Outline: This course explores the history of Cyprus from the sixteenth to the twenty first century, blending historical processes with contemporary questions. Following the history of the Eastern Mediterranean from the Ottoman Empire all the way to the post-Cold-War era, this course aims to show how the focused study of a specific locality incorporates, in fact, issues of global dimensions. Empire, minority politics, nationalism, colonialism, and globalization are some of the broader topics to be addressed by reference to both local and international politics, diplomacy, and history. How did the Ottomans, the British, and the locals interact with one another and with the broader region? What are the loaded legacies that led to the division of the island? How did European and American diplomacies affect Cyprus? What are the potentials and constraints entailed in the island’s present? In order to address the above challenging questions, students are invited to look for the many images of Cyprus within readings coming from different disciplinary, ideological, and cultural backgrounds; and through weekly discussions.

Course Requirements: Attendance and informed participation is required. You must write and submit five short essays in response to the readings for five of the twelve topics we cover over the course of the semester. These should be each 1-2 pages in length, typed and double-spaced. The final exam will be an open book essay.

Grading: Your final grade will be determined by the following schedule

Response Papers: 60%
Final Exam: 30%
Class Participation: 10%

Main Readings:


Week 1
Between Venice and the Ottomans: Empires, Pirates, and Trade in the Early Modern Mediterranean

• Michael, “The Unchanging ‘Turkish Rule,’ the ‘Fair Ottoman Administration’ and the Ottoman Period in the History of Cyprus,” in Ottoman Cyprus, 9-24.

Week 2
Islam in Cyprus: Soldiers, Courts, and Pious Foundations

• Marios Hadjianastasis, “Cyprus in the Ottoman Period: Consolidation of the Cypro-Ottoman Elite (1650-1750),” in Ottoman Cyprus, 63-89.
• Jennings, “Islamic Pious Foundations (Evkaf) and Public Welfare,” in Christians and Muslims, 40-68.

Week 3
Greek Orthodoxy in a “Muslim Empire”: The Church of Cyprus

• Michael, “An Orthodox Institution of Ottoman Political Authority: The Church of Cyprus,” in Ottoman Cyprus, 209-231.
• Jennings, “The Zimmis: Greek Orthodox Christians and Other Non-Muslims,” in Christians and Muslims, 132-172.

Week 4
Through the Lens of Gender

• Mete Hatay, “Servants, Slaves and Concubines in Ottoman Cyprus (1571-1878),” in Ottoman Cyprus, 161-180.
Week 5
In the Age of Ottoman Reform: the Cypriot Version of the Tanzimat

- Marc Aymes, “Reform Talks: Applying the Tanzimat to Cyprus,” in *Ottoman Cyprus*, 197-208.

Week 6
The Congress of Berlin: Convening the Principle of Religious Tolerance


Week 7
Between the Ottomans and the British: Empires, Diplomats, and Nationalism in the fin-de-siècle Mediterranean


Week 8
Cyprus Before and After Two World Wars: Minority Politics


Week 9
Divisions and Rapprochements: From Cold War Politics to the European Union

**Week 10**
**Uncomfortable Questions: The Eastern Mediterranean in the Age of Globalization**

• Rebecca Bryant, *Imagining the Modern*, 1-19.

**Week 11**
**The Past in the Present: The Annan Plan and Cyprus’s Loaded Heritage**


**Week 12**
**Conclusion: The Politics of Conflict**

• Screening Short Film: Minos Papas, *The Politics of Conflict* (2012)