

ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT UNIVERSITY – DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION COURSE SYLLABUS					
Course Code	Course Title	Course Type	ECTS Credits	Prerequisite Information	Date of Preparation
PSPA317	REGIONAL POLICY AND GOVERNANCE	Elective	6	None	15 September 2026
Instructor of the Course & E-Mail Address	Prof. Dr. Ayşe Çolpan Kavuncu Yıldız E-mail: akavuncu@gmail.com				
Office Hours & Office Room	By appointment – Room B-346				
Course Content and Objectives	Course Objectives: The aim of this course is to introduce students to the literature on regional policy and governance. Another significant aim is to equip students with the analytical tools necessary to understand the nature of the capitalist state and its changing spatiality. Finally, the course discusses the dynamics and reasons behind emerging structures of regional governance in capitalist countries. Throughout the course, international examples, particularly from European Union countries, are discussed alongside the case of Turkey. In this respect, the course aims to provide students with a perspective on the future public policy agenda in Turkey as well as trends in the restructuring of the Turkish administrative system. Course Content: In addition to fundamental topics such as the definition, objectives, actors, and development trajectory of regional policies, the course addresses the spatiality of the capitalist state, globalization and Europeanization, uneven development and regional tensions, the European Union's regional policies, new regionalism, regional and metropolitan governance, rescaling, and Turkey's regional policy experience.				
Textbook(s)	The course progresses each week through assigned readings and lecture notes that establish the connection between the readings and the weekly topic. The lecture notes present the key concepts and theoretical framework of the week, while students read weekly academic articles and prepare reflection papers on the readings. Core readings: Keating, Michael (1998). The New Regionalism in Western Europe: Territorial Restructuring and Political Change. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar. Keating, Michael (2001). "Rethinking the Region: Culture, Institutions and Economic Development in Catalonia and Galicia." European Urban and Regional Studies, 8(3), 217–234. Keleş, Ruşen ve Mengi, Ayşegül (2013). Avrupa Birliği'nin Bölge Politikaları. İstanbul: Cem Yayınevi. Zimmermann, Karsten & Panagiotis Getimis (2017). "Rescaling of Metropolitan Governance and Spatial Planning in Europe: An Introduction to the Special Issue." Raumforsch Raumordn, 75, 203–209. Additional weekly readings are listed in the weekly course plan below.				
Teaching Methods and Techniques	The class begins with a discussion of the weekly readings, followed by an explanation of the key concepts related to the week's theme and presentation of its theoretical framework. Finally, practical and comparative examples relevant to the topic are discussed. Teaching methods and techniques include weekly readings, reflection papers, class discussion, lectures, a final paper and presentation, a midterm examination, and a final examination.				
Course Learning Outcomes	LO1. Explains the basic concepts and theoretical approaches regarding the nature and spatiality of the capitalist state. LO2. Analyzes the effects of globalization and Europeanization on the spatial organization of state action and public policies. LO3. Compares regional governance structures and metropolitan governance models across different country experiences. LO4. Evaluates debates on uneven development and rescaling in terms of the objectives and tensions of regional policies. LO5. Interprets Turkey's regional policy experience in the context of its historical development and the EU process, and presents analyses in written and oral form.				

Program Outcomes Contributed by the Course	PO1. Defines and interprets the basic concepts, theories, and approaches of political science, public administration, law, and urbanization-environment studies. PO3. Analyzes the historical development of Turkish political life, state-society relations, and Turkey's administrative-constitutional structure. PO4. Analyzes relations among societies and states in the context of world history and evaluates current developments at national, regional, and global levels on the basis of theoretical knowledge. PO5. Defines the basic concepts and principles of economics and public finance and explains the relationship between public finance/economic policies and political-administrative decisions. PO8. Evaluates urbanization and environmental problems at local, national, and global scales and develops policy proposals addressing them.
Contribution of the Course to Field Instruction	The course contributes to field instruction by providing theoretical and comparative knowledge on public administration, regional policy, regional governance, metropolitan governance, state spatiality, rescaling, European Union regional policy, and Turkey's regional policy experience.
Topics Covered in the Course	WEEK 1 (22 September) - Introduction WEEK 2 (29 September): The question of territoriality: The Nature of the capitalist State Jessop, Bob (1999) 'The strategic selectivity of the state: reflections on a theme of Poulantzas', <i>Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora</i>, 25 (1-2): 1-37. Ekers&Loftus (2013). "Introduction". Ed. Gramsci: Spce, Nature, Politics", Wiley-Blackwell, p. 15-32. Bae-Gyoon Park (2017) "New spatial readings of the state", <i>Territory, Politics, Governance</i> 5(1): 1-4 Editional Readings: Gramsci, Antonio (1978 [1926]) <i>The Southern Question, Selections from political writings (1921-1926)</i>, translated and edited by Quintin Hoare. London: Lawrence and Wishart. WEEK 3 (6 October): The question of territoriality: The geography of capitalist accumulation Brenner, Neil (2013) "Theses on urbanization", <i>Public Culture</i>, 25(1): 85-114. Sack, David (1983) "Human territoriality: A theory", <i>Annals of the Association of American Geographers</i> 73 (1): 55-74 (especially the first ten pages) Kevin R. Cox (2013) <i>Territory, Scale, and Why Capitalism Matters</i>, <i>Territory, Politics, Governance</i>, 1:1, 46-61, DOI: 10.1080/21622671.2013.763734 Editional Readings: Smith, Neil (1986) "On the necessity of uneven development", <i>International Journal of Urban & Regional Research</i>, 10 (1): 87-103. WEEK 4 (13 October): Changing spatiality of state action and public policies: Influences – I (Globalisation) Ventriss, Curtis (1994) "Public Administration and the changing nature of space", <i>American Review of Public Administration</i>, 24 (1). Brenner, Neil (1999) "Beyond state-centrism? Space, territoriality, and geographical scale in globalization studies", <i>Theory and Society</i> 28: 39-78. Jessop, Bob (2002) "Time and Space in the Globalization of Capital and Their Implications for State Power", <i>Rethinking Marxism</i> 14 (1): 97-117 Pike, A., Rodríguez-Pose, A., & Tomaney, J. (2017). <i>Local and Regional Development</i> (2nd ed.). Routledge. P.59-150 WEEK 5 (20 October): Changing spatiality of state action and public policies: Influences – II (Europeanisation) Rodríguez-Pose, Andrés (2018). 'The revenge of the places that don't matter', <i>Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society</i> 11(1): 189–209. Keating, Michael (1998). <i>The New Regionalism in Western Europe: Territorial Restructuring and Political Change</i>, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar. P.16-58; 72-111 Bachtler, J., Mendez, C. & Wishlade, F. (2020). <i>EU Cohesion Policy and European Integration</i>. Routledge. P.3-44 Kavuncu Ayşe Çolpan (2020) "Kültür Başkenti Uygulamaları Kavramsal Ve Kuramsal Arka Plan", ed. Fırat Yıldız, <i>Türk Dünyası Kültür Başkentleri</i>, Nobel yayınları, Ankara WEEK 6 (27 October): Europeanisation European Green Deal, Sustainability, and Regional Governance Keating, Michael (2017) "Contesting European regions", <i>Regional Studies</i> 51(1): 9-18. Benz, A. and B. Eberlein (1999) "The Europeanization of regional policies: patterns of multi-level governance", <i>Journal of European Public Policy</i> 6 (2): 1350–1763. European Commission (2019). <i>The European Green Deal</i>. Brussels. OECD (2019). <i>Making Decentralisation Work: A Handbook for Policy-Makers</i>. Paris: OECD. P.59-106 WEEK 7 (3 November): Administrative structures and Metropolitan Cities/Regional Policy Keating, Michael (1988) "Does Regional Government Work? The experience of Italy, France and Spain", <i>Governance</i>, 1(2): 184-204. Zimmermann, Karsten & Panagiotis Getimis (2017) "Rescaling of Metropolitan Governance and Spatial Planning in Europe: an Introduction to the Special Issue", <i>Raumforsch Raumordn</i> 75:203–209 Kennedy, Loraine (2017) "State restructuring and emerging patterns of subnational policy-making and

	governance in China and India", <i>Environment and Planning C: Politics and Space</i> 35(1): 6–24. Kavuncu, A.Ç. (2017). <i>Metropolitan Kent Yönetimi ve Yeniden Ölçeklendirme Süreci</i>. Birol Akgün, Yusuf Tekin (Der), <i>Küreselleşme ve Yerelleşme Ekseninde Yerel Yönetim içinde</i>. Ankara: ŞAR Yayınları. WEEK 8 (10 November): Uneven Development and Tensions in Regional Policies Park, Bae-Gyoon (2008) "Uneven Development, Inter-scalar Tensions, and the Politics of Decentralization in South Korea", <i>IJURR</i> 32(1): 40-59. Cox, Kevin R. (2009) "'Rescaling the State' in Question", <i>CJRES</i> 2: 107-121. Soja, Edward W. (2010). <i>Seeking Spatial Justice</i>. Univ. of Minnesota Press. P.31-66 Christopoulos, Dimitrios C. (2006) "Governance Capacity and Regionalist Dynamics", <i>Regional and Federal Studies</i> 16(4): 363–383. WEEK 9 (17 November) - Midterm WEEK 10 (24 November): The agency of regions: Regions as policy/polity-makers Christopoulos, Dimitris (2012) "Elite social capital and the regional economy", <i>European Urban and Regional Studies</i> 21(3): 272-285. Keating, Michael et al (2009) "Territorial policy communities and devolution in the UK" <i>CJRES</i> 2: 51–66. Bayırbağ, Mustafa K. (2011) "Pro-Business Local Governance and (Local) Business Associations: The Case of Gaziantep", <i>Business and Politics</i> 13(4), Article 6. DOI: 10.2202/1469-3569.1355 McCann, Philip & Ortega-Argilés, R. (2015). 'Smart Specialization, Regional Growth and EU Cohesion Policy', <i>Regional Studies</i> 49(8): 1291–1302. WEEK 11 (1 December): Regional policy objectives Jones, Martin & Gordon McLeod (1999) "Towards a regional renaissance? Reconfiguring and rescaling England's economic governance", <i>Trans Inst Br Geogr NS</i> 24: 295–313 Lawton Smith, Helen et al (2003) "European Policy and the Regions: A Review and Analysis of Tensions", <i>European Planning Studies</i> 11(7): 859-873. Carter, Caitríona & Romain Pasquier (2010) "The Europeanization of Regions as 'Spaces for Politics': A Research Agenda", <i>Regional & Federal Studies</i> 20(3): 295-314. Gordon McLeod, Mark Goodwin (1999). "Reconstructing an urban and regional political economy: on the state, politics, scale, and explanation", <i>Political Geography</i> 18 (1999) 697– 730 WEEK 12 (8 December) Taking a closer look at the case of Turkey – I (Historical Background) Tekeli, İlhan (2009). <i>Türkiye’de Bölgesel Eşitsizlik ve Bölge Planlama Yazıları</i>, Tarih Vakfı Yurt Yayınları, İstanbul. P.46-60;64-87 Akkuş, A. (2022). <i>Türkiye’nin Bölge Politikaları</i>. İDEALKENT, 13(37), 1772-1797. https://doi.org/10.31198/idealkent.1121784 Eraydın, Ayda (2004). <i>Bölgesel Kalkınma Kavram, Kuram Ve Politikalarında Yaşanan Değişimler</i>, <i>Kentsel Ekonomik Araştırmalar Sempozyumu</i>, PAÜ, Denizli, ss. 126-146. WEEK 13 (15 December) Taking a closer look at the case of Turkey – II (EU and Turkey) Ertugal, Ebru (2010) "Europeanization and multi-level governance in Turkey", <i>Southeast European and Black Sea Studies</i> 10(1): 97-110. Ertugal, Ebru (2011) "Institutional change and Europeanisation: explaining regional policy reform in Turkey", <i>Policy & Politics</i> 39(2): 257-273 Kaya, H.Serdar & Vedia Dökmeci (2017) "Development of urban hierarchies at the country and regional levels in Turkey", <i>ITU A Z</i> 14(2): 131-149. WEEK 14 (22 December) Taking a closer look at the case of Turkey – III (Turkey and Regional Economic Development) Sezgin, Ervin (2018) "New regionalism in Turkey: questioning the 'new' and the 'regional'", <i>European Planning Studies</i> 26(4): 653-669. Bayırbağ, Mustafa K. (2010) "Local entrepreneurialism and state rescaling in Turkey", <i>Urban Studies</i> 47(2): 363–385. Ayşe Çolpan Yıldız (2023) "Türk Yerel Yönetim Yapısında Kırsal Mahallelerin Sorunları", <i>İdealkent Dergisi</i>, Yıl 2023, Cilt: 15 Sayı: 41, 606 - 629, 11.10.2023, https://doi.org/10.31198/idealkent.1356666 WEEKS 15 (29 December): General Review
Course Evaluation Criteria	Weekly readings and reflection papers; class participation and discussions; final paper and presentation; midterm examination; final examination. Examination weights in the existing course plan: Midterm 40%; Final Examination 60%. Weekly presentations/reflection papers and participation are part of the course responsibilities.

Disability Policy	If you have a documented disability (e.g., visual, hearing, or physical impairment) that may influence your performance in this course, it is recommended that you contact Engelsiz AYBU to arrange reasonable accommodations and ensure an equitable opportunity to meet all course requirements. You may also contact the relevant authority at the Faculty of Political Sciences. You should communicate your needs to the course instructor as soon as possible to ensure that needs concerning exams, lecture materials, and other course requirements are met.
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