**Course Description:**
This beginning level course is designed for students who aim to learn modern Turkish. Throughout the course, you will be presented with learning opportunities for increasing your language skills in four areas: listening, speaking, reading and writing. In particular, this course specifically builds listening and oral communication skills in social and informal settings. Communicative tasks on personal and informal academic topics aim to develop vocabulary and improve fluency and pronunciation. The activities that you will engage in will include oral presentations, discussion groups that will focus on topics related to the themes discussed in class, interviews, debates, listening to live and recorded conversations, news snippets, mini-stories, and answering questions to demonstrate an understanding of main ideas and important details in a reading text. You will also write short paragraphs on a variety of topics and read a number of short authentic texts. Listening activities will help you develop comprehension and paraphrasing skills in Turkish. This course has no prerequisite and is not open to native speakers of Turkish.

**Course Objectives:**
By the end of Turkish 601C you will, *inşallah*:
1. have mastered the Turkish alphabet and sound system, be able to recognize and pronounce correctly all Turkish sounds, and write accurately from dictation;
2. be able to initiate basic social interactions, exchange basic information, and be aware of essential cultural aspects of social interaction in Turkey;
3. be able to talk (in simple sentences) about yourself, your education, and your family with native speakers of Turkish accustomed to interacting with learners;
4. comprehend simple print texts on familiar topics (e.g., basic biographical information, signs and announcements, lists and schedules, menus, etc.);
5. comprehend simple audio/video texts on familiar topics (basic biographical information, family, education, weather, etc.);
6. be able to compose simple paragraphs about yourself and your family and friends;
7. have an active vocabulary of about 300 Turkish words.
**Course Materials:**

1. Please purchase your course pack, *Türkçe ile Yaşam I/Life with Turkish I* by Hayriye Kayı-Aydar, from Austin TXbooks located at 2116 Guadalupe, across from the Harry Ransom Center Building. (512-499-1559). It will cost $32 (plus tax) and will be ready the first week of classes. (Your instructor will provide photocopies of the first lessons on the first day of class, just to be safe.)

2. In addition to using the *Türkçe ile Yaşam I* course pack, you will access online Intensive Turkish I course materials and practice exercises designed by Jeannette Okur and Duygu Uslu-Ok at the companion website OCILL Turkish. These online course materials and practice exercises are accessible to you free of cost via links set up in the weekly modules of the class Canvas website.

3. **Canvas:** In this class we will use Canvas — a web-based course management system at [http://courses.utexas.edu](http://courses.utexas.edu) — to distribute course materials, communicate online, and post assignments and grades. You will receive emails with important course information from your instructor via Canvas’s email tool, so be sure to check your email frequently.

   Note: For now, you do NOT need to purchase or use a Turkish-English dictionary. We will learn vocabulary together, in communicative context, and establish our own working “dictionary” as a class.

**Grade Distribution:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skits</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture Portfolio</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grade Distribution/Course Requirements in Detail:**

1. **Attendance and Participation (20%):**

   Class time will be devoted to **activating** the vocabulary and structures that you have prepared at home through your homework. You should expect to spend at least 75% of class time doing activities in pairs and small groups. Thus, attendance and active participation in class is essential to your making good language proficiency gains and doing well in the class. This part of your grade will be based on a daily “attendance and participation” grade assigned by your instructor according to the following criteria:

   3- **You are actively** engaged in developing your Turkish proficiency and communicating in Turkish **as much as possible** with your partner/classmates/teachers from the moment you walk into the class until you leave it. Full credit will be given when you,

   i. arrive to class on time
   ii. are well prepared for the class, which means that you have listened to recorded materials on the accompanying website or Canvas, learned the new vocabulary, read the grammar explanations carefully and done the homework drills based on these explanations before coming to class
   iii. you submit fully completed homework at the beginning of class
   iv. are alert
   v. participate actively when we are working together as a class
   vi. make maximum use of pair/group work time by
      a) understanding the learning objectives of tasks assigned
      b) staying focused on those objectives
c) continuing to work with your partner on the task objectives even if you “finish” an assigned task before the allotted time is up (Ask your instructor for additional instructions if you aren’t sure what to do next).

2- You are present but lacking in one or two of the above criteria for full credit in participation. A “2 points” grade is a warning that you are not working at your full potential.

1- You are present but lacking in more than three of the above criteria. For instance, you come late to class, submit incomplete homework, use English to say something that you could say in Turkish and are not focused on the assigned task during group work. A “1 point” grade means that you are in class in body, but not in spirit.

0- Absent

Attendance Policies:
• If you are absent from class you will receive a “0” for that day’s attendance and participation. Your lowest 3 grades for attendance and participation will be dropped for purposes of grade calculation.
• More than ten absences--whatever the reason--will result in an "F" for the course.
• Please inform us by email of absence as soon as possible before--not after--the class you will miss. This helps us considerably in planning for daily class activities.

Classroom Conduct Policies:
• Use of laptops and cell phones is not permitted. Turn your cell phone off completely when in class.
• Please do not chew gum in class.
• If you bring food, proper cultural etiquette dictates that you offer some to others in the room.

2. Homework Assignments (25%)

Expect to spend about 1.5-2 hours on homework daily. (Your work on the Culture Portfolio and the Skits is also included in this homework time frame. See the sections below for more details.) To prepare for the learning that takes place through practice in class, you will listen to, read and study new material at home. This material will not be presented in class. To help you process this material, you will have daily written assignments due at the beginning of class on the day designated in the schedule. The amount of effort you put into your at-home preparation and your homework is an important part of your homework grade. Pay close attention to your instructor’s comments on your assignments, and follow up promptly in office hours or after class if you have questions about your homework grade.

Homework assignments will be rated on a scale of 1 to 3 (3= excellent; 2= good but not your best effort; 1= poor work). You will be rated on the overall quality of your work, not merely on the number of correct or incorrect answers. Note that you do not have to have everything 100% correct on your homework in order to get a “3” as long as you have made your best effort. Your lowest 3 grades for homework will be dropped for purposes of grade calculation.

On each homework assignment:
1. write your name
2. write the homework due date
3. staple pages together
4. leave room for feedback from your instructors on the homework (i.e. skip lines when writing compositions).

Electronic files containing oral homework assignments should follow the above principles (1 and 2). That is to say, electronic files sent to the instructor or TA must be labeled with your name and the homework number/due date.
We expect you to write out your homework assignment in full sentences. You will not receive full credit for submitting only the words from a fill-in-the-blank exercise or submitting a Xeroxed copy of the exercise from the book. The aim of the homework exercises is not only to build your vocabulary, but also to recycle and reinforce the vocabulary and grammatical structures that you already know. By writing out the exercise in full, you will notice details of the language (such as spelling and grammatical details) that you may have missed the first time around. Furthermore, you incorporate your new vocabulary in context rather than producing a simple list, and you increase your writing speed. Because a simple list only meets one aim of the exercise, we consider it incomplete, and you may lose up to one point on your homework grade for this reason.

Late homework assignments will not be accepted. However, if there are exceptional extenuating circumstances that will prevent you from turning in homework on time, contact your instructor to discuss the possibility of getting advance permission to submit late homework.

Note that the assigned homework at the companion OCILL Turkish website is required homework. Failure to complete the online portion(s) of the homework will result in points being deducted from your homework grade. Online homework assignments should also be completed before class on the day designated in the schedule. Most of the exercises on the website are auto-correct exercises, which you should attempt multiple times, until you have gotten as many answers correct as possible. (At least 70% of your answers on a given exercise must be correct for the exercise to be counted as satisfactorily completed.) Those exercises that require you to write on a separate piece of paper should be turned into your instructor at the beginning of class on the day designated in the schedule.

Sometimes, you will be asked to make corrections on your written homework. Mistakes are a natural part of the learning process, but you can only truly benefit from them when you take the time to revise your work and correct your mistakes. Your instructor will use a simple code to mark errors in writing/spelling and grammar, and you will correct the errors on the same sheet of paper using a different color ink. Homework correction assignments will receive a separate homework grade and should be turned in the following fashion:

On each homework correction assignment:
   1. write your name
   2. write the homework number (from assignment schedule) and due date
   3. make your corrections on the original homework, using a different color ink, unless it is more logical to re-write the composition on a separate page and staple it to the original homework
   4. leave room for feedback from your instructors on the homework correction (i.e. skip lines when re-writing compositions).

4. Periodic Quizzes (25%)
   There will be numerous (i.e. around 12-15) quizzes over the course of the semester. These quizzes will assess how well you are learning and can produce new vocabulary and grammar items in communicative context. The dates of all quizzes will be noted on your weekly homework schedule, well in advance. If you will miss/have missed a quiz, contact your instructor as soon as you know that you will be missing/have missed it. If you have not contacted your instructor within 24 hours after the quiz has been given to discuss the possibility of a make-up, you will receive a “0”. Requests for make-ups will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The tentative date for the first quiz is: next Tuesday, September 1, 2015.

5. Skits (10 %) Due on Friday, October 16 and Friday, November 20, 2015.
   During the fall semester, you will be asked to prepare two original skits with a partner and present them in class together. These skits will provide you with the opportunity to show what you have learned and what you
can create with the language. Further information about the skit’s format and method of evaluation will be provided before the skit is due.

6. Culture Portfolio (5%)

In addition to your language work, you will keep a Culture Portfolio with three entries, each of which reflects an aspect of Turkish culture that you explore outside of class. In order to gather material for each entry, you may (1) watch a film (Turkish film screenings on campus will be announced), (2) read a short story, novel or non-fiction work by a Turkish author, (3) attend a lecture on a topic related to Turkish culture, (4) chat with a native speaker of Turkish about a particular topic, (4) explore websites related to a particular topic, or (5) otherwise research a topic of interest to you. Each entry should contain a minimum of 300 words (typed in English). You are required to post your culture entry on Canvas under the Discussion Board by the dates indicated below. After posting each culture entry, you will have one week to read and respond to ONE of your classmates’ entries (again, in English, for a regular homework grade.) We hope that you will enjoy reading the Portfolio entries of your classmates! More detailed information about how the culture entries and responses will be evaluated will be posted on Canvas well in advance of the first entry’s due date.

The dates for posting the Culture Portfolio Entries on Canvas are the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Culture Portfolio</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entry # 1</td>
<td>Monday, September 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry # 2</td>
<td>Monday, October 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry # 3</td>
<td>Monday, November 16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Final Examination: (15%)

The final examination will be comprehensive and will test the following skills: reading, writing, and listening in addition to vocabulary and grammar. You will participate in an individual oral interview (15 minutes) with an instructor. In this interview you will be able to demonstrate your oral skills in Turkish in talking about yourself, family, friends, studies, university and city, likes and dislikes, etc. Further information about the written exam and interview’s format, content, and evaluation rubrics will be distributed to all students by mid-November. The final exam, including the oral interview, will most likely be given on Saturday, December 13, 2:00-5:00 p.m. (However, because our class meets during both MWF and TTH time slots, there is a chance that your final exam, including the oral interview, could be scheduled earlier, on Wed., December 10, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.) Please plan your Winter Break travel accordingly, i.e. around the later date!

Final Grade Calculation and Grade Policies:
Number/Letter grade equivalents are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Letter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>87 - 89.9</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77 – 79.9</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67 – 69.9</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84 - 86.9</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>74 – 76.9</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>64 – 66.9</td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 – 93.9</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80 – 83.9</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70 – 73.9</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60 – 63.9</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Below 60% F)

- Grades on the border between two letter grades (89.9 for instance) may or may not be rounded up to the next higher letter grade, at the instructor’s discretion.
- Your final class grade will be based on your final weighted average in the class (including the final exam grade) in addition to a consideration of your grade on the final exam. Your final grade in the class will be the letter grade equivalent of your final weighted average unless your final exam grade is more than 10 pts below the minimum for that letter grade, in which case your final grade in the class will be the letter grade
equivalent of your grade on the final + 10pts. Thus, for example, if your weighted class average is 82% but your final exam score is 68, you would receive a C+ for your final grade, not a B-.
The rationale for this policy is to ensure that you keep up your effort right through to the end of the semester and that your final grade is an accurate reflection of the extent to which you have met the learning objectives of the class and how prepared you are for the next level Turkish class.

- Quiz grades are usually a good indicator of how you will do on the final. If you are not doing well on quizzes, talk to your instructor to get suggestions for strategies to improve your performance.
- In order to continue to the next level of Turkish, you must have a grade of C- or better. If you take the course Pass/Fail, you may not register for the next level of Turkish.
- No Incompletes will be given for this course.
- Auditing is not permitted.

**How to Do Well in this Class**

This class is a group effort! We can make much more progress as a class than as individuals by creating an Turkish-speaking community, of which you will be a fully participating member. The following suggestions will help you get the most out of the course:

1. **Be an active learner.** The approach we use here at UT depends on you learning new material at home, and encourages you to use analogy and logical thinking to master grammar a little bit at a time. You will learn better and remember more when you are able to answer your own questions. Active learners often have questions that reflect their engagement of the material. Take initiative in class and on homework: this effort will be rewarded both in your grade and in your language ability. Feel free to write us questions on specific language features in your daily homework—just remember to be specific.

2. **Put yourself out there.** Language learning requires you to make mistakes, both in your assignments and in front of your peers. In this class, you will never be penalized for a mistake that you make when trying something new. You will be corrected in class. Feedback from your instructors is intended to support you as you develop your language proficiency, and not as criticism.

3. **Personalize vocabulary.** You will remember vocabulary when you “own” it. Make words relevant to your life by thinking of what you can say about yourself with them. Write extra sentences that are meaningful to you so that the vocabulary becomes “yours” and expresses something about your world.

4. **Prepare for active participation in class by anticipating what you will do.** You should soon be able to predict what kinds of activities will be performed and how. As you study new material and complete assignments before each class, think about how you will use the new material. This will help you to prepare for the activities we’ll be doing in class.

5. **Develop your memorization skills.** Experiment with different techniques, combining listening, speaking and writing together as much as possible. Cross-train: Try the following and find what combination of techniques works best for you:
   - listening to words and repeating them aloud—not once but ten or twenty times, until the word is easy for you to pronounce
   - using flashcards—but without English definitions, and make yourself say the word aloud and use it in a phrase or sentence
   - Writing out vocabulary over and over—but remember to pronounce it out loud while you write!
   - putting the words in sentences or a paragraph or story
   - studying in groups and quizzing each other
   - using word association techniques
6. **Study out loud, and repeat new words many times.** The only way to train your brain and your mouth to speak this language is by doing it aloud. Certain muscles need to be strengthened before they’ll be able to produce some Turkish sounds correctly; studying aloud and exaggerating these sounds will help your muscles develop! Pronounce new vocabulary words at least fifteen times, until you can say them easily and it feels natural.

7. **Guess.** Think about how you acquired your native language: you did not use a dictionary. Rather, you learned new words by guessing their meaning from context, and you learned how to produce sentences by imitating and using patterns. As adult learners, we can take some shortcuts, but guessing skills remain central to language acquisition. Do not leave blanks on the homework, but do not allow yourself to become frustrated; give it your best shot, and move on. If you are not sure you have understood a sentence in the homework, you may write a translation or a question on your homework for your instructor to check or answer.

8. **Correct yourself.** Good language learners learn from their own successes and mistakes and those of others. Correcting mistakes is an essential part of the learning process. In this class, you will never be penalized for a mistake that you make when trying something new. When your instructors and classmates are speaking, be an active listener by listening both to what they are saying and how they are saying it. Correcting the mistakes of others in your head or in your notebook is also good practice.

9. **Extend language learning beyond the classroom.** Practice Turkish as much as possible. Study with classmates: ask each other questions, brainstorm about assignments, go over materials —and do this in Turkish as much as possible. Look out for films and cultural activities on campus and around town and go attend them.

**Principles for Group Activities**

There can be no language without community. In our class community, respect for each other at all times will ensure a positive and fruitful learning experience. We will spend at least 75% of class time in small group or pair activities so that each one of you gets the maximum possible time to participate and practice. During these activities, the instructor plays the role of personal trainer. Learning a language is a lot like going to the gym: the personal trainer guides you, but you have to do the work to get the benefit. Please keep in mind the following principles for group work:

- Help and encourage your colleagues, and accept help from them: each of you can learn with and from everyone else.
- Work with different people on a regular basis.
- Come prepared. Don’t be someone who slows down colleagues by not being able to fully participate in the work. If you are not prepared for class let your instructor know beforehand and s/he will arrange for you to learn by listening on that day.
- Stay focused on the task at hand and do not rush to finish. Most activities are designed to elicit creative play with vocabulary and structures on which we are working. If you do the minimum, you will get only minimum benefit. Take advantage of class time by pushing yourself to be creative and say and write as much as you can.
- Speak in Turkish while you are engaged in the activity. If you feel frustrated, raise your hand and ask for help.
- When your group finishes the task, raise your hand to let the instructor know.
- The instructor may call time before everyone is finished. If your group does not finish, you may want to take a few minutes after class to study the rest of the exercise.
**Important Dates**
- **Monday, August 31st** is the last day of the official add/drop period; after this date, changes in registration require the approval of the department chair and usually the student’s dean.
- **Friday, September 11th** is the last day to drop a class for a possible refund and without a possible academic penalty (a Q on your record).
- **Tuesday, November 3rd** is the last day a student may change registration in a class to or from the pass/fail or credit/no credit basis.
- **Tuesday, November 3rd** is also the last day an undergraduate student may, with the dean’s approval, withdraw from the University or drop a class except for urgent and substantiated, nonacademic reasons.

**UT Honor Code**
The UT Honor code is in effect in this class. The core values of the University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

Submitting any assignment or exam that is not your own, or that you did not participate fully in doing, is a violation of that code. As a research university, the University of Texas at Austin takes plagiarism very seriously. Do not risk getting involved in a plagiarism infraction. Always cite your sources, and when in doubt, consult a professor or librarian. You may read more about plagiarism at the Student Judicial Services website: [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/academicintegrity.html](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/academicintegrity.html). Also consult the plagiarism file on the University’s library site: [http://www.lib.utexas.edu/services/instruction/learningmodules/plagiarism](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/services/instruction/learningmodules/plagiarism).

**Disabilities**
Students with disabilities who require special accommodations need to get a letter that documents the disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Office of the Dean of Students (471-6259 voice or 471-4641 TTY for users who are deaf or hard of hearing). This letter should be presented to the instructor in each course at the beginning of the semester and accommodations needed should be discussed at that time. Five business days before an exam the student should remind the instructor of any testing accommodations that will be needed. See website below for more information: [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/ssf/providing.php](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/ssf/providing.php).

**Religious holy days.** If you will miss class in order to observe any religious holy days during the semester, you must inform your instructor per email by the 12th class day, i.e. **by Friday, September 11, 2015**. These absences will be excused. If you also miss a class quiz or fail to complete a homework assignment due to the observance of a religious holy day, you will be given opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Use of Canvas**
This course uses Canvas, a Web-based course management system in which a password-protected site is created for each course. You are responsible for checking the Canvas course site regularly for class work and announcements. Canvas is available at [http://courses.utexas.edu](http://courses.utexas.edu). Support is provided by the ITS Help Desk at 475-9400 Monday through Friday 8 am to 6 pm.

**Use of E-mail for Official Correspondence to Students**
All students should become familiar with the University's official e-mail student notification policy. It is the student’s responsibility to keep the University informed as to changes in his or her e-mail address. Students are expected to check e-mail on a frequent and regular basis in order to stay current with University-related communications, recognizing that certain communications may be time-critical. It is recommended that e-mail
be checked daily, but at a minimum, twice per week. The complete text of this policy and instructions for updating your e-mail address are available at http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.html.

Email Etiquette: Emails should open with an appropriate address to the instructor and TA. Refrain from using Hi, Yo, or no address at all. Please make sure you identify yourself and clearly indicate your question or request. Emails will be answered in a timely fashion, depending on circumstances and need.

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)
If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual’s behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal.

Q drop Policy
The State of Texas enacted a law limiting the number of course drops for academic reasons to six (6). Senate Bill 1231: “Beginning with the fall 2007 academic term, an institution of higher education may not permit an undergraduate student a total of more than six dropped courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution of higher education, unless the student shows good cause for dropping more than that number.”

Emergency Evacuation
Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside. Hence, you should familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building our class occupies. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building. Students requiring assistance in evacuation should inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class. In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors; and do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office. The Office of Campus Safety and Security, 512-471-5767, http://www.utexas.edu/safety/ has also prepared a link to information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures: www.utexas.edu/emergency

Türkçe dersimize hoş geldiniz!