



**Carolina Center for the Study of the
Middle East and Muslim Civilizations**
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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January 7, 2014

Dean Steven Matson
The Graduate School
Campus Box #4010, 200 Bynum Hall
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-4010

Dear Dean Matson,

We are writing to you to express our support for the Center for European Studies' TransAtlantic Masters (TAM) III proposal involving a two-year course of graduate study at UNC-Chapel Hill and at overseas partner sites in Berlin, Germany (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) and in Ankara, Turkey (Middle East Technical University). This proposal is expected to go before The Graduate School for approval on January 22nd, 2014. We are pleased to endorse this timely initiative as co-directors of the Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations.

The integrated course of study TAM III offers includes rigorous intercultural academic training focused on German-Turkish relations. Within this context students will study extremely relevant issues concerning EU integration, immigration and political identity. TAM III also provides an opportunity to deepen institutional ties with one existing TAM partner (Humboldt) and to widen that relationship to include METU. By forging such a path, the program will foster increased attention to UNC's Turkish Studies Program and attract more TAM applicants. We are keen to work with the Center for European Studies on this new venture as TAM III's focus is pertinent to the Mideast center's region, and we are especially interested in TAM III's support for Turkish-language offerings. We welcome the opportunity to work across regions and to collaborate with another Area Studies Center.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Carl Ernst.

Carl Ernst

Handwritten signature of Charles Kurzman.

Charles Kurzman

Co-Directors, Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations

TAM III: German-Turkish Studies Program Proposal
TransAtlantic Masters Program in the
Center for European Studies*
January 2014

1. Background

UNC-CH's TransAtlantic Masters (TAM) program is a successful and innovative program of graduate instruction which has afforded MA students the opportunity to study the transatlantic partnership on both sides of the Atlantic for the past fifteen years. We are most proud of the professional accomplishments of our graduates and of our productive partnerships with ten overseas institutions. At this time we have the chance to deepen our ties with one of our overseas partners, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany, and to simultaneously cultivate a new partnership with the Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara, Turkey. Our collaboration with these two institutions has led us to envision a third track of TAM (TAM III) focused on German-Turkish Studies. Currently most TAM I students seek the UNC-CH MA in Political Science, Concentration TransAtlantic Studies. TAM I partner sites include:

- Bath University, UK
- Charles University, Prague
- Universidad Complutense de Madrid
- Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- Freie Universität Berlin
- Sciences Po, Paris
- University of Siena, Italy

The majority of TAM II students seek the UNC-CH MA in Political Science, Concentration European Governance. The TAM II partner sites are:

- VU University, Amsterdam
- Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona
- University of Bremen

We now wish to expand our offerings to include a program called TAM III and offer a UNC-CH MA in Political Science, Concentration German-Turkish Relations. Just as TAM I grew from an existing program offered by the University of Bath, the Euromasters program, TAM III will be rooted in the German-Turkish Master's Program (GeTMA) which Humboldt-Universität and METU have run for the past six years. Our TAM III initiative broadens our current offerings, meets expectations of our prospective students, and incorporates the experiential study of an EU candidate country into the program.

2. Rationale: Market demand, funding opportunities and outlook for graduates

Analysis of our recent application pool reveals an increasing interest in Turkish-language study and in Turkey's political relevance among prospective TAM students. Of course, Turkey has been keen to join the EU for some time and has been an EU candidate country since the Helsinki European Council in late 1999. Thus, if one studies the EU, as all TAM students do, the issue of Turkey's desire to join is an interesting one. Such an investigation provides a way to discuss what the EU really is and what it means to be European as issues of the economy, religious tolerance, and human rights inevitably come into play. Recent applications to TAM also favor German Studies – possibly because of its relatively robust economy and prominent role in European affairs. We believe there are several crucial reasons why graduate students, especially US nationals, may now be particularly interested in Turkey and Germany.

1. These countries are both major US allies and are highly relevant to US foreign policy.
2. Though growth has slowed, Germany and Turkey still have expanding economies. In light of the euro crisis and US financial crisis, these countries can impart important lessons and best practices.
3. If you are interested in immigration, the German-Turkish relationship provides a fascinating example.

Our motivation to offer a third track of TAM is fuelled by the desire to maintain our competitive edge in what is becoming an increasingly saturated MA-degree market and to widen our offerings. While we remain fairly unique in the US, in recent years consortial MA programs such as ours have grown in number throughout Europe. In essence, with this initiative we are responding to changing market circumstances. Further, we are taking action to ensure that our graduates remain among the most competitive as they pursue international careers. We believe that we will attract more students to TAM if we are able to offer Turkish and/or German language instruction, opportunities to live and study in Turkey and Germany as well as in-depth instruction focused on German-Turkish relations.

During recent discussions with the Co-Directors of the Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations, Professors Carl Ernst and Charlie Kurzman, we learned that our initiative could be of great interest to other Centers. Within upcoming Title VI funding proposals many are keen to propose collaborative efforts between the

Centers which reflect inter-regional projects and efforts to grow new programs. TAM III is just this type of initiative which reflects international needs and aims to promote both the study of German-Turkish relations and to cultivate critical language skills. We are pleased to have the support of the Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations as we move forward with TAM III.

3. Current structure:

TAM is now a two-year, 4-semester-long program. TAM I students begin the program by taking fall-semester classes at UNC-CH. They must enroll in three required courses and one elective; they also participate in the Speakers Series offered by the Center for European Studies. The students then go on to complete their second and third semesters of coursework at one or two of our TAM I partner sites: the University of Bath, Charles University in Prague, Humboldt and Free Universities in Berlin, Sciences Po in Paris and the University of Siena in Italy. We expect to sign an agreement with a new Spanish site, Complutense University, very soon. Many classes are offered in the language of the host site. Overseas coursework typically depends on faculty expertise but invariably focuses on issues relevant to contemporary Europe such as immigration and identity, Europeanization, security and defense, EU integration, Democratization, political economy, as well as foreign policy. TAM students must take at least three courses each semester while enrolled at their European site(s). In the summer between their semesters in Europe, students often pursue internships or further foreign-language instruction. During their final semester in the program, students are often able to conduct research and write their thesis in the location of their choice.

Since TAM began in 1998, some of our students, enrolled through the Friday Center as non-degree seeking students, have been able to take part in the program and seek a degree from one of the European partner universities. These students stay enrolled at UNC for the duration of the program and earn credits, but they never submit a thesis to UNC and never get the UNC degree. The majority of TAM students, however, apply through the Graduate School and go through the program as UNC degree-seekers. These students remain enrolled at UNC for the duration of TAM and submit a thesis to UNC.

TAM I students who pursue the UNC MA degree emerge with an MA in Political Science, Concentration TransAtlantic Studies. Students who pursue the European degree earn an MA from the university to which they submit their thesis. Humboldt-Universität, Bath University and Sciences Po are currently able to offer MA degrees to our students who seek a European credential.

4. The Existing GeT MA Program

Students in the new track will follow a path similar to those in the existing TAM I Program described above. In crafting this new, third track of TAM, we will essentially be joining an existing and highly successful collaboration effort between our current TAM I partner, Humboldt-Universität, and METU. Since 2007, the HU Institute of Social Sciences (ISW) and

the METU Graduate School of Social Sciences have offered a German Turkish Masters Program in Social Sciences called GeT MA. This is a two-year graduate level program in which students gain an understanding of the political processes in Germany and Turkey as well as other regions in Europe and focus on such topics as modernization and democratization as well as europeanization and migration. The GeT MA courses focus on three main areas:

- Politics and Society in Turkey: Turkey as a regional and international player
- Politics and Society in Germany: Germany as a regional and international player
- European Integration, European Institutions, Europeanization and the Politics of Germany and Turkey

The GeT MA classes offered at HU and METU are taught in English. Students are able to take German- or Turkish-language (or a third language if they speak both already) classes throughout the duration of the program.

The German-Turkish Masters Program in Social Sciences is divided into four semesters. The first year (or two semesters) takes place at the Graduate School of Social Sciences at the Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara Turkey. The second year (or semesters three and four) takes place at the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences, Institute of Social Sciences, at the Humboldt-Universität. Graduates receive the Dual-Master of Arts in Social Sciences from both universities. GeT MA is part of the Ernst-Reuter-Initiative of the German and Turkish Foreign Ministries and is supported by the DAAD with funds from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

The Existing GeT MA Program:

Semester	Content
Semester I (Sep-Jan)	<p>The Making of Modernity in Turkey and Germany</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey as a Modern State • Making of Modernity in Turkey and Germany • <i>Elective</i>
Semester II (Feb-Jun)	<p>Societies in Transformation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey's Way to Europe • Turkey as a Regional Player • <i>Elective</i>
Summer (Jul-Sep)	Internship (<i>required</i>) and Summer School, Language

Semester	Content
	Course (<i>voluntary</i>)
Semester III (Oct-Feb)	<p>Germany, Turkey, and the EU</p> <p>German Democracy in Comparison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany, Turkey and the EU • German Democracy in Comparison • <i>Elective</i>
Semester IV (Apr-Aug)	MA-Thesis

5. Proposed TAM III structure

We envision TAM III as a new track of TAM which will fit into the existing framework of the now 15-year-old TransAtlantic Masters Program at UNC-CH’s Center for European Studies. TAM III will draw upon and enhance UNC-CH’s strong Turkish Studies program and faculty. Students in this new track will spend their first semester in the program enrolled in courses on the UNC-CH campus and will be part of the larger TAM I and II cohort. After successfully completing the fall semester at Carolina, TAM III students will study in Ankara at METU from February to June. In the summer between their two academic years, from July to September, the students will study Turkish in Ankara, study German in Berlin, and /or assume an internship. In their final academic year in the program students will be based in Berlin at Humboldt University where they will take courses and then write a thesis.

As in the existing tracks of TAM, it will be possible for TAM III students to pursue either the UNC MA or the international credential offered by the partner schools. If the TAM III student submits the thesis to Humboldt University, he or she will earn the Dual-Master of Arts in Social Sciences from both METU and HU. If he or she submits a thesis to UNC-CH, the student will earn the UNC-CH POLI MA, Concentration German-Turkish Studies. In either case, the students will remain enrolled at UNC for the program’s duration.

Fall Semester at UNC-CH:

POLI 745: Varieties of Democratic Capitalism (3 credits)

POLI 733: European Political Economy: European Integration (3 credits)

TURK / GERM: Elementary Turkish Instruction (4 credits) or German language instruction (4 credits). Since we expect the Turkish or German courses to be lower-level language classes, these credits will not count towards the MA degree; however, they will appear on the official UNC transcript.

POLI 891: Special Topics: US-EU Lecture Series (1 credit)

Plus one elective Turkish Studies course (3 credits) such as:

- Professor Sarah Shields' HIST 536 (Revolution in the Modern Middle East, HIST 537 (Women in the Middle East) or HIST 538 (The Middle East and the West)
- One of Professor Banu Gökariksel's upper-level undergraduate courses and graduate seminars in Geography such as 'Gender, Space and Place in the Middle East' (GEOG/ASIA 447) or her GEOG/INTS 448: 'Transnational Geographies of Muslim Societies'
- Omid Safi's Religion and Culture in Turkey course (RELI 585)
- A course taught by Cemil Aydin or Julianne Hammer or even an Economic development course with some content relevant to Turkey could also work well.

Semester's credit total: 14 UNC-CH credits (or 38.5 ECTS if one uses a conversion ratio of 1 UNC credit to 2.75 ECTS).

- Spring Semester at METU: The TAM III students' second semester will take place at METU in Ankara. Students will join a seminar focused on Turkey and Germany which is jointly taught by both METU and Humboldt professors and called Turkey's Way to Europe. They will also take a course entitled Turkey as a Regional Player. They will have the opportunity to take one Social Science Elective course and to take a Social Science Readings course in German or Turkish.

Semester's credit total: 25 ECTS

Summer between academic years: Students will have the chance to further their study of Turkish or German over the summer or to pursue a relevant internship. These will be optional offerings, but the TAM office will do everything possible to encourage student participation.

Second Fall Semester at HU: After the summer months, the students will begin classes in Berlin. At this point, they take a course called Germany in Transition: New Political, Societal and Economic Changes as well as one called German Democracy in Comparative Perspective. The third course is called Germany, Turkey, and the EU, its Frontiers and Neighbors.

Semester's credit total: 30

Second Spring Semester at HU: During their last semester in the program, students remain at HU and prepare their thesis. If a TAM III student chooses to submit his or her thesis to HU, he or she will earn the Dual-Master of Arts in Social Sciences from both HU and METU. If he or she is a UNC-CH degree seeker, the degree will be an MA in Political Science, Concentration German-Turkish Studies.

Semester's credit total: 30 ECTS

Overview of TAM III:

Semester	Courses	UNC Credits
First Semester UNC-CH	POLI 745: Comparative Welfare States	3
	POLI 733: European Integration	3
	POLI 891: EU-US Lecture Series	1
	TURK/GERM – language instruction	4
	Plus one elective class focused on Turkish Studies	3
		ECTS Credits
Second Semester METU, Ankara	GTSS 502: Joint Seminar : Turkey’s Way to Europe	8
	GTSS 504: Turkey as a Regional Player	8
	Social Science Elective (Free Elective)	5
	GTSS 552: Social Science Readings in German II or GTSS 555: Social Science Readings in Turkish II	4

Semester	Courses	ECTS Credits
Third Semester HU, Berlin	GTSS 511: Germany in Transition: New Political, Societal and Economic Changes	10
	GTSS 513: German Democracy in Comparative Perspective	10
	GTSS 515: Joint Seminar: Germany, Turkey, and the EU, its Frontiers and Neighbors	10
Fourth Semester	Thesis	30
HU, Berlin	Thesis Research	Non credit

Admission:

Applicants to our TAM III program will identify themselves at the application stage. The TAM admissions team will vet applications and pass accepted applicant credentials on to HU and METU for further approvals.

TAM III Core Courses:

All Track III TAM students will take the following four courses at UNC-CH during the Fall semester. These courses were specifically designed to introduce students to the EU and focus on comparative approaches to the institutions, politics, policies, and societies of nations.

POLI 745: Varieties of Democratic Capitalism (3 credits)

Professor: John Stephens

The course will examine the development of different types of welfare states in Europe and North America. The course will be structured around the concept of “welfare states regimes”, as defined by Gøsta Esping-Andersen in his path breaking book, *Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*. The course moves back and forth from broad conceptual issues to examination of developments in five countries which represent the different welfare state types: the United States and Britain as liberal welfare states, Sweden as a social democratic welfare state, Germany as a Christian democratic welfare state, and Italy as a southern or Mediterranean variant of the Christian democratic regime.

POLI 891: US-EU Lecture Series (1-credit class)

Professor: John Stephens

This weekly lecture series will draw primarily on the expertise of international faculty. Topics will focus on EU and/or US foreign and domestic politics as well as on contemporary transatlantic relations. Each week, two TAM students will be required to research the up-coming topic and speaker; these students will introduce the lecturer and will lead the discussion following the talk. TAM students will also be required to participate in a weekly on-line discussion forum focused on the lectures. Turkish content will be added in future years.

POLI 733: Comp Pol Econ: European Integration: Theories, Institutions and Decision-Making Processes (3 credits)

Professor: Christiane Lemke – a visiting professor from the University of Hannover in Germany will teach this class. Professor Lemke is currently based at NYU and serves at the Max Weber Chair in German and European Studies. The seminar will begin with a brief introduction of the European integration process, then cover major theories of integration, the institutions of the EU, including the most recent EU-reform process and some major policies of the EU.

TAM III Students will also choose one fall elective course offered in Turkish Studies, and they will engage in German or Turkish language instruction.