Middle East Technical University  
Faculty of Economic and Administrative Sciences  
Department of Economics 2009-2010  
Econ 510 Turkish Economy  
Fikret Şenses  
Office F-205  
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Wednesdays 14.40-17.30  
Room F-107  
Office Hours: Wednesdays: 10.40-11.30; Fridays: 10.40-11.30

OUTLINE

OBJECTIVES:
The course has three main objectives:
I) The first objective of the course is to increase student knowledge and understanding of the Turkish economy. A supplementary objective in this regard is to give students a development economics perspective. Students will also be encouraged to draw on material from other countries to gain a comparative perspective. To give students with different backgrounds a good start, there will at the beginning be a short reading period from four texts of the Turkish economy. These are:


C) Tevfik Fikret Nas (2008), Tracing The Economic Transformation of Turkey from the 1920s to EU Accession, Leiden: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers (Brill), Chapters 9-11, pp. 139-84.


At the end of this reading period, students will take a ninety-minute examination on this reading material. The emphasis in this examination will be on testing students’ understanding of the linkages between different events as well as on testing their knowledge on specific developments. This examination will start at 5.40 PM, on Friday, 2 April in Room F-107. After this preliminary examination, there will be a total of eight sessions. One session (17 March) will be devoted to student presentations of the introduction of their papers to the whole group and another (12 May) more specifically to a general discussion and progress reports of students’ research papers.

II) The second objective of the course is to increase students’ ability and skills in research and academic essay-writing. For this purpose, students are required to prepare a research paper on an approved subject of approximately 15 pages (approximately 4,000 words) long. For papers with more than one author these limits can be extended to 25 pages and 7,000 words. Students
will meet with the instructor on **Wednesday 3 March** on an individual basis to finalize their paper topics. In the preparation of papers, team work (two or three students working on the same subject) is encouraged on condition that responsibility of each individual student is clearly indicated.

The papers are expected to tackle (an) appropriate research question(s) and have a sound analytical and empirical content. Papers are expected to contain a brief critical literature review and empirical analysis for a selected country. Comparative analyses between, say Turkey and another country are encouraged. The papers will be presented to the whole group at the end of term.

Students are expected to prepare two critical reviews (about 3 pages long, each) of papers from two different sessions. All written work should be sent to the instructor, electronically and submitted to him as hard copy by 7.00 P.M on the Monday, preceding the relevant session. Written work will be returned to students (with instructor comments) on the following Wednesday. The instructor will provide detailed information on the technique/art of writing research articles, paper reviews, and all other written work.

III) The **third** main objective of the course is to enhance student ability to make effective presentations and take an active part in class discussion. Students will present reviews for two papers (approx. 15 minutes, each), and their research paper (approx. 20 minutes) to the whole group. They will also act as commentators for 2 papers (approximately, 10 minutes each). Students are required to read extensively for each session, make class presentations, and take an active part in class discussion. The main reading list for each session is provided below. **It is essential that students attend all sessions on a regular basis.**

**PROGRAM**

**Wednesday, 24 February:** INTRODUCTION

**Wednesday 3 March:** 13.40-17.30 Meeting with the instructor on an individual basis to finalize paper topics.

**Wednesday, 10 March:** PRELIMINARIES (Division of Labor and Instructor’s Talk on paper-writing and brief discussion on paper topics)

**Monday, 15 March.** Student Handout on Introduction, Data sources and Select Bibliography to Instructor by 7.00 P.M.

**Wednesday, 17 March:** BRIEF STUDENT PRESENTATIONS ON PAPER SUBJECTS AND CLASS DISCUSSION

**Friday 2 April 17.40:** Ninety-minute examination
SESSION 1: 7 April


SESSION 2: 14 April


SESSION 3: 21 April


SESSION 4: 28 April


4-3 Gündoğan, N. (2009), “Can Denmark’s Flexicurity System be Replicated in Developing Countries? The Case of Turkey”, MPRA Paper No. 17470

SESSION 5: May 5


Monday, 10 May  Student Handout of Main Body of Papers

Wednesday, 12 May  Student Presentations of Main Body of Paper and Class Discussion

SESSION 6  May 26


Students are expected to
i) Carefully read the course material for each session.
ii) Send to the instructor their written work electronically as well as in the form of hard copy the preceding Monday evening by 7.00 P.M. These will be returned to students (with comments) on the following Wednesday. One student in each session will be responsible for seeing to it that the course material is available for the whole group in good time.

GRADING:
Research Paper 25 points
Presentations 15 points
Paper Reviews 15 points
Midterm Examination+ 20 points
Final Examination * 20 points
Class participation 15 points
Total= 110 points which includes a 10- point bonus

Dates of submission of the complete research papers and their presentation in class will be decided in due course, taking into account students’ final examination program and other commitments.
*Final Examination: Date to be announced by the Registrar’s Office

Good Luck for a successful term.