IZMIR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Department of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage

Fall Semester 2026–2027

RES 507 Design in Architectural Restoration

Prof. Dr. Hülya Yüceer

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Course notation: (4+8)8 | Studio days: Monday and Thursday

Studio hours and room: 09:30 – 16:30 (Mon) 09:30 – 14:30 (Thu) | B Block Z03 Documentation Lab

Course description and project phases

This studio introduces the principles and practices of architectural restoration through the study of a historic building and its immediate surroundings. The overall restoration project comprises three successive phases:

1. Documentation — group work. Field survey, measured drawings, architectural and condition analyses, historical research, and comparative study establish the evidence base for the project.

2. Restitution — group work. Historical interpretation of the building identifies its development and earlier states through physical, archival, and comparative evidence. Drawings must distinguish documented findings from hypotheses and indicate the reliability of each interpretation.

3. Restoration — individual work. Following the restitution phase and midterm jury, each student develops an independent restoration proposal, supported by the group's documentation and historical interpretation. Proposals address the building's significance, conservation needs, and appropriate interventions, presented through drawings and written reports.

During the first two phases, all group members must coordinate their schedules, including time outside studio sessions, for fieldwork, drawing preparation, and joint reviews. Groups should agree on task allocation and common drawing conventions, cross-check their work, and produce a coordinated set of drawings. Individual restoration work begins on 10 December 2026.

Assessment

Submissions and studio participation: 20%

Midterm jury: 30% — group documentation and restitution

Final jury: 40% — individual restoration project

Final submission: 10% — individual project submission

Submission formats, deadline times, and the final submission date will be announced by the teaching team.

All students must attend the field trip and at least 90% of scheduled lectures and studio sessions.

Teaching period: 28 September 2026–6 January 2027. Final examination period: 11–22 January 2027. There is no studio on Thursday, 29 October (Republic Day). The last regular studio is Monday, 4 January; the final jury is scheduled for Monday, 11 January.

Studio calendar

Regular studio sessions take place on Mondays and Thursdays. The field trip, 10–18 October 2026, is an intensive activity extending beyond these weekly studio days.

Week	Date	Activity
Phase 1	**Documentation | Group work**	
W1	28 Sep 2026 Mon	Introductory meeting; phases of a restoration project; group formation and coordination of work.
W1	01 Oct 2026 Thu	Conventional measuring techniques and photogrammetric survey; planning historical research.
W2	05 Oct 2026 Mon	Course exercise 1: measuring the studio space.
W2	08 Oct 2026 Thu	Course exercise 2: preparing architectural drawings; agreeing on drawing conventions.
W3	11–17 Oct 2026 Sun–Sat	Field survey and comparative study. Prepare sketches, measurements, and written and photographic records of the building and its surroundings. Use visual observations and non-destructive methods to document architectural characteristics; materials, construction techniques, and structural systems; structural failures and material deterioration; earlier interventions and changes; and the building's values, problems, and potential. Present evidence through sketches, photographs, and mapping. Visit nearby settlements and historic sites for comparative analysis.
W4	19 Oct 2026 Mon	Producing scaled drawings; collating field records and historical sources.
W4	22 Oct 2026 Thu	Producing scaled drawings.
W5	26 Oct 2026 Mon	Producing scaled drawings.
W5	29 Oct 2026 Thu	Republic Day — no studio.
W6	02 Nov 2026 Mon	Producing scaled drawings; cross-checking the coordinated group drawing set.
W6	05 Nov 2026 Thu	**Group submission of scaled drawings (digital copy).**
W7	09 Nov 2026 Mon	Identification and mapping of spatial characteristics, architectural elements, materials, construction techniques, structural systems, structural failures, and material deterioration.
W7	12 Nov 2026 Thu	Analyses continued; historical research and comparative study.
W8	16 Nov 2026 Mon	Identification and mapping of earlier interventions and changes.
W8	19 Nov 2026 Thu	Analyses continued; synthesis of historical and comparative evidence.
W9	23 Nov 2026 Mon	**Group submission of analyses, historical research, and comparative study (digital copy).**

Week	Date	Activity
Phase 2 Restitution | Group work		
W9	26 Nov 2026 Thu	Identification of restitution questions and the building's historical phases; development of the restitution scheme, its supporting sources, and degrees of reliability.
W10	30 Nov 2026 Mon	Restitution continued; review of evidence and alternative interpretations.
W10	03 Dec 2026 Thu	Restitution continued; completion of drawings and supporting explanations.
W11	07 Dec 2026 Mon	**Midterm jury — group presentation of survey, analyses, historical research, comparative study, and restitution.**
Phase 3 Restoration | Individual work		
W11	10 Dec 2026 Thu	Individual restoration work begins. Evaluate the building and its immediate environment; formulate a statement of significance and assess conservation problems and potential.
W12	14 Dec 2026 Mon	Theoretical basis and justification for restoration interventions.
W12	17 Dec 2026 Thu	Evaluate alternatives for structural reinforcement where needed; diagnose causes of deterioration and propose measures to control them.
W13	21 Dec 2026 Mon	Developing conservation policy.
W13	24 Dec 2026 Thu	Developing restoration interventions at site and building scales.
W14	28 Dec 2026 Mon	Restoration continued; integration of proposals and preparation for review.
W14	31 Dec 2026 Thu	**Individual submission of restoration projects for preliminary review (digital copy).**
W15	04 Jan 2027 Mon	Preliminary evaluation of individual restoration projects; feedback and preparation for the final jury.
Final jury	11 Jan 2027 Mon	**Final jury — individual presentation of the restoration project. Time and venue to be announced.**