

Ankara University Faculty of Political Science

ERASMUS Blended Intensive Program (BIP) Syllabus for 5 ECTS

History of Civilizations Through Archeopolitics

by Prof Dr Erdem DENK denk@ankara.edu

Summer 2024

Online dates 6-17 May 2024

In-person dates in Bodrum 19-25 May 2024

Paper Submission date 23 June 2024

Objectives

It has become more visible after the Covid-19 pandemic that the world is going through a very important transformation process. Understanding what we are going through and thinking about what awaits us in the future has become the most fundamental subject of study for all those interested in different sub-branches of political science. The effort to understand radical changes that we have never witnessed before inevitably leads us to take a closer look at Human History. For understanding the reasons of similar radical changes in the past and seeing how they happened can well provide us with some guiding data about the present and the future. Political Science, which in fact conventionally focuses on analyzing the present and predicting the future, has nowadays turned its gaze to the past more than ever. In this context, fields such as archeology and anthropology, which are likely to provide the oldest information, are increasingly attracting the attention of Political Scientists. Increasing technology also has a great impact on the increasing acceptance of the view that in order to understand “what is above the ground”, we need to look at “what is underground”. Because technology-supported archaeological studies are now providing serious data about the lives of past people and the law and order they established. At this point, "Anatolia" also has a special importance. For it has become increasingly clear that Anatolia has a very special and pioneering place in the Neolithization process, which resulted in the institutionalization of settled farming societies that gave rise to the very first city-States established in Mesopotamia.

Based on this understanding, the program will focus on two main subjects, ie. “Law and Order in Stateless Societies” and “The Invention of State and Its Evolution”. Thus the "50 thousand years of human history" will be re-evaluated basically in the light of the latest data particularly unearthed in recent (mostly Neolithic) excavations in Anatolia.

The course is at Master's level. Moreover, the undergraduate students can take the course provided that at least 3.00 GPA as well as necessary English language level (B1).

The course is mainly for Archaeology, Political Science, International Relations, and for other Social Science programs. Yet, there is not any prerequisite so any student from any program can take the course.

Content

Courses: 21 hours online and 21 hours in person

Part I (6-17 May 2024)	ONLINE	LAW AND ORDER IN STATELESS SOCIETIES
Session 1 6 May 2024	On-line	Conceptual-Theoretical Framework - Prof. Dr. Prof. Dr. Erdem DENK
Session 2 7 May 2024	On-line	Stateless societies of the Stone Age (50,000-10,000) Prof. Dr. Erdem DENK
Session 3 9 May 2024	On-line	The process of settlement, the birth of the first villages and the first cosmopolitan areas (10,000-8,000) Prof. Dr. Erdem DENK
Session 4 11 May 2024	On-line	The Birth of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry and the First Mega-Settlement of Çatalhöyük (8-6 Thousand BC): Prof. Dr. Erdem DENK
Session 5 13 May 2024	On-line	From Chalcolithic to the Bronze Age: State in the Making? Prof. Dr. Erdem DENK
Session 6 15 May 2024	On-line	The Birth of City-States in Southern Mesopotamia Prof. Dr. Erdem DENK
Session 7 17 May 2024	On-line	Sumerian Law and Order and Beyond (4-2 Thousand BC) Prof. Dr. Erdem DENK

PART II (19-25 May 2024)	IN-PERSON (BODRUM)	THE INVENTION OF STATE AND ITS EVOLUTION
19 May 2024 19.00-21.00	In-person (Bodrum)	ICE-BREAKING
SESSION 9 20 May 2024 10.00-12.00 12.00-13.30 13.30.16.30		HONARARY SPEAKER Prof. Dr. Mehmet Özdoğan: The Process Leading to the Formation of the State from an Archaeology Perspective Lunch Prof. Dr. Erdem Denk: The Challenge of the Barbarians of the Steppes with the Settlements
SESSION 10 21 May 2024 10.00-12.00 13.30.16.30	In-person (Bodrum)	Ask an Archaeologist Prof. Dr. Ian Hodder: The Relevance of Archaeology for Modern Social Sciences Treasure Hunt Attendees activity to archeological sites
SESSION 10 22 May 2024 9.00-12.30		The Achaemenid Empires as a Forerunner of the Empires of Middle Ages: Prof. Dr. Erdem Denk
SESSION 11 23 May 2024 9.00-12.30	In-person (Bodrum)	The Roman Empire: Europe in the Making? Prof. Dr. Erdem Denk:

PART II (19-25 May 2024)	IN-PERSON (BODRUM)	THE INVENTION OF STATE AND ITS EVOLUTION
20.00-22.30		Gala Dinner
SESSION 12 24 May 2024	In-person (Bodrum)	
9.00-12.00		The 1492 Affect: Invention of the West and Its Liberal World Order: Prof. Dr. Erdem DENK
12.00-13.30		Conclusion Session: The Globalization Affect: Westlessness-Illiberal World Order: Prof. Dr. Erdem DENK

LECTURERS

Erdem Denk



Erdem Denk studied International Relations for his first degree at the Faculty of Political Science (Mülkiye), Ankara University. After receiving his MA degree from the same school, he completed his PhD at Cardiff Law School, UK, in 2005.

He is a Professor of International Relations at Mülkiye, where he has been working since 1998. He is the author and editor of twelve books (including two collaborations), and several articles on various aspects of international law as well as Turkish Foreign Policy.

His main areas of interest are the theory and history of international law, de-colonial international studies, international organisations, international criminal justice and nuclear disarmament.

He has recently been studying on "law and order since Paleolithic" and is preparing three books entitled "When There Was No State", "Invention of the State" and "History of States". A general summary of these studies, entitled "50 Thousand Years of World Order: Societies and Their Laws", was published in September 2021.

He has been organising "Arkeopolitics Conferences/Talks" since October 2022 at Mülkiye. These talks involve an archaeologist and a political scientist every month who respectively discuss prehistoric and modern aspects of any given topic.

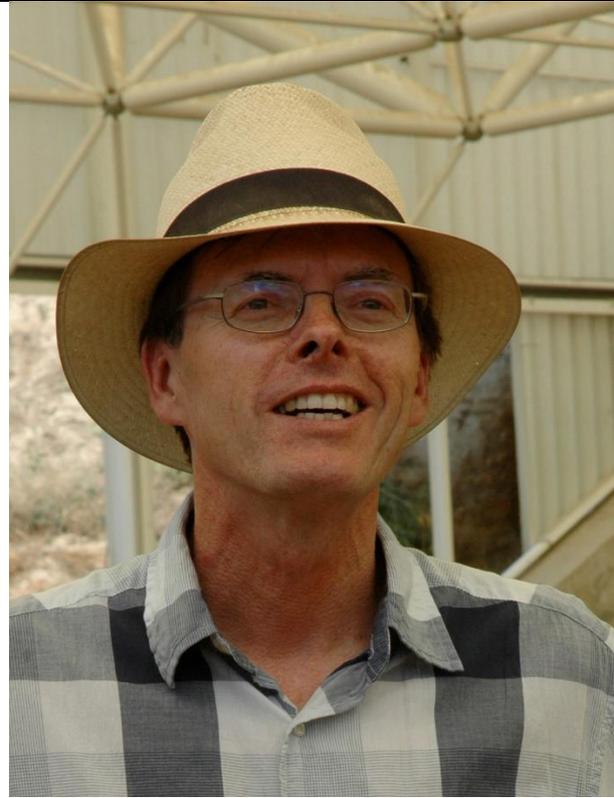
Mehmet Özdoğan



Mehmet Özdoğan, entered the Prehistory Department of Istanbul University as a student in 1963. He was a student of world-famous scientists in their fields, such as Prof. Dr. Halet Çambel, Prof. Dr. Kurt Bittel, Prof. Dr. Robert J. Braidwood. Özdoğan, who spent his academic life at Istanbul University, served as the head of the Prehistory Department in 2000. Özdoğan specialized in the emergence of the settled lifestyle based on food production, known as the Neolithic, and its transfer models to Europe. In this context, he carried out the excavations in Çayönü, Mezraa Teleilat, Yarımburgaz, and Ağır Pınar. He currently continues his work in Thrace, Kırklareli region. Other areas of expertise are archaeological policies, the intellectual structure of archaeology, cultural heritage management, and geoarchaeology. Özdoğan, who is a foreign full member of the United States Academy of

Science (NAS), a member of institutions such as the American Archaeological Institute (AIA), and German Archaeological Institutes (DAI), is also a member of the editorial board of many scientific journals published abroad. Özdoğan, who is the recipient of the TÜBA Service Award, the Italian State "Cavaliere" Order, and the Vehbi Koç Foundation 2008 Award, has more than 20 published books and nearly 300 scientific articles.

Ian Hodder



Ian Hodder was trained at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London and at Cambridge University where he obtained his PhD in 1975. After a brief period teaching at Leeds, he returned to Cambridge where he taught until 1999. During that time he became Professor of Archaeology and was elected a Fellow of the British Academy. In 1999 he moved to teach at Stanford University as Dunlevie Family Professor in the Department of Anthropology and Director of the Stanford Archaeology Center. In 2021 he moved to teach at Koç University, Istanbul. His main large-scale excavation projects have been at Haddenham in the east of England and at Çatalhöyük in Turkey where he worked from 1993 to 2018. He has been awarded the Oscar Montelius Medal by the Swedish Society of Antiquaries, the Huxley Memorial Medal by the Royal Anthropological Institute, the Fyssen International Prize, the Gold Medal by the Archaeological Institute of America, and has Honorary Doctorates from Bristol and Leiden Universities. In 2019 he was appointed Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George in the Queen's Honor List. His main books include *Spatial analysis in archaeology* (1976 CUP), *Symbols in action* (1982 CUP), *Reading the past* (1986 CUP), *The domestication of Europe* (1990 Blackwell), *The archaeological process* (1999 Blackwell), *The leopard's tale: revealing the mysteries of*

Çatalhöyük (2006 Thames and Hudson), Entangled. An archaeology of the relationships between humans and things (2012 Wiley Blackwell), Where are we heading? The evolution of humans and things (2018 Yale).

Assessment

The assessment of the term is as follows:

Attendance	25%
Participation/Quiz exams	25%
Research Paper and Presentation	50%

Students who fail to fulfil ECTS requirements will be given a signed certificate of attendance for showing their participation.

GUIDELINE FOR the FINAL ASSIGNMENT

For the Final Exam, each student will choose a subject on the World History In the Light of a Recent Archeological Findings from his/her own country and, with approval of the subjects and, subsequently, the content by the lecturer, you will need to submit a research paper and a video recording of yourself presenting this paper. The research paper and presentation will constitute **50% of your total grade**. The submission date will be no later than **June 23rd, 2024**.

Research Paper

Once you choose your **main subject/week** from the syllabus of History of Civilizations Through Archeopolitics, you should decide on a unique **subtopic** of yours that is related to the chosen subject.

Word limit for the research paper is **1000 words (-250, +500)**. A 100-word abstract and a bibliography are required. You should add at least 5 sources to the bibliography which must include mainly from required readings on the syllabus (you are allowed to use outside sources as well).

Academic writing rules must be followed strictly. Please follow the guidelines of the Journal of International Relations for academic writing and referencing.

The link to the guidelines: <https://www.ir-journal.com/for-authors/guidelines>

Presentation Video

Each student should submit a **5-7 minutes video recording** where you present your research. No PowerPoint is required, a **verbal** presentation is adequate.

Submission of the papers and video recordings

Please send your research papers and video recordings to Prof. Denk's e-mail address (denk@ankara.edu) before the deadline.

Please edit your file names in **Surname_Name_Title** format.

!!! Plagiarism

Plagiarism is not expected and we care about it. If you take any text or idea from somebody else, you must make it clear the text is being quoted and where the text comes from. You must also cite any sources from which you obtain numbers, ideas, or other material. Use of ChatGPT or other AI composition software is not permitted. If you have any questions about what does or does not constitute plagiarism, do not hesitate to send an email message to the lecturer. Please note that your own sentences are so valuable.