))

Zoom sessions will be recorded and posted on the zoom cloud “recorded meetings,” but students are strongly encouraged to attend live meetings at all possible times.

Course Requirements

Required textbook

Readings and recommended materials will be posted on the e-learning website. There is no

required textbook for this course.

Prerequisites

There are no additional fees for the course.

Minimum Technology Requirements

The University of Florida expects students entering an online program to acquire computer hardware and software appropriate to his or her degree program. Most computers are capable of meeting the following general requirements. A student's computer configuration should include:

- Webcam
- Microphone
- Speakers or headphones
- Broadband connection to the Internet and related equipment (Cable/DSL modem)
- Microsoft Office Suite installed ([provided by the university](#))

Individual colleges may have additional requirements or recommendations, which students should review prior to the start of their program.

Minimum Technical Skills

To complete your tasks in this course, you will need a basic understanding of how to operate a computer, how to use Zoom, how to use Honorlock, and how to use word processing software.

Materials/Supply Fees

There is no supply fee for this course.

Honorlock

Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows students to take exams on-demand 24/7. There are no scheduling requirements or fees.

You will need a laptop or desktop computer with a webcam, a microphone, and a photo ID. The webcam and microphone can be either integrated or external USB devices.

Honorlock requires that you use the [Google Chrome browser](#); furthermore, the [Honorlock extension](#) must be added to Chrome.

Zoom

Zoom is an easy-to-use video conferencing service available to all UF students, faculty, and staff that allows for meetings of up to 100 participants.

You can find resources and help using Zoom at [here](#).

Course Policies

Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at [here](#).

Coursework and Assignments

This course includes the following assignments along with lecture and discussion sections. Be willing, engaged, and punctual – that is, *attend* the lectures, *participate* in discussions, and *complete* your reading/writing assignments on time.

- *Participation and quizzes*. Students will write three short quizzes including multiple choices and brief explanations.
- *Mid-Term*. The mid-term examination is scheduled on Week 8. Professor will provide guidelines and address questions about this exam.
- *Take-home Final*. The final examination will draw from lectures and select readings, and will be due on the last meeting of class. A review class will provide guidelines and address questions about this exam.
- *Book review*. By Week 4, students will submit a 4-page abstract on a text of their choice, or, from the readings recommended below. Original abstracts capture the core of a book's arguments and its themes. Examples will be provided.
- *Attendance*. Students are expected to attend all the classes.

Please note that all the readings and written assignments must be completed by the date indicated on the syllabus and cannot be rescheduled. Requests of any special accommodations must be made to the professor in writing and in advance. You are welcome to discuss any of these assignments with the professor. Though the instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus (with an in-advance warning if deemed necessary), the assignment schedules and UF regulations will stand at all times.

Grading Administration

<i>Participation</i>	5 points
<i>Quizzes</i>	15 points
<i>Mid-term</i>	30 points
<i>Take-home final</i>	30 points
<i>Book review</i>	15 points
<i>Attendance</i>	5 points

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Numerical Value (% rank)	+93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60	-59
		92	89	86	82	79	76	72	69	66	62	
GPA Equivalent	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0

More information on grades and grading policies is at [here](#)

Class Attendance and Make-Up Policy

Attendance and participation are required for success. They not only constitute 5% of your grade. Repeated absences also affect your performance on exams and quizzes since they will be based on lectures and discussions. Missing class likewise means missing participation and falling behind in other assignments.

According to the Office of the University Registrar, “acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, and professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused.” (for further information about the University of Florida’s attendance policy, see the current Undergraduate Catalogue [here](#))

UF Policies

University Policy on Accommodating Differently Abled Students

Differently abled students requesting accommodations should first register with the [Disability Resource Center](#) (352-392-8565) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Differently abled students should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Policy on Academic Conduct

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." [The Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

Netiquette and Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy during, before, and after class, in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats.

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

Getting Help

Technical Difficulties

For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>
- (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues should be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You should e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Health and Wellness

- **U Matter, We Care:** If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- **Counseling and Wellness Center:** Visit counseling.ufl.edu or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- **Student Health Care Center:** Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need or visit shcc.ufl.edu.
- **University Police Department:** Visit police.ufl.edu or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care in Gainesville, call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.

Academic and Student Support

- **Career Connections Center:** 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services career.ufl.edu/.
- **Library Support:** Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources. cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask.
- **Teaching Center:** 352-392-2010 Study skills and tutoring: teachingcenter.ufl.edu.
- **Writing Studio:** 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers: writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at [here](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [here](#). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [here](#).

Tips for Success

Taking a HyFlex can be a lot of fun! Here are some tips that will help you get the most of this course while taking full advantage of this format.

- Schedule "class times" for yourself. It is important to do the coursework on time each week. You will receive a reduction in points for work that is turned in late!
- Read ALL of the material contained on this site. There is a lot of helpful information that can save you time and help you meet the objectives of the course.
- Print out the Course Schedule located in the Course Syllabus and check things off as you go.
- Ask for help or clarification of the material if you need it.
- Do not wait to ask questions! Waiting to ask a question might cause you to miss a due date.
- Do your work well before the due dates. Sometimes things happen. If your computer goes down when you are trying to submit an assignment, you'll need time to troubleshoot the problem.
- To be extra safe, back up your work to an external hard drive, thumb drive, or through a cloud service.

Privacy and Accessibility Policies

For information about the privacy policies of the tools used in this course, see the links below.

- Instructure (Canvas)
 - [Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Accessibility](#)
- Zoom
 - [Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Accessibility](#)
- Microsoft
 - [Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Accessibility](#)
- Adobe
 - [Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Accessibility](#)
- Honorlock
 - [Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Accessibility](#)

COVID-Related Practices

In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
- This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.
- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. Find more information in the [UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms](#).
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. Find more information in the [university attendance policies](#).

Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who unmute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

--COURSE SCHEDULE TO FOLLOW

COURSE SCHEDULE

1 Week of January 11

1) Course Mechanics and Introduction, 2) The Messenger

Discussion based on readings.

- Muhammad's words. Exploring [Hadith Collection](#).
- Muhammad. "Farewell Sermon"
- Movie. [Muhammad: The Messenger of God](#)

2 Week of January 18

The Message: Quran and the Right Path (No lecture/recording on MLK day January 18)

Discussion

- Quran on believers, family, human rights, and inheritance (chapters [4](#), [58](#), [93-114](#))
- Bulaç. "The Medina Document"
- Documentary. *Decoding the Past: Secrets of the Koran* [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)

3 Week of January 25

Knowledge and Sunni Islam: Sources of Authority and the Ideological Drift

Discussion

- Shouaiaia. "On the Sources of Islamic Law and Practices"
- Hallaq. "Was the gate of Ijtihad Closed?"
- PBS Documentary. [Empires of Faith: The Awakening](#)

Part II: The Turkish Path

4 Week of February 1

Encounters: Migrations to the Abode of Islam

Discussion

- Findley. "Islam and Empire from the Seljuks through the Mongols"
- Devereux. "Al-Kashgari and Early Turkish Islam"
- ** Book-review Canvas-submission **

5 Week of February 8

Conversions: God's Unruly Friends

Discussion

- Karamustafa. "Renunciation, Deviant Individualism, and Sufism"; "Dervish Groups"

6 Week of February 15

Manifestations: Ottoman Legacy of Islam

Discussion

- Quataert. "Why Study Ottoman History?"
- Inalcik. "Istanbul: An Islamic City"
- Documentary. [Empires of Faith: The Ottomans](#); or [Ottomans on Netflix](#)

7 Week of February 22

Containment: Secularism vs. Islam

Discussion

- Yavuz. “The Tempering of the Kemalist Revolution”
- Smith. “Between Allah and Ataturk”
- Short piece by Fallers. “Turkish Islam”

8 Week of March 1

General Review (M); Mid-term Part 1 (Wednesday); Mid-term Part 2 (Friday)

Part III: Forty Shades of Sufism

9 Week of March 8

Sufism: The Nakshibandis

Discussion

- Hakan Yavuz, “Matrix of Turkish Islamic Movements: The Nakşibendi Sufi Order”
- [A Nakshi Zikr in New York](#)

10 Week of March 15

Sufism: Rumi and Whirling Dervishes

Discussion

- Cyrus Masroori, “An Islamic Language of Toleration: Rumi’s Criticism of Religious Persecution”
- Selected texts from Mawlana’s Masnavi
- [Reed Flute](#).

11 Week of March 22

No meeting to be held on Wednesday, which is a Recharge Day!

Activism in Prison: Said Nursi and the Islamist Utopia

Discussion

- Ahmet Kuru, “Apolitical Interpretation of Islam: Said Nursi’s Faith Based Activism in Comparison with Political Islamism and Sufism”
- Short chapters from Nursi’s [The Words](#)
- Movie. [Free Man](#)

12 Week of March 29

From Classroom to the Pulpit: Muslim Prayer Schools

Discussion

- Diren Cakmak, “Pro-Islamic Public Education in Turkey: the Imam-Hatip Schools”
- Dorian Jones, “In Turkey, Religious Schools Gain a Foothold” (VOA)
- Kim Shively, “The Merve Kavakci Affair”
- Interview with Kavakci. [My Life as a Muslim Woman Activist Scholar](#)

13 Week of April 5

Activism?: Fethullah Gulen and the Golden Generation

Discussion

- CSIS Conference. *Evolution of the Gulen Hizmet Movement*
- Sections from Gulen’s *Emerald Hills of the Heart*

- Hakan Yavuz, “The Neo-Nur Movement and Fethullah Gülen”
- [Gülen’s Hizmet Movement](#)

14 Week of April 12

Politicizing Islam: I Know What You Did on July 15

Discussion on Gülen, Erdogan, and the Failed 2016 Coup

Take-home final instructions will be provided (due by the last class meeting)

- Angel Rabasa and S. Larrabee, “The AKP in Power”
- Hakan Yavuz, “The National Outlook Movement”
- Berk Esen and Sebnem Gumuscu, “Turkey: How the Coup Failed.”
- Short documentaries: 1) [Turkey’s Longest Night](#); 2) [The Rise and Fall of the House of Gülen](#)

15 Weeks of April 19

Will Islam Fail in Turkey? Review Lecture and Conclusion

Readings for Book Review and Further Study

- Acikgoz, Salih Can. *Sacrificial Limbs: Masculinity, Disability, and Political Violence in Turkey*
- Arat, Yesim. *Rethinking Islam and Liberal Democracy*
- Aydin, Cemil. *The Idea of the Muslim World: A Global Intellectual History*
- Azak, Umut. *Islam and Secularism in Turkey*
- Dedeoglu, Saniye, and Adam Elveren. *Gender and Society in Turkey*
- Gole, Nilufer. *The Forbidden Modern: Civilization and Veiling*
- Hart, Kimberly. *Then We Work for God*
- Karpat, Kemal. *Politicization of Islam*
- Koprulu, Mehmed Fuad. *Early Mystics in Turkish Literature*
- Lings, Martin. *Muhammad: His Life Based on the Earliest Sources*
- Pamuk, Orhan. *Snow*
- Peres, Richard. *Day Turkey Stood Still: Merve Kavakci’s Walk into the Turkish Parliament*
- Rogerson, Barnaby. *The Heirs of the Prophet Muhammad*
- Murata, Sachiko and William C. Chittick. *Vision of Islam*
- Sahin, Emrah. *Faithful Encounters: Authorities and American Missionaries in the Ottoman Empire*
- Saktanber, Ayse. *Living Islam: Women, Religion, and the Politicization of Culture in Turkey*
- Shafak, Elif. *The Forty Rules of Love (A Novel of Rumi)*
- Shankland, David. *The Alevis in Turkey*
- Shively, Kim. *Islam in Modern Turkey*
- Vahide, Sukran and Ibrahim Abu-Rabi. *Islam in Modern Turkey*
- White, Jenny. *Princeton Studies in Muslim Politics*
- Yavuz, Hakan. *Nostalgia for the Empire: The Politics of Neo-Ottomanism*
- Zurcher, Eric. *The European Union, Turkey, and Islam*