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 two 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.

**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.