

Sounds of Turkey: Language and Music in Context

A Turkish Course for Advanced and Heritage Learners

[Türk Dili ve Müziği]

Spring 2025, 1 Credit

EUS3937 - 21313

<u>Class meetings</u>	<u>For alternate/hybrid meetings</u>
Monday 3 (8:30; may be rescheduled)	Zoom room here
Classroom tba	

Instructor Contact Information

[Emrah Sahin, Ph.D.](#)

emrahsahin@ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 294-7143

Office Location: [Turlington 3326](#); [Zoom Room](#)

Office hours: MW tba and by appointment

Sign up [here at calendly](#) for a f2f or [zoom](#) meeting

Meeting Times and Communication

The class will meet in classroom once a week, and/or on zoom on alternate times and days. Zoom ID for class meetings is 943 8605 6195; virtual classroom is available [here](#). Instructor will admit online attendees from the waiting room shortly before the start of the meetings.

Office hours are (tba)... and by appointment. Students can contact the instructor [by email](#) anytime, by phone during office hours, and also through the GroupMe page after the first week of classes. For virtual office hours, use the same Zoom ID as in our meetings (943 8605 6195; sign up [here at calendly](#)).

Course Information

This is a 1-credit course designed for advanced and heritage learners of Turkish. It will empower your language skills and *globo-local* and cultural knowledge of Türkiye by addressing select musicological traditions, major genres, and select styles in Turkish music. With Dr. Sahin's help, you will also create a special project relating to your interests and career paths. By the end of the program, you will communicate in Turkish with precision and analyze Turkish culture and music with confidence.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, students will:

- Analyze authentic texts and audio-visual productions in Turkish,

- Develop a nuanced understanding of artistic and colloquial expressions,
- Acquire and practice ways to express their views relating to Turkish cultural representations,
- Recognize and discuss the historical, geographical, and socio-cultural roots of modern Turkish music and its place in world music, and,
- Develop a final project with the instructor on a topic of their choice that may relate to their areas of personal interest or career path.

Course Requirements

Required textbook

All sources [will be] available on the e-learning website. There are no additional fees for this course and required materials.

Prerequisites

Upper Intermediate Turkish or the instructor's approval.

Materials/Supply Fees

There is no supply fee for this course.

Course Policies

Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at [here](#).

Coursework and Assignments

This course includes listening, viewing, and reading assignments as well as live or recorded lectures. Be willing, engaged, and punctual: *attend* meetings, *watch* recordings, *participate*, and *complete* your assignments on time.

- *Attendance and participation.* Attend the weekly meeting in person (or via zoom) and engage with class on discussion board on the e-learning website (we will carry our discussion over to our GroupMe page in module 2).
- *Homework synopsis.* Paragraph-long synopsis on pillar shows will return with the instructor's constructive feedback to help you improve your writing skills.
- *Final project.* The final project will be a take-home assignment. In advance instructions will be provided.

Please note that all assignments must be completed by the date indicated on the syllabus and will not be rescheduled or accepted late. Requests of any special accommodations must be made to the instructor in writing and in advance. Feel free to discuss any of your requirements or assignments with your professor. Additionally, the instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as needed during the course of the semester. As much advance warning as possible will be provided to students. Changes can be made to the schedule, assigned reading or other aspects as deemed necessary. No changes will be made to grading scale or core UF policies as noted above.

Policy on Late and Make-up Work: Students should contact the instructor for late and make-up work. In case of emergency, instructor must be notified as soon as possible.

Grade Return Timing: Instructor will evaluate assigned work in a timely manner; likewise, students can expect to receive grades on mid-term within 10 days and final examination in one week.

Grading Administration

<i>Attendance and participation</i>	30 points
<i>Homework</i>	30 points
<i>Final Project</i>	40 points

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Numerical Value (% rank)	+93	90 92	87 89	83 86	80 82	77 79	73 76	70 72	67 69	63 66	60 62	-59
GPA Equivalent	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0

More information on grades and grading policies is at [here](#)

Class Attendance and Make-Up Policy

Attendance and participation are required for success. They not only constitute 30% of your grade. Repeated absences also affect your learning the language as well as your performance on exams and quizzes since they will be based on lectures and discussions. Missing class likewise means missing participation and falling behind in other assignments.

According to the Office of the University Registrar, “acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, and professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused.” (for further information about the University of Florida’s attendance policy, see the current Undergraduate Catalogue [here](#))

UF Policies

University Policy on Accommodating Differently Abled Students

Differently abled students requesting accommodations should first register with the [Disability Resource Center](#) (352-392-8565) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented

to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Differently abled students should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Policy on Academic Conduct

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." [The Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

Netiquette and Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy during, before, and after class, in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats.

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

Getting Help

Technical Difficulties

For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>
- (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues should be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You should e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Health and Wellness

- **U Matter, We Care:** If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- **Counseling and Wellness Center:** Visit counseling.ufl.edu or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- **Student Health Care Center:** Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need or visit shcc.ufl.edu.

- **University Police Department:** Visit police.ufl.edu or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care in Gainesville, call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.

Academic and Student Support

- Career Connections Center: **352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services** career.ufl.edu/.
- **Library Support:** Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources. cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask.
- **Teaching Center:** 352-392-2010 Study skills and tutoring: teachingcenter.ufl.edu.
- **Writing Studio:** 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers: writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at [here](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [here](#). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [here](#).

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COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1-2 (Weeks of January 13 and 20)

Course Mechanics, Introduction, and “Sounds and Identity” (İmajlar ve Kimlik)

- **Attention:** Music as history [tarihi anlatan müzik]
- **Pillar Musical Documentary:** Crossing the Bridge: The Sound of Istanbul [İstanbul Hatırası]
- **Discussion:** The Act of Listening [dinlemek]

Mod 2: Ottoman Music and Audience

Week 3-4 (Weeks of January 27 and February 3)

- **Attention:** Military and Harem Music; Cross-pollination with Europe [Mehteran, Dansözler ve Perküsyon]
- **Pillar reading:** Olley, Jacob. “Evliya’s Song: Listening to the Early Modern Ottoman Court,” *Journal of the American Musicological Society* (2023) 76 (3): 645–703.
- **Discussion:** Military Marches and Harem Beats

Mod 3: Folk Music: Aşıklar

Week 5-6 (Weeks of February 10 and 17)

- **Attention:** Local Accents and Emotions [Yanık, bozlak, ağıt ve bölgeler]
- **Pillar reading:** Stokes, M. “The Media and Reform: The Saz and *Elektrosaz* in Urban Turkish Folk Music,” *British Journal of Ethnomusicology* (1992) 1(1), 89–102.
- **Discussion:** Singer Neşet Ertaş and the Zeybek Dance

Mod 4: Arabesque: Babalar

Week 7-8 (Weeks of February 24 and March 3)

- **Attention:** Internal Migration and the High-Pitch Wailing in Squatter Houses
- **Pillar reading:** Özgür, İren. “Arabesk Music in Turkey in the 1990s and Changes in National Demography, Politics, and Identity,” *Turkish Studies* (2006) 7(2), 175–190.
- **Discussion:** Fathers, Ferdi Tayfur, Müslüm Gürses, Orhan Gencebay, İbrahim Tatlıses

Mod 5: Popular Music: Minik Serçe

Week 9-11 (Weeks of March 10, Spring Break and March 24)

- **Attention:** Broadcasting sounds for all [birleştiren sesler]
- **Pillar reading:** Yanıkkaya, Berrin. “Popular Music as a Crosscultural Interaction Form: Every woman Has A Sezen Aksu Song,” a conference paper delivered in ACSIS Sweden (2007).

- **Discussion:** The analysis of select songs by Sezen Aksu, Tarkan, Mustafa Sandal, Kenan Doğulu, MFÖ and others.

Mod 6: Hymns: İlahiler

Week 12 (March 31)

- **Attention:** The rise of İlahis in Turkey with focus on the 80s
- **Pillar reading:** Taş, Hakkı. “Medolies of Resistance: Islamic Music in Secular Turkey,” *Social Compass* (2014) 61(3), 368-83.
- **Project:** Research ideas in circulation

Mod 7: Hip, Hop, and Rock: Med Cezir

Week 13-14 (Weeks of April 7 and 14)

- **Attention:** Turkish-German creators and Follows [Cartel'den Hayko Cepkin'e]
- **Pillar reading:** Solomon, Thomas. “Berlin-Frankfurt-Istanbul: Turkish Hip-Hop in Motion,” *European Journal of Cultural Studies* (2009) 12(3), 306-327.
- **Discussion:** Karaoke in class; and song analyses (e.g., Ceza and Sagopa)

Mod 8: Re-Crossing the Bridge, The Sound of Turkey

Week 15 (Week of April 21)

- **Discussion and Conclusion**
- **Group/project Presentations**