CITIZENSHIP AND MULTICULTURALISM IN MIDDLE EASTERN SOCIETIES
CMEN13 (7.5 HP) Semester Spring 2018

Course Coordinator
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Office hours: Tuesdays 13:00 – 15:00 or by appointment

Course Dates
Start Date: 16 January 2018 – End Date: 19 March 2018
All classes will take place at CMES, Seminar Room (Tuesdays 9:15 – 12:00)

Course Objective
The aim of this course is to engage critically with the debates on nationalism, citizenship and minority rights with special emphasis on Middle Eastern societies. Some of the issues that will be discussed in this context include discourses of nationalism, multiculturalism and minority rights, the politics of recognition, processes of nation- and state-building, exclusion, and diaspora. The course will combine theoretical insights with particular case studies in the Middle East.

Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of basic factual/historical information and analytical concepts concerning the issues under study.
- Develop an ability to incorporate and apply theoretical insights in explaining concrete problems.
- Develop an understanding of the strengths and limitations of academic tools in dealing with real life problems.
Course Structure
The course consists of interactive lectures, presentations and one written assignment. All students are expected to take an active part in class discussions and to complete the readings prior to the classes each week.

Course Grading and Assignments

Presentations (40%)
Students will be divided into four groups to do an in-class presentation on selected minorities and the problems of integration/exclusion they face. In the presentations, all groups will be expected to critically engage with the theoretical and conceptual debates on nationalism, citizenship and minority rights discussed in the first part of the class.

Written assignments (60%)
To be submitted electronically no later than 16 March at 17:00. 4,000 words long each (double space, times new roman). Topic to be confirmed with the course coordinator.
Course Schedule and Readings

1. Nationalism and Citizenship

2. Multiculturalism and Minority Rights

3. Nation- and State-Building in the Middle East

4. Minority Rights in the Middle East

5. Contested Identities, Part I – The Case of Dersim (Invited guest lecturer Pinar Dinc)
Martin van Bruijnessen (1995) “ Forced Evacuations and Destruction of Villages in Dersim (Tunceli) and Western Bingol, Turkish Kurdistan”, Amsterdam: Netherlands Kurdistan Society.


6. Contested Identities, Part II – The Politics of Diaspora (Invited guest lecturers Pinar Dinc and Spyros A. Sofos)


Mustafa Akcinar (2010) “Re-invention of Identity: The case of Dersim Community Association in Berlin”, Masters dissertation, Department of Sociology, Middle East Technical University, Turkey, Chapters 4 and 6.


7. Presentations, Part I

8. Presentations, Part II