Instructor: Yağmur Nuhrat  
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Office & Office Hours: TBA  
Office Phone: TBA  
Course Schedule: TBA  

Course Description  
This course is designed to offer students social scientific ways and tools with which to study sports and specifically football (soccer) in Turkey and abroad. Rather than positing football as epiphenomenal and/or a reflection of the rest of society, the course will treat football as an active site where social relations and conventions are formed. After briefly accounting for how various theoretical approaches locate sports in society, the course will focus on social, political and economic relations that are implicated in world football. In particular, the course will investigate fandom as a social attachment and identity, consider how the nation-state system relates to football in various national and transnational ways as well as a regulatory agent. We will also dedicate time to understanding how race and gender relations are configured in football focusing on the language and spaces of football fandom. The course aims to bring together examples from around the world as well as Turkey to investigate these social issues. At the end of the course, the students will be equipped with the tools necessary to think critically and analytically about a popular pastime they encounter regularly without always getting a chance to locate it in academic currents and discourses.  

Course Requirements  
- Midterm Exam (detailed info will be provided)  
- Final Paper  
- Participation  

Grading  
- Midterm Exam: 40%  
- Final Paper: 50%  
- Participation: 10%  

Course policies  
- Late work will not be accepted unless the student has made arrangements with me before. Those arrangements have to be made at least 2 days prior to the deadline. Excused late work is still subject to a mark down.  
- Plagiarism and other cheating are unacceptable. Such offenses against academic integrity will result in failing the assignment.  
- I will not take attendance every single session but please note that attendance is mandatory and will automatically affect your participation grade as well.  

Readings  
The reading list is provided below. All readings will be available on the course website at SuCourse. I will also include background readings and more optional readings on the website for those who are interested.  

Important Note:  
Since the Summer Term is limiting in terms of time, please be informed that I may need to rearrange topics and readings as the semester proceeds. Any changes will be announced in class and posted online.
Reading List

Week 1: Studying Sports in the Social Sciences – Main Theoretical Frames

- Introductions

Studying Football in Turkey, Tracing the History of Istanbul teams through their Stadiums


Week 2: Fandom as a Social Attachment, Studying Emotion through Football, Marketing Football Love


Football Fandom, Fan Rivalry and Forms of “Othering” shaped through Football


Week 3: Football, nation-state, nationalism and national identity and Fair Play

Global flows, migration and Football, Transnational fandom

Week 4: Hooliganism, Regulating Football and the State

Regulating Football in Turkey and the “Law to Prevent Violence and Disorder in Sport”

Week 5: Swearing, Symbolic Violence, Language Ideologies through Football

Race and Football
- Nuhrat, Yağmur et al. (forthcoming, author’s copy)“Reinserting race as a relevant social category in Turkey through football” in Everyday Life in the Muslim Middle East, 3rd edition, Bowen, DL Early, E, Schulthies, B. eds, Indiana University Press: Bloomington, IN.

Week 6: Masculinities
Masculinities in Football: Community Building and Exclusion


Week 7: Conceptualizing Space and Footballing Spaces, Home versus Away

- Kytö, Meri. 2011. "'We are the rebellious voice of the terraces, we are Çarşı': Constructing a football supporter group through sound," *Soccer and Society*, 12(1): 77-93.

Space and Power – Footballing Spaces and the nation-state


Review and Wrap-up