This lecture addresses the problematic Turkish-Arab interface from the vantage point of fieldwork in Antakya in the period of the ongoing war in Syria. Public discourse in Turkey is currently infested with racist references to Arabs, particularly targeting refugees from Syria. While scholars have begun to address contemporary Arabophobia in Turkey, the longer term relationality between ‘Turkish’ and ‘Arab’ positionalities, subject-positions, and subjectivities remains insufficiently explored.
This lecture addresses the problematic Turkish-Arab interface from the vantage point of fieldwork in Antakya in the period of the ongoing war in Syria. Public discourse in Turkey is currently infested with racist references to Arabs, particularly targeting refugees from Syria. While scholars have begun to address contemporary Arabophobia in Turkey, the longer term relationality between ‘Turkish’ and ‘Arab’ positionalities, subject-positions, and subjectivities remains insufficiently explored.