MINORITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

INSTRUCTOR: MEHMET POLATEL

HISTORY 328.002 • 3 CR • HU

Description: In this course, we will explore the links between nationalism, citizenship, and policies of exclusion and violence in the modern nation-state by focusing on the experiences of Armenian, Greek, Jewish, Assyrian, Alevi, and Kurdish populations in Turkey in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. What does the term minority mean? What were the legal, institutional, and political problems faced by minorities in Turkey? How did the processes of denial and non-recognition of some communal rights shape debates and policies over citizenship and equality? What are the implications and effects of these historical developments on democratization, human rights, and equality debates in Turkey? In this course, we will discuss these questions with a particular focus on the experiences and struggles of people from various ethnic and religious backgrounds.