

MODULE TITLE

THE BALKANS FROM THE 19TH TO THE 21ST CENTURY:
A HISTORICAL SURVEY OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

LECTURER: Dr Ekavi Athanassopoulou

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

This course intends to familiarise the student with major 19th and 20th century developments which shaped the history of modern Balkan states. The course focuses on political history, but aspects of social and economic history are also examined. The aim of this Balkan history survey is to provide an understanding of the region and its numerous problems of which some persist even today. Topics to be examined: the Balkan peoples under the Ottoman and Habsburg rule, the spread of revolutionary ideas of nationalism and liberalism in the Balkans, the emergence of nation states in the Balkans, the role of foreign powers in shaping the geopolitical map of the region, the Macedonian problem, the failed experiment of Yugoslavia, the impact of communism on Balkan economies and societies, the post Second World War political and social development of non-communist Turkey and Greece, the post Cold War events which have been shaping current conditions in the Balkans, US foreign policy towards the region and the Balkan conflicts.

MAIN READING TEXTS

Mark Mazower, The Balkans: A Short History (New York, The Modern Library, 2000).

L.S. Stavrianos, The Balkans Since 1453 (Hinsdale, Dryden Press, 1958), Chs.1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 36, 38, 39.

Erik J. Zürcher, Turkey: A Modern History (London, I. B. Tauris, 1997), Part II, ch.10.

Also

Michael Ignatieff, Virtual War: Kosovo and Beyond (London, Vintage, 2001).

ASSESSMENT

Test (Multiple Choice Questions) (25 % of overall assessment).

2 Texts study: (50% (25% each) of overall assessment).

Final Exam (Multiple Choice Questions) (25% per cent of overall assessment).

COLLEGE'S CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is obligatory. Two absences will result in marks been downgraded by 10%.

SYLLABUS

INTRODUCTION

NATURAL AND ETHNIC GEOGRAPHY OF THE BALKANS

THE BALKANS UNDER OTTOMAN AND HABSBERG DOMINATION

THE BALKANS IN THE 19TH C: THE ERA OF NATIONALISM

THE GREEK REVOLUTION

THE CONGRESS OF BERLIN (1878) AND ITS AFTERMATH

TEST

TEXT: CLASS PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION: L.S. STAVRIANOS, THE INFLUENCE OF THE WEST ON THE BALKANS, IN CHARLES AND BARBARA JELAVICH (EDS), THE BALKANS IN TRANSITION (HAMDEN CON.; 1974, ARCHON BOOKS).

THE END OF OTTOMAN RULE IN THE BALKANS

THE EMERGENCE OF MODERN TURKEY (THE RISE OF TURKISH NATIONALISM/THE YOUNG TURKS/ KEMAL ATATURK)

BETWEEN TWO WORLD WARS

COMMUNIST BALKANS: FROM THE SECOND WORLD WAR TO THE END OF THE COLD WAR

POST-WAR GREECE: POLITICS AND SOCIETY

POST-WAR TURKEY: POLITICS AND SOCIETY

VISIT TO THE BENAKI MUSEUM

THE DISSOLUTION OF YUGOSLAVIA

US FOREIGN POLICY IN THE BALKANS SINCE THE END OF THE COLD WAR

MAFIA RISING: THE CURRENT BALKAN PREDICAMENT

TEXT: CLASS PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION: IVAN KRASDEV, THE INFLEXIBILITY TRAP: FRUSTRATED, WEAK STATES AND DEMOCRACY IN THE INFLEXIBILITY TRAP: FRUSTRATED, WEAK STATES AND DEMOCRACY (SOFIA, CENTRE FOR LIBERAL STUDIES AND INSTITUTE FOR MARKET CONOMIC, 2003).

REVIEW

FINAL EXAM