

4.619

HISTORIOGRAPHY OF ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE

Instructor:	Huma Gupta guptah@mit.edu
Day:	Wednesday
Time & Place	2-5 pm in 5-216
Dr. Gupta's Office Hours:	Thursday 2-4 pm in 10-390E calendly.com/humagupta/20min
T.A:	Maggie Freeman maggiEFR@mit.edu



Seminar focusing on the future of Islamic Architectural and Art History as a field of inquiry and scholarship. While historiography courses generally tend to focus on the formation of the field and a survey of its key literature, this seminar is interested in surveying contemporary inter-disciplinary methodologies that approach questions of space, architecture, and urbanism in the Islamic world. Each week's readings, assignments, and guest interlocutors will introduce innovative digital, sensory, visual, and textual methodologies. Students will also consider the role of ethics in research, the politics of citation, and alternative temporal modes of organizing and historicizing socio-spatial reality. Students will be encouraged to view themselves as constituting the next generation of scholars who must contend with the shifting technological, environmental, and political realities of conducting art and architectural research. The objective of the course is to enable students to develop their own methodology vis-à-vis their final thesis and dissertation projects.

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