Middle East Technical University  
Faculty of Economic and Administrative Sciences  
Department of Economics 2012-2013  
Econ 510 Turkish Economy  
Fikret Şenses  
Office F-205  
Telephone: 210 2023  
E-Mail: fsenses@metu.edu.tr  
Wednesdays 14.40-17.30  
Room F-104  
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 and prepare their papers on a comparative basis with Turkey 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 three texts on the Turkish economy. These are:


At the end of this reading period, students will take a 2-hour 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 13.40 PM, on Wednesday, 27 March in Room F-104. Before this preliminary examination one session (20 March) will be devoted to student presentations of the introduction of their papers to the whole group. After this examination, there will be a total of seven sessions one of which (23 April) devoted 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 (around 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 28 February and again on 13 March** on an individual basis to finalize their paper topics. In the preparation of papers, team work (two 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. Comparative analyses between Turkey and another country are encouraged. The papers will be presented to the whole group at an extra session (TBA) 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 two 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, 20 February:** INTRODUCTION

**Wednesday 27 February:** Meeting with the instructor on an individual basis (13.30-17.30) to discuss and finalize paper topics

**Wednesday, 6 March** Division of Labor Meeting on the course outline and instructor’s talk on paper-writing.

**Wednesday, 13 March:** Second Meeting with the instructor on an individual basis (13.30-17.30) to discuss and finalize paper topics

**Monday, 17 March,** 7.00 PM Deadline for submitting the first draft of introduction of research papers together with main data sources and select bibliography.

**Wednesday, 20 March:** BRIEF STUDENT PRESENTATIONS ON PAPERS AND CLASS DISCUSSION

**WEDNESDAY, 27 March 14.40:** 2-hour examination 14.40 Room F104
SESSION 1: 3 April


SESSION 2: 10 April


SESSION 3: 17 April


Monday, 22 April  *(2.00 PM) Deadline for submitting sections of research papers*
SESSION 4: TUESDAY 23 April  PAPER PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION ON PAPERS

SESSION 5  MAY 8


SESSION 6 May 15


SESSION 7 May 22


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. Students in each session will be responsible for seeing to it that the relevant course material is available to the whole group in good time.

GRADING

Research Paper 30 points
Presentations 15 points
Paper Reviews 15 points
Midterm Examination+ 20 points
Final Examination * 25 points
Class participation 10 points
Total= 115 points which includes a 15- 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.