

Istanbul

HISTORY, MONUMENTS, URBAN LIFE

June 20th - August 2nd

BOĞAZIÇI-COLUMBIA SUMMER SCHOOL IN BYZANTINE AND OTTOMAN STUDIES

Columbia University and Boğaziçi University are offering a joint summer program for a select group of advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate students which provides a unique opportunity to learn about the history, urban development, and historic monuments of the city of Byzantium–Constantinople–Istanbul through coursework and site visits that allow them to explore and understand Istanbul's modern topography as an exciting palimpsest of empires, cultures, and religions first hand. A research and fieldwork component adds practical experience in architectural site survey and documentation, still and panoramic photography, archival work, and issues of architectural conservation.

While previous coursework or experience in history, art history, or archaeology is preferred, the program can accommodate students with varying academic backgrounds who have a strong interest in understanding the evolution of the city of Istanbul through a historical and cultural lens. No prior knowledge of Turkish is required.

All students enroll in the following three courses:

Architecture of the Sultans: Form, Function, and Ideology in the Imperial Mosques of Istanbul, 3 credits.

Dr. Ünver Rüstem, Fari Sayeed Visiting Fellow in Islamic Art, Bye-Fellow of Pembroke College, Cambridge University

This course offers a comprehensive survey of the imperial mosques spanning Istanbul's history as Ottoman capital. Besides tracing the monuments' evolution as a category, the course will also explore their artistic, social, and political significance, thus situating the mosques in their wider cultural and historical context.

Istanbul: Heritage and Public Space, 2 credits.

Dr. Rachel Iannacone, Independent Scholar

This course will examine the heritage of Istanbul through the lens of public space. It will tackle aspects of the contemporary city, its public spaces and address heritage issues. On-site assignments and presentations will draw from the monumental past of the city to better understand contemporary Istanbul as a rich cultural tapestry of heritage and use. Students will gain an understanding of scholarship and theory about public space from a variety of perspectives including Geography, Architecture, Anthropology, Urban Planning and Public Policy. Students will conduct on-site observations and surveys of public spaces in Istanbul examining factors that affect behavior in public spaces as well as the experience of heritage such as architecture, landscape, sound, weather, commerce, transportation and traffic congestion.

Byzantium – Constantinople – Istanbul: A City and its Monuments, 4 credits.

Dr. Nikolas Bakirtzis, Assistant Professor, The Cyprus Institute

Focusing on Istanbul's Byzantine artistic and architectural heritage, this seminar offers an introduction to the capital's most important ecclesiastical and secular monuments through a series of site and museum visits and intensive library workshops. Students will acquire a range of research and documentation skills, work with archival holdings and historic photo collections, and contribute to the Istanbul Research and Documentation Project.

