Burçak Özlüdil, PhD

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Urban Systems New Jersey Institute of Technology and Rutgers University-Newark (Joint Ph.D. Program), Newark, NJ, 2017, Dissertation: *Madness and Empire: The Ottoman Asylum, 1830-1930*

Master of Architecture in History and Theory of Architecture Yıldız Technical University, Istanbul, 2004. Thesis: *Islamist Thought in Contemporary Architectural Discourses*

Bachelor of Architecture Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul, 2000

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE
Administrative

Associate Dean NJIT Albert Dorman Honors College (ADHC), 8/2019- Present

Interim Associate Dean NJIT Albert Dorman Honors College (ADHC), 1/2019- 6/2019

Research

Co-Director, Center for Humanities in XR, NJIT, 2025-Present

Co-Director, Digital Spatial History Lab, NJIT, 2019-Present
Research through temporospatial analysis of historical and contemporary environments employing computational tools, such as Unity, machine learning, agent-based modeling, XR, and mapping.

Forensic History Research Group, NJIT, 2020-Present
Research, reconstruction, and simulation of historical medical spaces using historical medical and statistical data, serious gaming (Unity), machine learning, 3D modeling, and XR with undergraduate students.

Research Mentor

URI/HSRI: "Machine Learning Models to Predict Cholera Infection in an Ottoman Asylum," Saketh Golla (CS), 2024; "Immersive Design: Amplifying User Learning with Gamification in VR," John Mohring (DD), 2024; "Simulating Patient Behavior with Reinforcement Learning Algorithms: The Case of an Ottoman Mental Institution," Ari Kamat and Jeremy Kurian (CS), 2023; "The Order of Madness: Patient Categorization in the Toptasi Asylum," Vidhi Dholakia & Sriya Jidugu (CS, BioChem), 2023; "Studying the Effects of Cholera on the Mentally Ill in the Ottoman Empire," Saketh Golla (CS), 2023; "Controlling Madness: Constructing Space and Time for Toptaşı Asylum's Staff," Liam (Elizabeth) Finnegan (DS&Hist), 2022; "Curing Madness: Ottoman Psychiatric Treatments in the 19th Century," Sarah Abdul (Bio), 2022' "Unity for Spatial Research," Jason Kurzer (IS), 2021.

STS 205: Introduction to Research Methods, Spring 2020, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2025

AWARDS AND HONORS

Collaborative Research and Innovation Strategic Partnership (CRISP) Investment Grant: Center for Humanities in Extended Reality (CHXR): Reconstructing Lost Histories with XR (2025-2027).

Getty Foundation Fellowship, Exhibiting Hidden Histories: Bringing Art History Projects to Publics through Digital Exhibitions and XR, June 2023-24.

NJIT AY2022 Faculty Seed Grant, "Hidden in Plain Sight: Reconstructing Lost Histories in Istanbul and Rome" (with Drs. Margarita Vinnikov, Ersin Altin, and Louis Hamilton), June 2023-24.

NJIT AY2019 Faculty Seed Grant "Virtual and Diffusion Analysis of the Edicole Sacre (Street Shrines) of Rome" (with Drs. Louis Hamilton, Xinyue Ye, and Margarita Vinnikov).

BRAIS-De Gruyter 2019 Prize Shortlisted for the best doctoral thesis or unpublished first

monograph based on a doctoral thesis.

Getty Foundation Fellowship Advanced Topics in Digital Art History: 3D and (Geo)spatial Networks Summer Institute, June 2018.

4th International Istanbul Biennial Development Fund "[AI]stanbul: Schooling the Machine" (with Amy Hoover, Augustus Wendell, and Ersin Altin), Summer 2018.

New York City Digital Humanities Digital Project Award Honorable Mention in Graduate Student Digital Project Awards 2016; project title: "Life of an Insane Asylum: A Temporospatial Simulation."

NJIT AY2017 Faculty Seed Grant "A Temporospatial Simulation Framework: From Prototype to *SpatioScholar*" (with Augustus Wendell) (https://spatioscholar.njit.edu)

NJIT AY2016 Faculty Seed Grant "An Abstraction Network Browser for Medical Terminologies based on User Interface (UI) User Experience (UX) Design Principles with Modes for Beginners and Experts" (with Drs. Yehoshua Perl, James Geller, Christopher Ochs, and John Cays)

Turkish Cultural Foundation Fellowship 2010-2011

Social Science Research Council (USA) Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship, 2009

CURRENT PROJECTS

Monograph

Madness and Empire: The Ottoman Asylum, 1830-1930

Digital Humanities Projects

"Hidden in Plain Sight: Reconstructing Lost Histories in Istanbul and Rome with XR," Drs. Ersin Altin, Louis Hamilton, and Margarita Vinnikov, co-PIs.
    Research with Undergraduates (ongoing)
"Simulating Disease and Movement in Toptasi Insane Asylum: Opportunities in AI and Agent-Based Modeling," Sriya Jidugu, Ari Kamat, Jeremy Kurian, Saketh Golla.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

"Crossing Paths: Lucien Libert's Medical Journey to the Orient," *On Ordering Imperial Worlds: From Late Medieval Spain to the Contemporary Middle East*, ed: Susan Slyomovics, Edinburgh University Press, November 2023 (pre-order).

Ersin Altin and Burcak Ozludil, "Micro-Resistance and Space in Fin-de-Siècle Istanbul," in *Culture of Political Protest in Istanbul* [*Osmanlı Payitahtında Siyasi Muhalefet ve Protesto Kültürü*], eds: Yasemin Avci and Umut Karabulut, Istanbul Libra Publishing House, Istanbul, 2020.

"Islamist Thought in Contemporary Architectural Discourses," in *Gift to Ugur Tanyeli* [*Ugur Tanyeli'ne Armagan*] eds: Erhan Berat Fındıklı, Işıl Uçman Altınışık, Binat Iletisim & Danısmanlık, Istanbul, 2019 (in Turkish).

"Sedad Hakki in the International Arena," *Sedad Hakki Eldem II: Retrospective*, Istanbul: Ottoman Bank Archive and Research Center, 2009, 286-289.

"Migration" and "Becoming Hybrid/isation," *Becoming Istanbul: An Encyclopedia*, Garanti Gallery and Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM), 2008, 42-43, 178-179.

Articles

"Reconstructing Spaces of Madness," Digital Ottoman Studies special issue, *Journal of the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (JOTSA)*, Vol. 9, No. 2 (Fall 2022), pp. 159-165

"Temporal Scales: Understanding Change in a Medical Institution," *Journal of the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (JOTSA)*, Vol. 9, No.1 (Spring 2022), pp. 297-303

"Psikiyatri, Zaman ve Mekan: Bir Osmanlı Bimarhanesi," *Journal of Turkish Studies*, 56, Guest Eds. Zehra Toska, Ozan Kolbaş, Nükhet Varlık, Harvard University, 2021 (in Turkish).

Margarita Vinnikov, Kian Motahari, Louis I. Hamilton, and **Burcak Ozludil Altin**. "Understanding Urban Devotion through the Eyes of an Observer." In *ACM Symposium on Eye Tracking Research and Applications*, 1–6. Virtual Event Germany: ACM, 2021.

"Health and Architecture," *Arredamento Mimarlik* 342, Istanbul, September 2020 (in Turkish).

Augustus Wendell, **Burcak Ozludil**, and Estefanía López-Salas, "Calculating Movement: An Agent Based Modeling System for Historical Studies," *Architecture in the Age of the 4th Industrial Revolution: Proceedings of the 37th eCAADe and 23rd SIGraDi Conference*, Vol. 1, University of Porto, Porto, 2019, 541–50.

"Psychiatry, Space and Time: The Case of an Ottoman Asylum," *Journal of the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (JOTSA)*, Vol. 5, No. 1 (Spring 2018), pp. 67-89.

Burcak Ozludil, Augustus Wendell and Ulysee Thompson, "Prototyping a Temporospatial Simulation Framework: Case of an Ottoman Insane Asylum," *Complexity & Simplicity: Proceedings of eCAADe 2016*, Vol. 2, 2016, pp. 485-491.

INVITED TALKS

"When the Asylum Catches Cholera: Istanbul, 1893," Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine, December 7, 2021.

"Rethinking Health and the City" (Heritage of Healing Webinar Series), Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, August 5, 2021

"Madness and Architecture: An Archaeology of Lunatic Asylums," Historical and contemporary perspectives on mental health and the built environment virtual lecture series, Liverpool School of Architecture, November 19, 2020.

"Experiencing Temporalities: Space and Pace in Late Ottoman Istanbul," Centering Art History & Visual Culture in the Digital Humanities: A Symposium Celebrating 10 Years of the Wired! Lab at Duke (October 17-18, 2019).

"Crossing Paths: Medical Journeys, Imperial Surveys," 2019 Giorgio Levi Della Vida Award for Excellence in Islamic Studies: Perspectives on French Colonial and Late Ottoman Cultural History, UCLA, May 30-31, 2019.

"Modeling in Digital History: Inhabiting the Ottoman Insane Asylum," Columbia University Ottoman & Turkish Studies Seminar, November 30, 2018.

"Digital Spatial and Temporal Analysis in Ottoman History," Dissections, Fall 2018: New Directions in Research on the Middle East and North Africa at CUNY Graduate Center, October 17, 2018.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND EXHIBITED WORK

"Storytelling with XR: Reconstructing Lost Histories in Nineteenth-Century Istanbul," with Ersin Altin, 2025 MESA Annual Meeting, November 23, 2025.

"History in Extended Reality (XR): Encountering Hidden Worlds of Nineteenth-Century Rome and Istanbul," panel with Dr. Louis Hamilton and Ersin Altin, Collegiate Art Association Annual Conference, February 2025.

"Changing Landscape of Charity: Istanbul Bezm-i Alem Hospital," 2025 AHA Annual Meeting, NYC, NY, January 3-6, 2025.

"Simulating Spaces of Madness: The Ottoman Experience," 2022 MESA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, December 1-4, 2022.

"Temporal Scales: Understanding Change in a Medical Institution," Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, November 17, 2021

NJIT Digital Humanities Showcase 2021, NJIT, April 23, 2021 (organizer)

"Living Beings and Movement in Historical Space: Opportunities in Agent-based Modeling," CAA Annual Conference 2020, Chicago, February 12-15 (with Augustus Wendell)

"When the Asylum Catches Cholera: Istanbul, 1893," 2019 MESA Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 14-17, 2019

"Unity for Spatial Research: SpatioScholar," NYCDH Week 2020, NYU, February 7, 2020 (with Augustus Wendell)

"Agent-Based Modeling in Art History: Simulating an Insane Asylum," presented at the Digital Humanities 2019 Conference, Utrecht, The Netherlands, July 9-12, 2019 (with Augustus Wendell)

"SpatioScholar for Art Historians," workshop conducted at Advanced Topics in Digital Art History: 3D and (Geo)spatial Networks Summer Institute, Venice, Italy, June 3-7, 2019

"Inventing the Ottoman Hospital as Locale for Medical Knowledge," presented at Mid-Atlantic Ottoman Studies Workshop March 29-31, 2019

NJIT Digital Humanities Showcase 2019 (organizer), NJIT, March 6, 2019

"[AI]stanbul: Schooling the Machine" (with Amy Hoover, Augustus Wendell, and Ersin Altin), 4th International Istanbul Biennial, September 22-November 4, 2018; Luma-Arles (France), and at C-Mine Genk (Belgium).

"SpatioScholar: Annotating Photogrammetric Models," presented at Digital Humanities 2018 Conference, Mexico City, Mexico, June 26-29, 2018

"Modeling Movement: Visualization of Inhabited Space," presented at Advanced Topics in Digital Art History: 3D and (Geo)spatial Networks Summer Institute, Venice, Italy, June 4-16, 2018

"Spatio-medical Formation of the Ottoman Imperial Hospitals," presented at 2018 Society of Architectural Historians Annual International Conference, St. Paul, MN, April 20, 2018

"Temporospatial Analysis in Architectural History: A Digital Approach for Research and Publication" presented at The Digital Publication of Architectural History Workshop at gta at ETH Zurich, February 8-9, 2018

"Psychiatry, Space and Time: The Case of an Ottoman Asylum" presented at Visual Sources in Late Ottoman History, Columbia University, New York, NY, April 20, 2017

"Prototyping a Temporospatial Simulation Framework: Case of an Ottoman Insane Asylum," with Augustus Wendell and Ulysee Thompson, presented at 34th Annual eCAADe Conference, Oulu, Finland, August 22-26, 2016

Teaching

New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, NJ

STS 205: Introduction to Research Methods, NJIT, Fall 2022

FYS SEM: Honors First-Year Seminar, Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019

HSS 403-H02: Madness, Technology and the City (Senior Capstone), NJIT, Fall 2019, Spring 2018

USYS 725: Independent Doctoral Study, NJIT, Spring 2019.

ARCH 528G: Graduate Architectural History I, NJIT, Fall 2018.

ARCH 382: History of Architecture IV, New Jersey School of Architecture, NJIT, Spring 2009, Spring 2010

ARCH 583/662: Constructing the "non-West," New Jersey School of Architecture, NJIT, Fall 2008

Okan University, Istanbul

ARCH 102: Design Studio I, ARCH 106: Building Construction I

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Coordinator, Accreditations, Digital Platforms, Media/Assistant to the Dean, College of Architecture and Design at NJIT, 2011-2019

Managing Editor, *Arredamento Mimarlik*, architecture/design monthly, Istanbul, 2002-2006

Project architect, Architect, SD&C, Istanbul, 2001-2002