Muhlenberg Integrated Learning Abroad

Muhlenberg Integrated Learning Abroad (MILA) provides students with the opportunity to participate in courses that include short-term international study components. These interdisciplinary courses are grounded in established relationships and collaborative partnerships that emerge from faculty research and scholarship. Because of these established connections, students are able to create meaningful experiences that contribute to their ongoing studies. MILA courses meet on campus during the spring semester and then include a faculty-led short-term study abroad trip after the close of the semester.

Contact Information

Dr. Mark Stein
History Department
300 Ettinger Hall
Phone: 484-664-3789
stein@muhlenberg.edu

Dr. Brian Mello
Political Science Department
308 Ettinger Hall
Phone: 484-664-3469
bmello@muhlenberg.edu

The Making of Modern Turkey: From Empire to Nation
Spring 2010
The Making of Modern Turkey: From Empire to Nation

Course Description:
At its peak, the Ottoman Empire reigned over much of the Middle East, North Africa, and Southeast Europe and was a dominant military and political power in the 15th-17th centuries. In the 19th century the rise of the Western European states and the development of new ideas of nationalism among Ottoman subject peoples changed the balance of power and Ottoman elites instituted modernizing reform programs. Despite some great successes, the defeat of the Ottomans during World War I marked the ultimate destruction of the Empire. Out of the ruins of the Ottoman Empire emerged the modern Republic of Turkey. For the founders of the modern Republic, prosperity depended upon a rejection of the Ottoman past. Beginning in 1923 Republican elites sought to establish a modern, secular state. This course explores the transition from the Ottoman Empire to the Republic of Turkey-its impact on historiography, political power, architecture, and various aspects of social life. Particular attention will be paid to ways in which the making of modern Turkey has built upon, and differentiated from the Ottoman past.

Activities in Turkey
May 25 - June 6, 2010 (Tentative)

- Lectures on contemporary Turkey and Ottoman history by international and local experts;
- 4 day trip to Ankara, the nation’s capital and the heart of Anatolia;
- Meetings with Turkish scholars and leaders in civil society organizations (including labor unions and women’s rights organizations);
- An interactive lecture on carpet making;
- Boat trip up the Bosphorus to the tip of the Black Sea;
- Trips to important political and historical sites, including Topkapi and Dolmabahçe Palaces; mosques; the Grand Bazaar & the Egyptian Spice Market; Atatürk’s mausoleum; the Turkish Grand National Assembly (parliament); the Aya Sofya; and the Basilica Cistern.

2010 MILA Turkey
Important Information:

Information Sessions:
- Sept. 23, 2009 - Ettinger Suite 308 - 4:00 p.m.
- Oct. 13, 2009 - Ettinger Suite 308 - 4:00p.m.

Application Deadline:
- October 26, 2009 - Statement of interest (250 words)

Course Registration:
- November 2009 ($400 Deposit Due)

Tentative Cost: $2,500 - $3,000 (airfare, accommodations, entrance fees, ground transportation, and some meals)