



**Netherlands Institute at Athens (NIA)**

**Netherlands Institute in Turkey (NIT)**

**Institute of Migration and Ethnic Studies (IMES)**

**Universiteit van Amsterdam (UvA)**

**Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Vrije University  
Amsterdam (SCA-VU)**

**Koç University Migration Research Center (MiReKoc)**

## **Winter School**

***January 4 – January 31, 2016***

### ***Migration in the margins of Europe: From Istanbul to Athens***

for Master & PhD students in

Social sciences

The Institute of Migration and Ethnic Studies of the University of Amsterdam, the department of Social and Cultural Anthropology of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Koç University Migration Research Center and the Netherlands Institutes in Greece and Turkey organize this intensive winter course in collaboration with Greek and Turkish universities.

#### ***About the course***

The collapse of the eastern Block at the beginning of the 1990s and the larger socioeconomic transformations in Africa and Asia resulted in massive migration flows to Turkey, Greece and Europe in general. The Eastern Mediterranean with its geographical position at the crossroads of Europe, Asia and Africa and in particular the large Aegean basin with its islets and islands serving as stepping stones for migratory movement, became a major “entry gate” to Europe.



Within a few decades the social life in the wider region transformed with a large proportion of the population being immigrants who are living in the countryside or in various neighbourhoods of the capital cities of Istanbul and Athens. Here migrants are trying to survive and make plans for the future despite the stigmatization and marginalization they encounter. Therefore a major part of our seminar will focus on how immigrants experience such new conditions and how they adapt in the new cultural contexts.

More recently the flows of refugees have intensified as a result of the political changes in the Middle East, Asia and Africa while Europe is facing one of the most challenging periods of its contemporary history. As the idea of fortress Europe is becoming reinforced, “the entry points”, Turkey and Greece compared to all other European countries, share disproportionately the weight of the management of the new flows. How do the new migrants experience their mobility from Turkey to Greece, how do they view Europe and what expectations, aspirations and dreams they have? How is Turkey different from Greece and in what ways Istanbul or Athens become home, or transit points?

The course will be supplemented with a small field research in Istanbul and Athens and students will be able to contribute to our migration project by recording and illustrating life experiences of various migrants.

#### Structure of the course

From **January 4 until January 17, 2016** the seminars will run daily, at the NIT in Istanbul and from **January 18 until January 30** the seminars will run at the NIA in Athens. The courses will combine field research in specific neighbourhoods of Istanbul and Athens and selected NGO's. The seminars will offer a variety of theoretical perspectives in relation to migration with an emphasis on anthropological theory and overview of the current situation in Turkey and Greece. During most days there are one to two intensive sessions of three hours each. In the sessions lecturers give an overview of the theory of social anthropology, political science, sociology and social policy in relation to migration with particular reference to key debates and a clear focus on migration in Turkey/Greece and Europe/Mediterranean. In the late afternoon/evenings students will be able to conduct their small field research. In preparation to the seminar, all students should read the literature before arrival.

#### Aim

The aim of the seminar is to give students an overview of current debates and research topics in relation to refugees and migration, illustrate the current issues in Turkey & Greece in a comparative manner and give directions in relation to field work in Turkey, Greece or other European and Mediterranean areas. Participating in a small field research the students gain practical experience in a comparative study, develop their



skills, make new contacts and learn how to place their findings within wider local and global processes.

### Method

During the seminar the students are expected to participate actively in all the sessions and conduct a small field research. The “migration project” focuses on the areas of central Istanbul and Athens. In collaboration with local NGO’s and research groups, students will be able to come in contact with various immigrants/refugees to discuss, interview and research specific topics. Students will record and collect life experiences of migrants and will have to describe their material in a presentation at the end of our course. Each student will also be writing a paper based on the field research experiences and the theoretical information acquired during the courses.

### Course requirements, language and credit

The course is available to MA and first year PhD students with a relevant background (e.g. in anthropology, sociology, migration studies, political science). All lectures will be given in English. The course will be concluded with a **paper (3000 words)** for 5 ECTS points handed in by the first of March, which is going to be graded and evaluated by three of the lecturers, Dr. Barak Kalir (UvA), Dr. Flip Lindo (UvA) Dr. Tryfon Bampilis (NIA). Students at UvA may choose this course in the context of MA programs of the Graduate School of Social Sciences at the Faculty of Social Sciences. For eligibility please contact your MA coordinator.

### Results

On the last day of the winter school, students give a presentation in relation to their observation and findings. A paper (3000 words) will have to be handed in by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March. Presentations will be commented by the lecturers on style and logic as well as on the conceptual content. Finally, the seminars will be evaluated by students, lecturers and staff of the NIA & NIT in a general discussion.

### Participation – application

Only **Master and early M.Phil/PhD students from the Social Sciences** can participate in the seminar. Students can apply by sending an application form (which can be downloaded from the NIA website) and a motivation letter on “experiencing migration” to Dr Tryfon Bampilis at [nia@nia.gr](mailto:nia@nia.gr) until the **9<sup>th</sup> of November 2015**. The successful applicants will be notified by the **15<sup>th</sup> of November**. The number of participating students is limited (max. 25 students), so we encourage early registration. Selection criteria abound.

### Costs and subsidies

The cost of the course is **550 euros and includes accommodation in Istanbul and Athens as well as a one-way flight ticket from Istanbul to Athens. Those students who will need to buy a return ticket to Istanbul from Athens or vice versa will be**



**reimbursed for half the price of their return ticket and this amount will be deducted from the winter school fees.** Students are expected to cover their airplane single ticket from the Netherlands or country of origin to Istanbul and from Athens back to the Netherlands or country of origin. Lunch and dinner costs are not included. **There are a limited number of tuition fee waivers** available from the University of Amsterdam and Vrije Universiteit with a reduction of **250 euros** to the fees of the course, please contact Prof. Barak Kalir ([B.Kalir@uva.nl](mailto:B.Kalir@uva.nl)) or Prof. Dimitris Dalakoglou ([d.dalakoglou@vu.nl](mailto:d.dalakoglou@vu.nl)) after your application has been accepted for further information. In addition there is a **150 euros** discount for students who will not need to use the accommodation offered in Istanbul or Athens.

#### Accommodation

During the course the Institutes will offer free accommodation to the participants/students in guest rooms or in hotels in close proximity to the institutes. Students will be sharing their rooms. The institutes will publish contact details as soon as students are accepted. For more information regarding accommodation please contact the NIA secretary Mrs Emmy Makri at [emakri@nia.gr](mailto:emakri@nia.gr)

*For more information regarding the course, please contact:*

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**Dr. Barak Kalir**, email: [B.Kalir@uva.nl](mailto:B.Kalir@uva.nl)

**Dr. Flip Lindo**, email: [flip.lindo@gmail.com](mailto:flip.lindo@gmail.com)

#### Organizing Committee:

Tryfon Bampilis (NIA), Dimitris Dalakoglou (VU), Fokke Gerritsen (Director Netherlands Institute in Turkey, NIT), Barak Kalir (UvA & IMES) Flip Lindo (UvA) Winfred van de Put (Director Netherlands Institute in Athens, NIA)

