

**THE VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT EXPERIENCE OF PRINCIPLES OF ATATÜRK
AND THE HISTORY OF REVOLUTIONS COURSE
(THE SAMPLE OF ISTANBUL AYDIN UNIVERSITY)**

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Abstract

Principles of Atatürk and the History of Revolutions courses are compulsory at Turkish higher education institutions. To understand the Turkish revolution and learn the Kemalist system of thought, the courses have been given at universities since 1930s. Since then, the courses' name, content and the wording have been changed several times. For several years, some of the higher education institutions with the technological facilities, use the distance education or online systems for some of the courses. Istanbul Aydın University is one of the innovative institutions in technology and at the university the distance education facilities are available. These facilities are in use for the compulsory courses as well as Principles of Atatürk and the History of Revolutions. In this work, the intraclass courses which were given in 2010-2011 Academic year and the Online courses which were given in 2014-2015 are examined. The intraclass courses are seemed to be more successful than the Online courses not only regarding the grades, but also the student's assessments. It is understandable that the Online courses are going to be continuous when the benefits are considered; so as a result, a proposal has been suggested to use some innovative elements such as animations, videos and interactive maps for the courses.

Keywords: Online Principles of Atatürk and the History of Revolutions courses, compulsory Principles of Atatürk and the History of Revolutions courses, compulsory courses in higher education.