

Introduction to Turkish Literature

Proposed Semester	Summer School
Instructor	Prof. Dr. Nurten Birlik
Other faculty members who may teach this course	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nil Korkut-Nayk1

Catalogue Description

This course aims to provide an introductory overview of Turkish literature (and to a certain extent Turkish culture, history and folklore) through poetry, novel, drama and prose. The translated materials provided by the instructor will be covered in the class and there will also be field trips in some of the afternoon sessions to locations in Ankara that appear in the texts. There will also be a 3-day field trip to Istanbul to see the locations that inspired some of the texts.

Course Objectives and Goals

Aims:

- To introduce students to representative texts from Turkish literature
- To familiarise students with basic generic elements of Turkish poetry, novel and drama.
- To enable students to see the social, cultural and historical contexts in the texts

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

- Critically analyse and discuss representative texts from Turkish literature
- Explore how the wider context is reflected in the Turkish literary texts
- Identify the basic generic and thematic characteristics of literary texts in Turkish literature.

Course Outline

	Content	Assigned reading/ activity
Day 1	An overview of Turkish poetry	
Day 2 10.00- 12.00	Selected poems of Jalalu'l-Din Rumi	<i>Selected poems of Jalalu'l-Din Rumi</i> . Mineola, NY: Dover, 2001.
Day 3 10.00- 12.00	Selected poems of Orhan Veli Kanık	Veli, Orhan. <i>Just for the Hell of It</i> . Trans. by Talat Halman. Istanbul: Multilingual, 1997.
Day 4 10.00- 12.00	Selected poems of Ahmet Hamdi Tanpınar	https://losangelesreview.org/poems-by-ahmet-hamdi-tanpinar-translated-by-aysel-k-basci/
Day 5 10.00- 12.00	An overview of Turkish poetry in the Republic era	Halman, Talat. <i>A Millenium of Turkish Literature</i> . Ankara: MRG, 2008.

Day 6 10.00- 12.00	An overview of Turkish novel		
Day 7 10.00- 12.00	Excerpts from <i>The Time Regulation Institute</i> by Ahmet Hamdi Tanpınar		
Day 8 10.00- 12.00	Excerpts from <i>The Time Regulation Institute</i> by Ahmet Hamdi Tanpınar		
Day 9 10.00- 12.00	Excerpts from <i>My Name is Red</i> by Orhan Pamuk		
Day 10 10.00- 12.00	Excerpts from <i>My Name is Red</i> by Orhan Pamuk		
Day 11 10.00- 12.00	Excerpts from a play staged during the summer school	Going to the theatre house to watch the play	
Day 12 10.00- 12.00	Excerpts from a play staged during the summer school	Going to the theatre house to watch the play	
Day 13 6 hours	Field trip to Istanbul	Çeri, Bahriye. <i>Istanbul Edebiyat Haritası</i> . Istanbul: Masa K, 2004	
Day 14 6 hours	Field trip to Istanbul	Çeri, Bahriye. <i>Istanbul Edebiyat Haritası</i> . Istanbul: Masa K, 2004.	
Day 15 6 hours	Field trip to Istanbul	Çeri, Bahriye. <i>Istanbul Edebiyat Haritası</i> . Istanbul: Masa K, 2004.	

Justification of the Course Proposal

The international students that come to METU are offered course materials to familiarize them with Turkish literature and to a certain extent the cultural, social and historical frames in which these texts were created. The international students will be introduced to the representative texts from Turkish literature and this will pave the way for intercultural and interdisciplinary crossroads in their academic life.

Overlapping with or complimenting topics in other courses

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Textbook & Required Readings

Textbooks:

Çeri, Bahriye. *Istanbul Edebiyat Haritası*. Istanbul: Masa K, 2004.

Halman, Talat. *A Millenium of Turkish Literature*. Ankara: MRG, 2008.

Rumi, Jalalu'l-Din. *Selected poems of Jalalu'l-Din Rumi*. Mineola, NY: Dover, 2001.

Pamuk, Orhan. *My Name is Red*. np: Faber and Faber, 2011.

Tanpınar, Ahmet Hamdi. <https://losangelesreview.org/poems-by-ahmet-hamdi-tanpinar-translated-by-aysel-k-basci/>

Tanpınar, Ahmet Hamdi. *The Time Regulation Institute*. n.p.: Penguin, 2014.

Veli, Orhan. *Just for the Hell of It*. Trans. by Talat Halman. Istanbul: Multilingual, 1997.

Evaluation and Grading	Percentage %
Annotated Literature Review	10
Presentation	20
Reflection papers of the texts	50
Attendance & Participation	20

Other Relevant Information
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