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Peoples and Cultures of Europe Week 4

A Brief Review of . . .
Moors and other Arab Influences, A.D. 711 - A.D. 1492
Ottoman Influences A.D. 1517 -
and
Europe as an Ethnographic "Culture Area", and Other Units of Analysis (cont.), and
"Master Texts and 'Classics'"

Week 4 we talk Turkey. . . .

Week 4 we'll continue to have a look at the historical framework for the course by looking at one of the early major influences in many parts of Europe (and beyond)—Ottoman, Moorish, and other Turkish Empires. Arabs controlled much of the Iberian Peninsula (Spain, Portugal, Andorra, Gibraltar, and part of France) starting in the 8th century (A.D. 711) and ending just as Columbus was “discovering” America in 1492.

With a strong presence in Europe of almost 800 years, the Arabs had a considerable influence in the Mediterranean in general and the Iberian Peninsula in particular. Even after the *Reconquista* of Spain and the other countries the Ottomans exerted considerable influence over, including Sicily, much of the Arab influence in the eastern Mediterranean and Southeastern Europe continued.

That influence continues through the present-day. And influence from that neck of the woods may become stronger if/when Turkey is admitted to the EU in 2014.

New York Times Magazine featured an article by Suzy Hansen, **“Whose Turkey is It?”** (9 February 2014, pp. 34-39), which outlines a recent struggle between the Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan (since 2003) and a self-professed nonpolitical, anti-violence, pro-business, and patriotic Muslim preacher, Fethullah Gulen. This could continue to be a factor in discussions with the EU.

Watch (again) the presentation “Imperial History of the Middle East: 5000 Years of History in 90 seconds.” It’s short—135 seconds (things are not always as advertised). **(Pay special attention to what is happening within the borders of modern-day Europe.) ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham) declared itself a “Caliphate” 29 June 2014 under the name under the name "Islamic State".** The U.S.A. and its allies continue the militaristic imperial history in 2015, extending the 3000-year-old-pattern. France in recent weeks,

following the Charlie Hebdo attacks, has mobilized almost 15,000 extra police and troops to strengthen French domestic security.



In short, it is difficult to understand much of modern-day Europe, and modern-day Europeans, without understanding the earlier historical influences of the various Arab groups. You have already begun to see that in the Greek villages.




After having a look at *Süleyman the Magnificent* we'll return to continue having a look at Europe as an Ethnographic "Culture Area", Other Units of Analysis, and "Master Texts" and Classics.



We will have in-class discussion on *Süleyman the Magnificent*, and a chance for a . . .

-  [Response to the film Süleyman the Magnificent \(Due End of Week 4, Friday, 13 February 2015; Your Name Will Be Logged\) Feedback](#)

Be sure to check the other activities of the week, including due dates. This week don't forget . . .

-  [Watch \(Again\) Imperial History of the Middle East: 5000 Years of History in 90 seconds](#)
[URL](#)
-  [Forum: To Burka or Not to Burka \(Due End of Week 4, Friday, 13 February 2015\)](#)
-  [Part 1: Informal Project Proposal \[Due End of Week 4, Friday, 13 February 2015\]](#)
[Assignment](#)

And if you haven't yet taken the selective Attention Tests in Preparation for Watching Video Series,

please do that. Read and follow the directions carefully. (Be sure to take both tests.)

Selective Attention Test

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJG698U2Mvo>

The Monkey Business Illusion

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGQmdoK_ZfY

As usual, if you have any questions, please let me know. And that goes also for questions about your project. **Your Project Statement, or Project Proposal, is due by the end of Week 4, Friday, 13 February 2015.** Project information is on-line at

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/ceproject.html>. Post your comments and/or questions on **Moodle** or e-mail troufs@d.umn.edu. You can also use the wiki for project collaboration and sharing of ideas.

Share your ideas, including study-questions with your classmates? Discuss them on-line with the others in class
...

s2015 Student Collaboration Space

for your own personal use



[Live chat for Project Collaboration](#) (NOTE: This is NOT the link for the Exam Live Chats)



[Wiki for Project Collaboration](#)



[General Student Discussion Area Forum](#)

QUICKMAIL (see sidebar)

The above items will be found at the top of your **Moodle** folder under “Student Collaboration Space”.

As usual, if you have **any questions**, please let me know. And that goes also for questions about getting started on **your project**. Project information is on-line at

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth4616/cpproject.html>.

Remember to check the results of the class Video Responses from earlier weeks when they close. You can find the results in the **Moodle** Blocks where they first appeared. This week have a look at . . .

-  [Results--Kypseli I s2015 File resource](#)
-  [Results--Life Chances: Four Families in a Changing Cypriot Village s2015 File resource](#)

This week’s **(1) Topics, (2) Reading Assignments Listings, and (3) Activities** are detailed in the Week 4 Block of your **Moodle** folder.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to stop in after class, or post them on **Moodle**, or e-mail troufs@d.umn.edu.

Best Regards, and Enjoy Valentine's Day,

Tim Roufs