



INSTITUTE FOR TASAVVUF (SUFİ) STUDIES

SUFİ CULTURE AND LITERATURE NON-THESIS MA PROGRAM

The Institute for Sufi Studies began the “Sufi Culture and Literature” non-thesis MA program in February of 2016, and began matriculating during the Spring semester of 2015-2016. The program allows for those interested from all branches to complete a graduate study on Sufism and related topics.

The content of the program has been structured in a way that presents a holistic approach through topics such as the doctrine of Sufism, history of Sufism, and Sufi literature, which are both related to each other and to other fundamental Islamic sciences, Islamic thought, and civilizational history, while also correlated to other disciplines from social studies. At the same time, the program aims to contribute to the creation of multi-disciplinary cultural studies sourced in Turkey based on the perspective of “Islamic thought and Sufism.” When looked at more closely, it is observed that any study that concerns itself with culture in this geography must also inevitably apply to the area of Sufism. Research on Sufism can also bring new perspective to those interested in sociology and human psychology today.

The program, whose scientific content consultancy is done by Uskudar University Advisor to the President Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kilic, the research languages of Sufism, with Ottoman Turkish foremost among them, is taught in addition to Arabic. The Arabic education has been structured according to the classical Ottoman style in order to aid students’ understanding of classical texts better. Persian is among the elective courses.

The student, if so desired, can take a year long Arabic Preparatory Training course. The Arabic Prep Course is carried out by AROMER in accordance with the special protocol set up between the Institute and Istanbul 29 Mayıs University International Arabic Center for Education Implementation and Research (AROMER).

SUFİ CULTURE AND LITERATURE NON-THESIS MA PROGRAM						
FIRST SEMESTER						
Class Code	Class Name	Type	Theory	Application	Credit	ECTS
TSV 530	Sufi Thought	R	3	0	3	6
TSV 507	Ottoman Turkish	R	3	0	3	6
TSV 504	Sufi History	R	3	0	3	6
TSV 562	Introduction to Arabic	R	2	2	3	6
	ELECTIVE I	E	3	0	3	6
TSV 559	Project Development (Preparation of term project)	R				15
		TOTAL	14	2	15	45
SECOND SEMESTER						
Class Code	Class Name	Type	Theory	Application	Credit	ECTS
TSV 532	Sufi Classics	R	3	0	3	6
TSV 534	Sufi Culture and Art	R	3	0	3	6
TSV 536	Sufi Literature and Textual Analysis	R	3	0	3	6
	ELECTIVE 2	E	3	0	3	6
	ELECTIVE 3	E	3	0	3	6
TSV 580	Term Project	R				15
		TOTAL	15	0	15	45
ELECTIVE COURSES			Theory	Application	Credit	ECTS
TSV 538	Sufi Beautiful Conduct		3	0	3	6
TSV 540	Arabic Texts		3	0	3	6

TSV 542	English Sufi Texts	3	0	3	6
TSV 544	Introduction to Rumi's Thought	3	0	3	6
TSV 502	The Qur'an and Sunna in Light of Sufi Wisdom	3	0	3	6
TSV 546	Important Personas in Turkish Sufi Literature	3	0	3	6
TSV 548	Introduction to Ibn Arabi's Thought	3	0	3	6
TSV 550	Sufism and Psychology	3	0	3	6
TSV 552	History of Islamic Thought	3	0	3	6
TSV 554	Sufi Currents post-19 th Century in Turkey and the World	3	0	3	6
TSV 556	Persian	3	0	3	6
TSV 524	Research Methodology	3	0	3	6
TSV 526	Vocational Texts	1	0	1	2
TSV 528	History of Islamic Civilization	3	0	3	6
TSV 558	Sufism and History of Religions	3	0	3	6

INSTITUTE FOR SUFI STUDIES			
2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR FALL SEMESTER COURSES			
Course Code	Course Name	Type	Instructor
TSV 530	Sufi Thought	R	Prof. Dr. Osman Nuri KUCUK
TSV 507	Ottoman Turkish	R	Prof. Dr. Emine YENITERZI
TSV 504	Sufi History	R	Yard. Doc. Dr. Ahmet Murat OZEL
TSV 562	Introduction to Arabic	R	Zeynep AKAY (AROMER)
TSV 559	Project Development (Preparation of Term Project)	R	Prof. Dr. Osman Nuri KUCUK
TSV 532	Sufi Classics	R	Doc. Dr. Niyazi BEKI

TSV 534	Sufi Culture and Art	R	Yard. Doc. Dr. Ahmet Murat OZEL
TSV 536	Sufi Literature and Textual Analysis	R	Prof. Dr. Emine YENITERZI Seminars: Cemalnur SARGUT
TSV 502	The Qur'an and Sunna in Light of Sufi Wisdom	E	Prof. Dr. Osman Nuri KUCUK
TSV 546	Important Personas in Turkish Sufi Literature	E	Prof. Dr. Emine YENITERZI
TSV 548	Introduction to Ibn Arabi's Thought	E	Prof. Dr. Osman Nuri KUCUK Seminars: Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol KILIC
TSV 528	History of Islamic Civilization	E	Yard. Doc. Dr. Fehime Canguzel ZULFIKAR

INSTITUTE FOR SUFI STUDIES

Start Dates of Classes

Course Code	Course Name	Date of First Class
TSV 530	Sufi Thought	September 24, 2016 Saturday
TSV 507	Ottoman Turkish	September 24, 2016 Saturday
TSV 504	Sufi History	September 24, 2016 Saturday
TSV 562	Introduction to Arabic	September 21, 2016 Wednesday
TSV 559*	Project Development (Preparation of Term Project)	October 11, 2016 Tuesday / October 16, 2016 Sunday
TSV 532	Sufi Classics	September 24, 2016 Saturday
TSV 534	Sufi Culture and Art	September 30, 2016 Friday
TSV 536	Sufi Literature and Textual Analysis	September 26, 2016 Monday
TSV 502	The Qur'an and Sunna in Light of Sufi Wisdom	September 26, 2016 Monday
TSV 546	Important Personas in Turkish Sufi Literature	September 28, 2016 Wednesday
TSV 548	Introduction to Ibn Arabi's Thought	Start date of class will be announced separately.

TSV 528	History of Islamic Civilization	September 28, 2016 Wednesday / October 1, 2016 Saturday
*As a 2-hour seminar for four (4) weeks		

2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR FALL SEMESTER COURSES SUFI CULTURE AND LITERATURE MA PROGRAM

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
09.00-10.00	TSV 508 Sufi Lit and Textual Analysis					TSV 504 Sufi History	TSV 548 Intro to Ibn Arabi's Thought
10.00-11.00	TSV 508 Sufi Lit and Textual Analysis	TSV 559 Project Development	TSV 546 Important Personas in Turkish Sufi Lit			TSV 504 Sufi History	TSV 548 Intro to Ibn Arabi's Thought
11.00-12.00	TSV 508 Sufi Lit and Textual Analysis	TSV 559 Project Development	TSV 546 Important Personas in Turkish Sufi Lit			TSV 504 Sufi History	TSV 548 Intro to Ibn Arabi's Thought
12.00-13.00			TSV 546 Important Personas in Turkish Sufi Lit				
13.00-14.00	TSV 502 The Qur'an and Sunna in Light of Sufi Wisdom					TSV 507 Ottoman Turkish TSV 532 Sufi Classics	
14.00-15.00	TSV 502 The Qur'an and Sunna in Light of Sufi Wisdom		TSV 562 Intro to Arabic		TSV 534 Sufi Culture and Art	TSV 507 Ottoman Turkish TSV 532 Sufi Classics	TSV 559 Project Development
15.00-16.00	TSV 502 The Qur'an and Sunna in Light of Sufi Wisdom		TSV 562 Intro to Arabic		TSV 534 Sufi Culture and Art	TSV 507 Ottoman Turkish TSV 532 Sufi Classics	TSV 559 Project Development

16.00-17.00			TSV 562 Intro to Arabic		TSV 534 Sufi Culture and Art	TSV 530 Sufi Thought TSV 528 History of Islamic Civilization	
17.00-18.00			TSV 562 Intro to Arabic			TSV 530 Sufi Thought TSV 528 History of Islamic Civilization	
18.00-19.00						TSV 530 Sufi Thought TSV 528 History of Islamic Civilization	
19.00-20.00			TSV 528 History of Islamic Civilization				
20.00-21.00			TSV 528 History of Islamic Civilization				
21.00-22.00			TSV 528 History of Islamic Civilization				

**USKUDAR UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR SUFI STUDIES
2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR ACADEMIC CALENDAR**

FALL SEMESTER

MA Program Pre-Registration	July 2 – September 20, 2016
Ramadan Holiday (July 4, 2016 Eve ½)	July 5-7, 2016
MA Program Registration	August 9 – September 23, 2016
Victory Bayram	August 30, 2016
Eid al-Adha (September 11, 2016 Eve ½)	September 12-15 2016
Courses Start Date	September 21, 2016
Class Registration Dates—Advisor Approvals	September 26-30, 2016
Course Add/Drop Dates	October 3-7, 2016
Republic Day Bayram (October 28, 2016 ½)	October 29, 2016
Midterm Exam Dates	November 7-13, 2016
Last Announcement Date of Midterm Exam Results from Automation	November 19, 2016
Last Day of Classes	December 30, 2016
New Year	January 1, 2017
Final Exam Dates	January 2-15, 2017
Last Announcement Date of Final Exam Results from Automation	January 18, 2017
Make-Up Exam Dates	January 23-29, 2017
Last Announcement Date of Make-Up Exam Results from Automation	January 30, 2017

SPRING SEMESTER

MA Program Pre-Registration	Kasım 1, 2016 – January 2, 2017
MA Program Registration	Kasım 28, 2016 – January 31, 2017
Class Registration Dates—Advisor Approvals	January 30 – 3 February, 2017
Class Start Date	February 6, 2017
Class Add/Drop Dates	February 13-17, 2017
Midterm Exam Dates	March 27 - April 2, 2017

Last Announcement Date of Midterm Exam Results from Automation	April 5, 2017
National Sovereignty and Children's Day	April 23, 2017
Labor and Solidarity Day	May 1, 2017
Last Day of Classes	May 18, 2017
Commemoration of Ataturk Youth and Sports Day	May 19, 2017
Final Exam Dates	May 22 – June 4, 2017
Last Announcement Date of Final Exam Results from Automation	June 7, 2017
Make-Up Exam Dates	June 12-18, 2017
Last Announcement Date of Make-Up Exam Results from Automation	June 19, 2017

COURSE CONTENT

TSV 530 Sufi Thought

The class will take up the main themes of Sufi metaphysics that have formed throughout the centuries on the human – universe – Allah relationship. Sufism's place among Islamic studies, its methodology in comparison to philosophy and theology, the main topics that are based on this methodology, and the influences of this ancient wisdom's teachings and practices about human life on Islamic thought and practice will be examined.

The main themes in the teachings of Sufi thinkers such as Ibn Arabi, Rumi, Yunus Emre, and Ahmed Yesevi, the place of these teachings in the individual and social life of the human today, and their contributions to humans' "search for meaning" are among the main topics of the class.

TSV 507 Ottoman Turkish

In this class on Ottoman Turkish, which is the Arabic alphabet used by Turks for nearly ten centuries in their texts for reading and writing, the rules on the writing of Turkish words and suffixes, and the Arabic and Farsi elements in Ottoman Turkish will be considered through 19th and 20th century sample texts. Vocabulary will be developed by transferring prose and poetry written in Ottoman Turkish by building up a transcription capacity.

TSV 504 Sufi History

The history of Sufism is in transaction with many important disciplines of history such as the history of Islamic science, of Islamic culture, and of Islamic thought. A view that begins the history of Sufism from the life of the Prophet Muhammad and which finds the core of Sufism in the lifestyle of the Islamic

community in this period will demonstrate that Sufism is a perspective attached to Islam's notions of belief and practices rather than a parvenu and historical discipline. When this view is followed through, one will be met with the teachings of Sufism whose teachings have remained the same at their core but whose outer shell has changed through commenting on the transformations experienced throughout the history of Islam. While the class aims to formulate a perspective that will supply a reading of the shell changes in that period's social and political context, it will also trace the teaching that gets transferred through generations without change and with coherence. The purpose of the class is for the student to understand the history of Sufism as a whole, to be aware of its important turning points, while also allow for the student to see the background on the contemporary issues and areas of discussion on Sufism.

TSV 515 Introduction to Arabic

The scientific method is predicated on each discipline's distinctive texts being examined in their original language. Found within the tradition of Islamic thought, Sufism is an area requiring Arabic language both due to its sources as well as its literature. The content of the class has been organized in a manner appropriate to the content and aims of the graduate program. Accordingly, the class will begin by providing an introduction to those who have had no Arabic language study, followed by the classical method used during the Ottoman period. There will also be an examination and debate of some modern Arabic texts by an expert linguist whose mother tongue is Arabic. The purpose of the class is for participants to gain the language capacity to be knowledgeable and aware of the examined religious and Sufi terms' pointers in the original language.

TSV 532 Sufi Classics

Every discipline has its own historical adventure, concepts specific to that discipline, and classical works that put forward the views of its main representatives. In this class, the process of Sufism becoming its own independent discipline and classical works written afterwards and their contents will be examined. The contents of Sufi literature, its place and contributions to the tradition of religious and Sufi thought, and its influence on thoughts coming after it will be examined.

TSV 534 Sufi Culture and Art

The discipline of Sufism is a holistic one comprised of parts such as doctrine, culture, and history. Sufism's cultural content is formed through the cultural products it creates as well as the established cultural structures it influences and transforms. On one hand, Sufism has created its own cultural values, while on the other hand it has been involved in the cultural structures and values already prevailing within society. The class will examine the cultural factors that have been created and involved in by Sufism. Alongside this, it will attempt to clarify the mindset behind this cultural production. The poetics of the art created within Sufi life, its views and development will also form part of the content of the class. The purpose of the class is to consider the discipline of Sufism's reflections and productions in social and cultural life as well as to clarify the fact that Sufism is a lived and culture-creating structure in the minds of participants.

TSV 536 Sufi Literature and Textual Analyses

The beginning, development, sources, traditions, place in Turkish literature, specialties of type and content, verse types, Sufi terminology of Turkish Sufi literature and the important representatives of Sufi literature will be considered. Through textual analyses, the relationship of religion, Sufism, and beautiful

conduct with literature will be presented through the Sufi content of literary texts. The capacity to research and evaluate Sufi knowledge reflected in literature will be gained.

TSV 538 Sufi Beautiful Conduct

In order to measure the influence of Sufism on beautiful conduct, the aim is to consider theoretical and practical beautiful conduct. By teaching the principles of theoretical beautiful conduct, the scientific background of the topic will be prepared. Practical beautiful conduct will then be attempted to be explained based on this grounding. In this way, effort will be expended in order to protect the values of beautiful conduct of both the individual and society.

In the context of the class, the place of Sufism within the Islamic sciences, teaching of beautiful conduct and Sufism, and concepts such as factors of beautiful conduct, dignity, courage, self-possession, humility, surrender, patience, thankfulness, gentleness, etc will be examined. The relationship of beautiful conduct and the three main powers within the human, examples of beautiful conduct from the life of the Prophet Muhammad, and examples of beautiful conduct that are reflected on to the Islamic umma will be treated. On the other hand, there will also be consideration of concepts such as piety, devotion, compassion, submission, modesty, the understanding of work, etc. Additionally, Sufism's method of beautifying beautiful conduct will be emphasized.

TSV 540 Arabic Texts

Ottoman Turkish, Arabic, and Farsi occupy an important place in Sufi literature. It is necessary to know Arabic to a great extent in order to know Ottoman Turkish. For students who have decided to engage with the discipline of Sufism, reading the classical and literary sources of this discipline firsthand is of utmost importance. By choosing these texts especially from among Sufi classics, Arabic textual analyses will be conducted. Within the frame of close and distant readings that will be done in class, important Sufis and their works will also be taken up. Texts will be from the following sources: El-Luma', Sarrac, İhyâu Ulûmî'd-Dîn, İmam Gazâlî, Et-Taarruf, El-Kelabâzî, Er-Risâletu'l-Kuşeriye, El-Kuşeyrî, Edebu'd-Din Ve'd-Dünya, El-Mâverdî, Ahlâku'n-Nebî, Ebu's-Şeyh El-Asbahânî, Hilyetu'l-Evliyâ, Ebu Nuaym. In the class, texts wherein the examples of beautiful conduct as shown by the Prophet Muhammad's life will also be read. Again within the scope of texts, some examples will be presented of the beautiful conduct of the companions of the Prophet Muhammad who sat in his classes and the great persons who were nurtured in the light of the Qur'an and sunna.

TSV 542 English Sufi Texts

In this class, English Sufi texts from the classical period will be studied. The most important aim of the class is for the student to read and understand Sufi texts in English and to develop the skills to prepare research papers using academic English. The texts to be read will be closely evaluated through content analysis. The themes used, symbols, and concepts will be examined in depth. While making the effort to open a window into the world of Sufis through primary and secondary sources in English, parts from Cafer-i Sâdik's *Kurân tefsiri*, Rabia Adeviye's poems, *Kuşeyrî Risâlesi*, Serrâc's *el-Lümâ*, the chapter of "the beautiful conduct of the lover and the beloved" from Ruzbihan Bakli's *Abherü'l-âşîkîn*, the "Prophet Muhammad as Eternal Light" part from martyr to the love of Allah Hallâc-ı Mansur's *Kitâbü't-Tavâsîn*, Feridüddin Attar's *Tezkîretü'l-Evliyâ*, and Rûmî's *Mesnevî* will be read.

TSV 544 Introduction to Rumi's Thought

Rumi is one of the exceptional people raised by Islamic Sufism. Due especially to his views on love, he has been regarded as the qutb (pole) of lovers in the history of Sufism. The Mawlawiyya path established in his name has functioned for centuries as a fine arts academy, raising many artisans in the Seljukid and Ottoman periods. In this class, the sources of Rumi's thoughts which has been made the matter of many a research project in both the East and West, the main themes, its place in the tradition of Sufi thought, and the fundamentals of the culture of Mawlawiyya that are inspired from Rumi are considered. The topics that Rumi lived and gave space to in his works and how they create solutions for the human and the problems of our day will be examined.

TSV 502 The Qur'an and Sunna in Light of Sufi Wisdom

As is known, the Qur'an and sunna are the fundamental sources of Islamic thought and civilization. Islamic thought presents with differences based on the perception and commentaries done on these fundamental sources. Theology, philosophy, jurisprudence and other disciplines have interpreted these sources according to their methods. Sufism giving place to the experience of deep discovery alongside intellect as a source of information set the stage for Sufis to see the deep meanings within these sources that had been apparent from the beginning but which could not be discovered through simple linguistics. Continued through centuries, these commentaries also contributed to removal of monotony from religious thought. In this class, various examples of these commentaries by Sufis, their historical adventure, the principles they are based on, their conditions for validity, and the ontology, epistemology, and ethical values that appear from these comments will be considered. The place of these commentaries in Islamic thought will be examined.

TSV 546 Important Personas in Turkish Sufi Literature

In order to learn about the content, tradition, and sources of Turkish Sufi literature, the works by Sufi poets who lived between the 13th and 19th centuries will be taken up. The main goals of the poets at the top of Sufi literature, the Qur'anic and hadith culture which forms the content of this literature, and the beautiful conduct and Sufi thought will be revealed.

TSV 548 Introduction to Ibn Arabi's Thought

Mohyiddin Ibn Arabi is among the most important Sufis of Sufi history due to his explanations of the tradition of Islamic thought that came before him through the data of Sufi experience in a systematic manner. Considered the most important sage on this topic by many Sufi thinkers, he is referred to as "Sheikh al-Akbar."

Many Sufi thinkers who have shaped the fundamental basics of Sufi thought in the areas of ontology, epistemology, and ethics have grown up in the "tradition of Akbari wisdom" that is attributed to him. It is estimated that he has around 550 works and that around 245 of these have reached our day. The basics of this thought have affected all Sufi thinkers in the East and many thinkers and thought systems in the West from Dante to Voltaire. This effect continues today. In the class, the fundamentals of Ibn Arabi's thought, its main concepts, its views on existence, its influence on the periods coming after it, and Ibn Arabi researches of our day will be considered.

TSV 550 Sufism and Psychology

Moving off of the idea that the spirit and the body affect each other, this class has the purpose of widening and developing the information and possibilities on how the human should consider the spirit-body entirety from based on the disciplines of Sufism and psychology.

The class takes up the contributions made by the science of psychology which examines human behavior through an experimental method and Sufism's 14 century-long experience, wisdom, and sagacity on the relevant topics through a multi-disciplinary approach. The class will be given by two lecturers who are experts in the fields of Sufism and psychology based on the similarities and differences of the intersecting topics of both areas. Through the works that are taken up in the class and the examined texts, humans' basic psychological problems and behavioral disorders, the solutions that can be presented through the perspective of Sufism, and the practical solutions that can be offered by psychology to the theoretical topics of Sufism will be examined.

TSV 552 History of Islamic Thought

This is a class aimed at understanding the tradition of Islamic thought in a holistic manner. Rather than providing an approach that presents philosophy, theology, and Sufism in opposition to each other, the class seeks instead to understand the history of Islamic thought in a comprehensive manner. It examines the various Islamic thought currents within their own dynamics. Taking up first the approaches of Muslim philosophers such as Kindi, Farabi, and Ibn Sina to the topics of philosophy, religion, and metaphysics through the translations of texts from the Ancient Greek period, the class then continues with the manifestations of the theological approach in Ghazzali and Ibn Rushd, and ends with how Sufis such as Ibn Arabi coming after all of this considered similar topics through the method of discovery by evaluating it in the whole of and place within the history of Islamic thought.

TSV 554 Sufi Currents in Turkey and the World After the 19th Century

Students who will have learned about the appearance of Sufism, its formative and development periods, and the main Sufi tariqas from the Sufi history class will in this class learn about the general situation of the topic in Turkey in particular and the world in general in the aftermath of the 19th century. Students will be informed of the penetration and influence of Sufi movements in the West and in the Islamic geography as well as its role in conversion movements. Students will find the opportunity to make comparisons and comment on the currents present today and the topics they focus on with currents from the classical period.

TSV 556 Persian

In this class, the aim is to teach the basic grammar of the Persian language which takes up an important space in Classical Turkish literature and to aid in the understanding of Persian words and concepts that pass in Turkish poetry. By readings sample texts from classical Persian poetry and by providing an opportunity to compare it with Turkish literature, the main grammatical issues are taken up and applied through sample texts.

TSV 524 Research Methodology

This class aims to explain the basics of the research methods which are used to understand and make useful the data coming from myriad sources to which giving a meaning has become increasingly difficult. Focusing on the methodology used in social sciences research, the class will give information through relevant examples on how the stages of planning the research, a research model, sampling, data gathering, and data analysis are done. Later, information will be provided on the method to be used in writing an article on the topic of Sufi culture and literature by way of sample articles, and trial articles will be written. Through these articles, the aim is for students to learn the fundamental terms and to understand the thought structure required for advanced research application.

TSV 526 Vocational Texts

Sample classical and contemporary Sufi texts written in Arabic, Persian, and Ottoman Turkish will be followed in the class. The aim of the class is to increase the student's familiarity with Sufi concepts in their language of interest. Limited dictionary and terminology studies will also be done in order to find the correct English equivalent of Sufi terms.

TSV 528 History of Islamic Civilization

In this class, the following topics will be considered: beginning from the culture of the Arabian Peninsula in the pre-Islam period, the belief of unity and the Prophet Muhammad's prophecy, the Hijra (emigration) and Yathrib becoming Medina, the establishment of the first Muslim city-state through the Medina Constitution, the Prophet Muhammad's last speech, the 4 Caliphs period, the division of Muslims as Sunnis and Shi'a, the expansion of Muslim lands, the rise of Muslim scholars and artisans, the Umayyad empire in Baghdad and Andalus, the Abbasids, Seljukids, Islamic Sufism, science and art, the three great Turkish empires: Ottomans, Safavids, Baburs, global economic movements and inter-ocean trade, loss of land, reforms and new awakenings, world history and civilization from a historical, political, social, and cultural angle and the place and importance of Islamic civilization within it. The content of the class will be examined through primary and secondary sources in 7 historical periods: 1. "Formation and Orientation" period between 500-634, 2. "Transformation and Clarity" period between 634-870, 3. "Breaking Up and Success" period between 870-1041, 4. "Migration and Renewal" period between 1041-1405, 5. "Union and Expansion" period between 1405-1683, 6. "Restructuring, Dependence, and Liberation" period between 1683-our day, 7. "Islam and Globalization: Age of Circulation" period.

TSV 558 Sufism and History of Religions

Religions and religious beliefs come at the head of factors that lead human behavior and activity from the most primitive tribes to the most developed societies. Among these are the monotheistic religions based on a tradition of revelation while there are also human religions and religious traditions that have appeared in different periods, geographies, and cultures. To the question of what is the essence of religion, some thinkers state that the answer to this question should be sought in the mystic side where the divine is directly experienced. In this class, rather than focusing on the phenomenological specifics of religions that are considered in the discipline of the history of religions, topics under consideration will be the mystical aspects of current world religions and their contact with Sufism, their similarities and differences, their place in the tradition of ancient wisdom, and the reality beyond the geographical and cultural needs of religion.

ACADEMIC STAFF OF THE PROGRAM



Prof. Emine YENİTERZİ

Deputy Director

She graduated from the Selçuk University Faculty of Arts in 1981. She completed her PhD in the area of Ancient Turkish Literature with her thesis on “Poems Praising the Prophet Muhammad in Ottoman Poetry” (1989). Beginning her academic life at Selcuk University between 1981-2011, she continued at Istanbul Medeniyet University between 2011-2015. Her main topics of interest are classical Turkish poetry, text commentaries, religious-ethical-Sufi masnavis, religious poetry and Rumi. She has more than ten books and many articles published in academic journals. She is the authors of chapters in various books as well as encyclopeida articles. Her main works include *Sevginin Evrensel Mühendisi Mevlânâ, Türk Edebiyatında Na’tlar, Divan Şiirinde Na’t, Kubbe-i Hadrâ’nın Gölgesinde-Mevlânâ Celâleddin Rûmî Üzerine Makaleler*. She was awarded the 2011 DOST Service to Islam Award due to her works. She is currently part of the academic staff at the Institute of Sufi Studies at Uskudar University and carries out the duty of assistant manager of the institute.



Prof. Osman Nuri KÜÇÜK

Deputy Director

He graduated from the Divinity School of Atatürk University. He completed his PhD thesis titled “Spiritual Development According to Rumi” at Ankara University. He taught at the Divinity School of Erciyes University between 2000-2016. His areas of expertise are Sufism and psychology, the topics of wahdat al-wujud (unity of existence), Ibn Arabi, and Rumi. His main works include *Fusûsu'l-Hikem ve Mesnevî’de İnsan-ı Kâmil, Mevlânâ’ya Göre Mânevî Gelişim: Benliğin Dönüşümü ve Mi’racı, Ne Varsa Sende Var- Mevlânâ’nın Sohbetleri, İbnü'l Arabî: Sayılar ve Rüyalar, Mevlânâ ve İktidar Yöneticilerle İlişkileri ve Moğol Casusluğu İddiaları*. In order to engage in research about his topic, he was a visiting scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the US for a year.

(2013). He is currently part of the academic staff at the Institute of Sufi Studies at Uskudar University and carries out the duty of assistant manager of the institute.



Assoc. Prof. Niyazi BEKİ

He graduated from the Divinity School of Erciyes University. Prior to this, he was tutored in Islamic sciences such as Arabic, Bedi, Beyan, Maani, Theology, Jurisprudence, Commentary, Hadith, Logic, etc. He received his masters' degree from Marmara University with his thesis entitled "es-Sülemî ve Kitâbu'l-Erbaîn li's-Sûfiyye" in the Department of Hadith Studies. He completed his PhD at Sakarya University's Department of Commentary with his thesis entitled "The Example of İşârâtü'l-i'caz in Commentary in 20th Century Turkey" (1997). He began teaching Arabic at Sakarya University's Divinity School in 1993. In 1998, he was appointed as head of the Department of Arabic Language and Rhetoric at the same university. He was a visiting scholar at Hartford Seminary in the US between 2003-2004. He is currently part of the academic staff at the Institute of Sufi Studies at Uskudar University.



Asst. Prof. F. Cangüzel GÜNER ZÜLFİKAR

She graduated from Ankara University Faculty of Languages History and Geography. She completed her PhD thesis entitled "The Establishment and First Century of the Aziz Mahmud Hudayi Complex" from Hacettepe University Department of History. She gave classes on Sufism and Islamic civilization at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University. She was vice-director of the Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations (2006-2010). She established the Turkish Studies Program at UNC-Chapel Hill (2009) and was lecturer in the program until December 2013. She returned to Turkey in October 2013 and taught at Istanbul Ticaret and Halic Universities. She currently teaches at Uskudar University as a part time lecturer.



Asst. Prof. Ahmet Murat ÖZEL

He graduated from the Divinity School of Marmara University and completed his graduate studies in the Department of Islamic Philosophy and Sufism at Selçuk University. He prepared and presented television programs weighted towards culture and thought. His main works *İbn Atâullah El-İskenderî: Hayatı, Eserleri, Görüşleri ve Karaman Müftülerinden Şeyh Mehmed Kudsi Çakılcı*. He is as interested in Sufism's history and culture as with its doctrinal side. His areas of interest include Sufi theory of knowledge, North American Sufism, and Sufi literature. With his book of poetry entitled *Kalbin Kararı* he was awarded the 2014 Poet of the Year Award by the Writers Union of Turkey. In addition to these, he has the following books of poetry: *Bir Şair Bisikletle, Kaf ve Rengi ve Kış Bilgisi*. He currently teaches at the Department of Sufism at the Divinity School of Yalova Üniversitesi, and is a part time instructor at the Institute of Sufi Studies at Uskudar University.



Arzu Eylül YALÇINKAYA

She graduated from the Divinity School of Marmara University. In 2013, she completed her graduate study entitled "Kenan Rifai's Masnawi Sohbatı" at the Department of Sufism at Istanbul University. She is the author of the book *Neyden Dinle: Suyu Arayan Balıklar* and the editor of the books, *Sohbetler* and *Kenan Rifâî'den Mesnevî Hâtıraları*. She is currently carrying out her PhD studies at the Department of Sufism at the Divinity School of Uludağ Üniversitesi while also continuing a second graduate study program at the Religious Studies Department of Harvard Üniversitesi. She is currently a teaching assistant at the Institute of Sufi Studies at Uskudar University.

Prof. Mahmud Erol KILIÇ



Üsküdar University Advisor to the President

After graduating from the Faculty of Political Sciences at Istanbul University, he conducted research abroad for some time. He also was taught in the classical method from some scholars and developed himself through special classes with certain Sufi masters. He focused his post-undergraduate studies on spiritual sciences in general and Islamic Sufism in particular. After the establishment of the “Department of Sufism” in Turkish universities, he was one of the first to defend his PhD thesis entitled “Existence and its Levels in Ibn Arabi.” He has published many articles for encyclopedias and journals in Turkish and foreign languages. The Writers Union of Turkey chose his book *Sufi ve Şiir* as book of the year in the area of examination-research in 2004. He was appointed as head of the Systematic Sufism Studies in the Department of Sufism at Marmara University and of the Istanbul Turkish and Islamic Art Museum. He was elected as the Secretary-General for the Organization of the Islamic Conference Member Countries’ Parliamentary Union (2008). Alongside this, he is an honorary member of the Ibn Arabi Society at Oxford and chairman of the executive board of the Islamic Manuscript Association. His works include *Sufi ve Şiir*, *Evvele Yolculuk*, *Şeyh-i Ekber*, *Hermesler Hermesî*, *Anadolu’nun Ruhü*.



Cemâlnur SARGUT

Üsküdar University Advisor to the President

After completing her university degree in chemical engineering, she worked as a chemistry teacher. She is the President of the Istanbul branch of the Turkish Women’s Cultural Center (TURKKAD) and founder of the Kerim Education, Culture and Health Foundation. She has been conducting multi-faceted studies on the area of Sufism for more than 30 years. Her works based on the commentaries of great Sufis on the Qur’an as well as her commentaries on Fusus al-Hikam have been published. She gives seminars on Islamic Sufism both domestically and abroad. She spearheaded the establishment of the “Kenan Rifai Distinguished Professorship on Islamic Studies” chairs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2009) and Peking University (2011) as well as the founding of the Kenan Rifai Center of Sufi Studies at

Kyoto University in 2015. Through a union of forces with Uskudar University President Prof. Nevzat Tarhan, she was instrumental in the establishment of the Institute of Sufi Studies at Uskudar University in 2014. She continues as advisor to the President at Uskudar University and gives classes at the Institute of Sufi Studies.