



Istanbul, Matrakçı Nasuh, 1537

The City in the City

Seminar week October 19–23, 2026

Byzantium, Constantinople, Istanbul ... all cities whose complex histories can still palpably be felt as part of the present. An ever-expanding settlement, this was the capital for three empires, both trade route and centre. For much of its history this has also been a place of diversity and tolerance, a place with many languages that welcomed foreigners to become part of its heady demographic mix.

We will travel to these cities on the Bosphorus to visit both the sites of empire and the fleeting places of everyday life. With the guidance of local colleagues, we will engage with narratives that span the social, the political and the material, looking beyond the

surface to understand how the present and the future are inextricably bound up with the residues of history.

Cost category C (501–750 CHF), 16 students. The fee includes accommodation, local transportation, two dinners, entrances and the reader. Travel to and from Istanbul is not included and must be arranged individually.

HS 2026, ETH Zürich, Studio Caruso
Emilie Appercé, Tibor Bielicky, Adam Caruso,
Anna Clocchiatti, Florian Kilian Jaritz