

**EUS 3036/CLA 3930**  
**The Balkans: History, Culture, Politics**  
**Spring 2022**  
**T | Period 5 - 6 (11:45 AM - 1:40 PM)**  
**R | Period 6 (12:50 PM - 1:40 PM)**  
**Room LEI 0242**

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**INSTRUCTOR:** DR. CHRYSOSTOMOS KOSTOPOULOS, Turlington Hall 3328, (352) 294-7146, [CKOSTOPO@UFL.EDU](mailto:CKOSTOPO@UFL.EDU)

**OFFICE HOURS:** M, T, W, TH PERIODS 3 AND 4 OR BY APPOINTMENT

**COURSE CONTENT:** The Balkans have often been viewed as a place where ethnic rivalries dominate history and where medieval and modern traditions thread into each other. As early as the 18<sup>th</sup> c., this part of Europe has been the stage of fierce geopolitical rivalry among European powers and it has seen states emerge and disintegrate, the rise and collapse of democratic and dictatorial regimes, demographic engineering and multiple wars. This course is an introduction to the history and the culture of this troublesome European region from the late 1700 to our modern times. Each week's work will examine a key episode in Balkan history through a combination of lectures, readings, and discussion of associated issues. The class will not follow the history of any one Balkan country comprehensively but instead, will provide a general overview of key historical events, cultural milestones, and political developments.

The course emphasizes the history of Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, and former Yugoslavian states, with some attention to events that took place in the Ottoman Empire, Albania, the Habsburg Monarchy and Hungary as appropriate.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- To examine history, politics and society in the Balkans from the past to the present
- To learn about the Balkan cultures with focus on significant similarities and differences
- To discuss religion's role and political impact on the Balkans and its influence on Greek-Turkish relations.
- And, to become familiar with the efforts of modernization in Balkans, the influence of Western secularism, and the implications of political discontinuities in the area.

**TEXT:** Misha Glenny, *The Balkans : Nationalism, War, and the Great Powers, 1804-1999*. Secondary material will also be distributed during the semester and posted on the website.

**CLASS WEBSITE:** Under Construction (link will be provided soon)

Assignment	Assignment Description	Grade
<b>Reflection Assignments and other Activities</b>	Throughout the semester, students will get involved in various reflection assignments where the students will be asked to present their ideas on various topics drawn from the course material. Also, in order to foster cooperative learning and an in-depth study of a particular topic of interest, students will be responsible for participating in various activities throughout the semester on a topic related to the material discussed in class.	200
<b>Biweekly Quizzes</b>	There will be bi-weekly quizzes during the semester based on course readings and class discussion and lectures. The format will be a combination of short answer, multiple-choice, and fill in the blank questions. These will not be difficult, but will be intended to test whether you have done the readings and are prepared for class.	200
<b>Examination 1</b>	A First Exam in lecture on <b>Wednesday March 3</b> . The exam will be based on the course material and the format will be as follows: a) Multiple Choice Questions b) Free Response Questions	250
<b>Examination 2</b>	A Second Exam in lecture on <b>Wednesday, April 20</b> . The exam will be based on the course material and the format will be as follows: a) Multiple Choice Questions b) Free Response Questions	250
<b>Attendance</b>	Attendance in lecture	100
<b>Total Points</b>		1000

## GRADING SCALE

Grade Scale\*      Grade Value

930-1,000 = A	A = 4.0
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900-929 = A-	A- = 3.67
870-899 = B+	B+ = 3.33
830-869 = B	B = 3.00
790-829 = B-	B- = 2.67
750-789 = C+	C+ = 2.33
720-749 = C	C = 2.00
690-719 = C-	C- = 1.67
660-689 = D+	D+ = 1.33
620-659 = D	D = 1.00
600-619 = D-	D- = 0.67
0-599 = E	E = 0.00

\*Because Canvas cannot round to whole numbers, the Grade Scale in Canvas has been adjusted to achieve the same effect (e.g., 92.5% = A, 89.5% = A-, 86.5% = B+, etc.).

More information on grades and grading policy is available in the [Undergraduate Catalog](#).

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

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 honor 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. 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.

## STUDENTS IN DISTRESS

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

## ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES, RULES AND RESOURCES

1. **All readings, written assignments and exams must be completed by or on the date indicated on the syllabus and will not be rescheduled or accepted late.** Requests of any special accommodations must be made to the course instructor in writing and in advance of the class or exam time.
2. **Class attendance is required for this course and constitutes 10% of your grade.** We will regularly circulate an attendance sheet, which you should sign. Signing for others is considered academic dishonesty. Repeated absences may affect your

performance on final exam and quizzes since they will be based on the class lectures. Also missing class means possibly missing quizzes and late submission of homework 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, 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, please see the current Undergraduate Catalogue (<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationattendance.html>).

3. **Common Courtesy:** Cell phones and other electronic devices must be set to vibrate mode during class. Students who receive or make calls or text messages during class will be asked to leave and marked absent for the day. The instructors may ask a student engaging in disruptive behavior, including but not limited to whispering or snoring, to leave the class, and the student will be marked absent for the day.
4. **Counseling Resources:** Resources available on-campus for students include the following:
  - a. University Counseling and Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Rd, 392-1575;
  - b. Student Health Care Center, 392-1161; and
  - c. Dean of Students Office, 202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261, [umatter.ufl.edu](mailto:umatter.ufl.edu)
5. **Course Evaluation:** Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at [evaluations.ufl.edu](http://evaluations.ufl.edu). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

## Course Schedule

### Week 1

**Course Introduction. Discussion of Course Objectives, Requirements, Important Course Dates, etc.**

**Defining the "Balkans:" A Different Europe. The physical and ethnic geography of the Balkans.**

- Textbook Introduction
- Maria Todorova, "The Balkans: From Discovery to Invention," *Slavic Review* 53/2 (Summer 1994), pp. 453-482.
- Bram Stoker, *Dracula* (1897), Chapter I, pp. 1-15

### Week 2

**The "Old Regimes" in the Balkans - The Ottoman and Habsburg Empires. Reform and Decay.**

- Deringil. "The Turks and Europe."
- Recommended: Makdisi. "Ottoman Orientalism."

### Week 3

**The Earliest National Revolutions- The Serbian Revolution and the Serbian State. The Greek War of Independence (1821-8) and the Creation of Greek National Consciousness.**

- "Cooperation between Greeks and Serbs during their struggles for liberation 1804-1830". 1st Greek-Serbian Symposium (7-10 November 1976) Institute for Balkan Studies. 1979.
- Clogg, Richard. "Aspects of the movement for Greek independence." *The Struggle for Greek Independence*. Palgrave Macmillan UK, 1973. 1-40.

### Week 4

**Balkan Dreams, Modern Realities. The Revolutions of 1848. Hungarian Revolution of 1848. Croatian and Romanian revolutionaries.**

- George F. Jewsbury, "Nationalism in the Danubian Principalities: 1800-1825--A reconsideration," *East European Quarterly* 13/3 (Fall 1979), pp. 287-296.

- Laszlo Deme, "Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism among the Hungarian Radicals," *Austrian History Yearbook XII-XIII (1976-77)*, pp. 36-44.
- Juraj Krnjevic, "The Croats in 1848," *Slavonic and East European Review* 27/68 (December 1948), pp. 106-114.

## Week 5

### **Life in the Balkans in the 19th and 20th c. The European Cultural "Other"?**

- Jelavich, Barbara. "The British Traveller in the Balkans: The Abuses of Ottoman Administration in the Slavonic Provinces." *The Slavonic and East European Review*, vol. 33, no. 81, 1955, pp. 396-413. JSTOR, [www.jstor.org/stable/4204663](http://www.jstor.org/stable/4204663).

## Week 6

### **Nationalism in the Balkans: Serbia and Greece as Case Studies.**

- David MacKenzie, "Serbia as Piedmont and the Yugoslav Idea, 1804-1914," *East European Quarterly* XXVIII/2 (June 1994), pp. 153-182.
- Mark Mazower, "The Messiah and the Bourgeoisie: Venizelos and Politics in Greece, 1909-1912," *Historical Journal* 35/4 (December 1992), pp. 885-905.

## Week 7

### **The Balkan Wars. World War I: Causes and legacies. The Role of the Balkans**

- R. W. Seton-Watson, "The Sarajevo murder trial," *Slavonic and East European Review* 4/12 (March 1926), pp. 645-656.
- James Smallwood, "Banquo's Ghost at the Paris Peace Conference: The United States and the Hungarian Question," *East European Quarterly* XII/3 (Fall 1978), pp. 289-307.

## Week 8

### **EXAM 1**

## Week 9      **SPRING BREAK**

## Week 10

### **The Balkan States after WWI. War and Peace 1914-1924. The Rise of Fascism. The Royal Dictatorships**

- Laslo Sekelj, "Anti-Semitism in Yugoslavia, 1918-1945," *East European Quarterly* 22/2 (June 1988), pp. 159-172.
- X, "A Croat view of the Yugoslav crisis," *Slavonic and East European Review* 7/20 (Jan. 1929), pp. 304-310.

## Week 11

### **The Balkans during WWII. Resistance, Politics and Society**

- Frederick B. Chary, "The Bulgarian Writers' Protest of October 1940 against the Introduction of Anti-Semitic Legislation into the Kingdom of Bulgaria," *East European Quarterly* IV/1 (March 1970), pp. 88-93.
- M. A. Kay, "The Yugoslav Government-in-Exile and the Problems of Restoration," *East European Quarterly* XXV/1 (March 1991), pp. 1-19.

## Week 12

### **The coming of the Cold War, 1944-1956 Europe Divided. Churchill and Stalin's "percentages agreement. Communism and Militarism**

- Robert L. Farlow, "Romanian Foreign Policy: A Case of Partial Alignment," *Problems of Communism* XX/6 (November-December 1971), pp. 54-63.
- C. L. Sulzberger, "Greece under the Colonels," *Foreign Affairs* 48/2 (January 1970), pp. 300-311.

## Week 13

### **Balkans and the Revolutions of the 1980s. Nationalism, War and NATO.**

- Bogomil Ferfila, "Yugoslavia: Confederation or Disintegration?," *Problems of Communism* XL/4 (July-August 1991), pp. 18-30.
- Matei Calinescu and Vladimir Tismaneanu, "The 1989 Revolution and Romania's Future," *Problems of Communism* XL/1-2 (January-April 1991), pp. 42-59.
- Alex N. Dragnich, "The rise and fall of Yugoslavia: The omen of the upsurge of Serbian nationalism," *East European Quarterly* 23/2 (June 1989), pp. 183-198.
- Paul Kubicek, 'The Earthquake, Europe, and Prospects for Political Change in Turkey', *MERIA*, Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 34-47.
- Mustafa Aydın, 'Contemporary Turkish-Greek Relations: Constraints and Opportunities', in Mustafa Aydın, Kostas Ifantis (eds.), *Turkish-Greek relations: the*



*security Dilemma in the Aegean*, London And New York: Routledge, 2004, pp. 21-52.

- William Wallace, From the Atlantic to the Bug, from the Arctic to the Tigris? The Transformation of the EU and NATO, *International Affairs (Royal Institute of International Affairs 1944-)*, Vol. 76, No. 3, Europe: Where Does It Begin and End? (Jul., 2000), pp. 475-493

## Week 14

### **Balkan Culture. Superstitions and Legends. Music and Poetry. The Balkan Cinema.**

- Djurdević. M. (2009). The Balkans: Past and Present of Cultural Pluralism. *Quaderns de la Mediterrània = Cuadernos del Mediterráneo*, [online] 12, pp.155-165

## Week 14

### **The European Union and the Balkans**

- Golding, Kasey P., "The "Balkan Question" : benefits and challenges of European integration through enlargement." (2018). College of Arts & Sciences Senior Honors Theses. Paper 161.

## Week 15

### **Conclusion The Future of the Balkan States Obstacles and Challenges**

## Week 15

**EXAM 2**