Istanbul
Columbia-Boğaziçi Summer Program in Balkan Transcultural Studies

Activities

To gain a deeper understanding of the intricate narratives embedded in Istanbul itself, students will visit cultural and historical sites and participate in guided tours of the city. Sites will include The Fatih Mosque Complex, Topkapi Palace, the historic Fener district, and Eyüp.

Contact Information

For more information about the academic program, contact Faculty Director Valentina Izmirlieva (vbi1@columbia.edu).

For general questions and the application process, contact Robin Leephaibul (rl2705@columbia.edu).

Eligibility

- Open to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students in good academic standing
- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Students will be selected on a competitive basis
- Students must apply online through Columbia University’s Office of Global Programs (www.ogp.columbia.edu) by February 15. Students must then register through Boğaziçi University’s summer term office.

Overview

Columbia University’s Office of Global Programs in New York, Boğaziçi University and Columbia Global Centers | Turkey are collaborating to launch a new summer program designed to give students a deeper understanding of Balkan societies through courses that explore the multiplicity of cultures, languages and religions in the Balkans.

Coursework will focus on religious diversity in the region and will present a dynamic vision of the Ottoman Balkan culture and the Christian, Muslim and Jewish traditions that intertwined to create it. Students will take courses on the Boğaziçi University campus and also participate in activities and events hosted at the Columbia Global Centers | Turkey.

Students may enroll in one or both of the following courses, which will have a mix of Columbia University and Turkish students:

- The Muslim and the Christian in Balkan Narratives, 3 points (Professor Valentina Izmirlieva, Columbia University)
- Balkan Cultural Controversies: History and Theory, 3 points (Professor Alexander Kiossev, Sofia University)

*Optional Independent Study, 2 points (open to rising seniors or graduate students)