

**NIT URBAN HERITAGE LAB**

## **Water Heritage for Sustainable Cities**

A course organized by the Netherlands Institute in Turkey (NIT), in collaboration with Middle East Technical University (METU), Radboud University, LDE Centre for Global Heritage and Development and the Netherlands Consulate-General in Istanbul

**Online Lectures & Classes on Fridays from mid-September to mid-December 2022**  
**Istanbul 3-days Field Trip on 20, 21, 22 October 2022**

**APPLY BY**  
**31 AUGUST 2022**

**After the successful 2021 UHL course on Industrial Heritage, the Netherlands Institute in Turkey is pleased to offer in the autumn of 2022 a course that addresses past experiences and current and future challenges of urban water supply. With a focus on Istanbul's water heritage the course explores how water heritage can act as a driver for sustainable development and raise awareness of contemporary water issues worldwide. The course is open to 25 graduate students and recent graduates (any discipline) from higher education institutions in the Netherlands and Turkey. Junior professionals and policy makers are also encouraged to apply. Students and recent graduates not affiliated with Dutch or Turkish institutions can apply but will only be admitted if there are places available. The course is planned to take place partly online, partly on-site in Istanbul. The language of instruction is English.**

**APPLY BY 31 AUGUST 2022, WEDNESDAY.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,**

<http://www.nit-istanbul.org>

**FOR APPLICATION FORM,**

<https://forms.gle/rJgiaSNRNMAUsRgW8>

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**If you have any inquiries, please contact Dr. Aysel Arslan,**

[aysel.arslan@nit-istanbul.org](mailto:aysel.arslan@nit-istanbul.org)

## Location

Online [lectures and discussions],  
Selected heritage place(s) in İstanbul [field survey]

## Course Description and Background

Throughout history, the supply of fresh water has been an issue of political, social, economic and cultural importance to cities. With urban growth, increasing water demand and climate change, solving today's water problems has become more important than ever to sustain urban life for the future. This interdisciplinary course develops an integrated perspective on the values of water heritage and its potential as a driver for sustainable development.

The course explores water heritage by approaching it as a complex network of material and immaterial remains - not as isolated historical relics - in a modern urban setting. Public awareness of the values of water heritage is an important factor. With a focus on İstanbul's water heritage, but also discussing case studies from elsewhere, the course participants investigate how water heritage can be employed to raise awareness of historical and contemporary water issues worldwide.

Istanbul and its hinterland have a very rich water heritage of more than 1,500 years. This includes dams, tunnels, aqueducts, distribution stations, water towers, reservoirs, fountains and baths, as well as the social and cultural traditions that go with them. Many of these remains are protected by cultural heritage regulations, but also suffer from neglect, uncontrolled urban development and deliberate destruction. At present, planners, policy makers and the public are insufficiently aware of the value and potential of this heritage.

## Course Format

The course addresses past experiences and current and future challenges of urban water supply. Scholars and experts from the Netherlands and Turkey (two countries with a rich past in terms of water-related developments) discuss historical and contemporary topics, and the participants investigate the material and immaterial history and aspects of the ancient Valens Aqueduct in today's İstanbul. Originally built in the fourth century as part of "the longest Roman waterway", it underwent many transformations over the centuries and lost its original function. In a group assignment, the participants develop a proposal for action for the re-valorization of this multi-layered water heritage object, focusing on sustainable development and/or increasing public awareness of contemporary and future water issues.

The course consists of three parts:

- Weekly online public lectures and discussions presented by leading specialists from the Netherlands and Turkey (from mid-September to mid-December)

- A three-day intensive program in Istanbul with site visits and on-site assignments (20, 21 and 22 October)
- Developing a proposal for action related to the Valens aqueduct heritage site in today's Istanbul with online presentations and discussions by the experts on participant's work (December).

### **Academic Coordinators** *in alphabetical order*

Fokke Gerritsen (NIT)  
 Özgün Özçakır (METU)  
 Mariette Verhoeven (Radboud University)  
 Gerdy Verschuure-Stuip (TU Delft)

### **Admission Requirements and Selection**

The course is open to graduate students and recent graduates (any discipline) from higher education institutions in the Netherlands and Turkey. Junior professionals and policy-makers are also invited to apply. No prior expertise in water heritage is needed. As the language of the instruction is English, the participants are expected to have a good proficiency in English.

Participants will be selected based on their motivation, skills and expertise. The participants applying from the arts and design fields (architecture, planning, painting, sculpture, dance, etc.) are expected to submit their portfolio consisting of two or three sample works.

Deadline for application is the 31 August 2022. A maximum of 25 participants will be selected and the results will be announced the latest on 9 September. Those who want to apply should fill in the form [for application form, visit <https://forms.gle/rJgiaSNRNMAUsRgW8> ] and upload the following materials. If you have any enquiries, please contact Dr. Aysel Arslan [[aysel.arslan@nit-istanbul.org](mailto:aysel.arslan@nit-istanbul.org)].

- a letter of motivation [max. 1 page]
- a CV [max. 3 pages]
- a copy of student certificate or a diploma [from the graduate students or the recent graduates who do not have regular income]
- a dossier consisting of two or three sample works. i.e. project, sketch, writing sample, ... [optional]

### **Costs**

There are no tuition fees. Fellowships that partially cover travel and accommodation expenses (upon successful completion) will be provided for graduate students as well as recent graduates who obtained their diploma after June 2021 and do not have regular income. The amount of fellowship is 100 Euro for applicants residing in Turkey and 200 Euro for applicants residing in the Netherlands. Fellowships are not granted to participants that receive a regular income. The travel compensation is not also for the participants residing in Istanbul. Participants whose financial situation does not enable them to join despite the partial compensation are invited to contact the project coordinator.



## **Tentative Schedule** [The full program will be announced later]

The course consists of three parts as follows.

### **PART A | Defining the Issues: Weekly Online Public Lectures by Researchers from the Netherlands and Turkey**

23 September - 30 September - 7 October - 14 October 2022 [Fridays at 16.00-18.00 / Istanbul time]

### **PART B | Field Survey in Istanbul**

20-21-22 October 2022

### **PART C | Developing a Proposal for a Water Heritage Site in Istanbul with Online Discussions & Online Public Presentations by Researchers and Professionals from the Netherlands and Turkey**

28 October - 4 November - 11 November - 18 November - 25 November - 2 December - 9 December - 16 December 2021 [Fridays at 16.00-18.00 / Istanbul time]

## **Reading List**

TBD by the lecturers

## **Course Load**

The total course load is 140 hours, which is the equivalent of 5 ECTS. See the “Please Note” section for the details.

- Weekly online lectures and discussions, self-studies for reading relevant literature – 36 hours
- Field survey (including preparations for it) – 24 hours
- Preparations for the project and presentation (including self- and group-studies) – 80 hours

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will receive a certificate from the Netherlands Institute in Turkey.

## **Assessment Methods**

This course demands active participation, not only during the lectures and the field survey but also during assignments (both group and individual assignments). Through the assignments, the students will be asked to reflect on/critically review articles and to develop a project for the future of the selected industrial heritage place in Istanbul based on its values, problems and potentials.

- 20% participation assessed continually through participation during lectures and field survey
- 30% weekly student presentations
- 50% final project presentation and report

## Please Note

- The course will be conducted in English. Turkish-English and English-Turkish translations will be provided only for the public lectures.
- For the Istanbul part of the course, participants are expected to make their own arrangements for travel and accommodation.
- For the Istanbul part of the course, participants are responsible for procuring their own travel and health insurance coverage.
- Full attendance is compulsory. A certificate will only be provided upon successful completion of all partial exams.
- Students will be provided with a Certificate of Completion for their course if they satisfy attendance and course requirement.
- NIT does not offer official university credit for the course. It is the student's responsibility to validate their course for credit at their home university.
- NIT follows the guidelines provided by the Turkish Ministry of Health in terms of the coronavirus pandemic. This means that NIT reserves the right to implement some restrictions to, postpone or completely cancel the filed survey in Istanbul.

**If you have any enquiries**, please contact course coordinator Dr. Aysel Arslan:  
[aysel.arslan@nit-istanbul.org](mailto:aysel.arslan@nit-istanbul.org)