

SCIENTIAE 2025 PROGRAMME

16-19 September 2025
Istanbul University, Faculty of Letters

-----DAY 1 (16 September 2025)-----

11:00 – 12:15 | Registration & Welcome Coffee (Hall of Honor / Şeref Holü)

12:15 – 12:45 | Opening Remarks (Main Hall / Kurul Odası)

13:00 – 14:00 | Keynote Lecture (Main Hall / Kurul Odası)
Feza Günergün (*Professor Emerita of History of Science, Istanbul, Türkiye*)
Allegorists, Alchemists and Iatrochemists in the Early Modern Ottoman Empire

14:00 – 14:30 | Coffee Break (Hall of Honor / Şeref Holü)

14:30 – 16:00 | Round Table (Main Hall / Kurul Odası)
Translation of Scientific Texts into Ottoman Turkish in the Early Modern Era
Chair: TBA
Speakers: **Ekmeladdin İhsanoğlu** (*Professor Emeritus of History of Science, Honorary President of the Turkish Society for the History of Science*), **Kaan Üçsu** (*Istanbul University*), **Ahmet Tunç Şen** (*Columbia University*)

16:00 – 16:15 | Coffee Break (Hall of Honor / Şeref Holü)

16:15 – 17:45 | Parallel Sessions

Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

S.1.1. Staging Knowledge: Performance, Play and Cultural Adaptation

Chair: **Samuel Gessner** (*CIUHCT, University of Lisbon*)

- **Adam Rzepka** (*Montclair State University*) – “This Under Globe”: Proprioceptive Worldmaking in Shakespeare’s Public Theaters
- **M. Fatih Çalışır** (*Istanbul University Institute for Islamic Studies*) – Cultural Encounters and Adaptations in the Late Seventeenth-Century Ottoman Empire: Theater, Portraiture, and Knowledge Transmission
- **Matthias Roick** (*Polish Academy of Sciences Institute of Philosophy and Sociology*) – Playing at the World: Students, Chess Knowledge, and Its Global Dimension

Lecture Hall (Amfi 8)

S.1.2. Reading, Collecting, and Translating Medicine across Religious and Linguistic Boundaries

Chair: TBA

- **Mustafa Yavuz** (*Istanbul Medeniyet University*) – The Ottoman Reception of Matthioli’s *De Materia Medica*: Knowledge Transmission and Pharmacobotanical Adaptation
- **Kadir Çelik** (*Ege University*) – A Non-Muslim Source of Ottoman Medicine: The Case of Garshuni Manuscript in Mardin
- **Dina Bacalexi** (*Centre national de la recherche scientifique*) – What’s in a Book Collector’s Mind? Delving into the Renaissance Medical Library of Laurentius de Rubeis

Lecture Hall (Amfi 9)

S.1.3. Echoes of Antiquity: Myth, Philosophy, and the Stars in Early Modern Thought

Chair: **Divna Manolova** (*Ghent University*)

- **Giulia Beccaria** (*Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Storici – National and Kapodistrian University of Athens*) – Leopardi as a Byzantine Scholar, Translator of George Gemistos Plethon
- **Monika Frazer-Imregh** (*Károli University*) – Ascensio ad Deum, a Neoplatonic Program in Renaissance Disguise: The Reception of the Teachings of Ficino and Pico in H. C. Agrippa von Nettesheim’s *De Occulta Philosophia*
- **Agata Starownik** (*University of Warsaw*) – The Cycle of Seven Planets – Iconography and Applications

Lecture Hall (D 328)

No session scheduled

17:45 – 19:00 | Free Time /Transfer to Welcome Reception (self-arranged)

19:00 – 21:30 | Welcome Reception at Orient-Institut Istanbul

-----DAY 2 (17 September 2025)-----

9:15 – 10:45 | Parallel Sessions and Panels

Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

S.2.1. The Interaction of Knowledge, Collections, and Instruments: From Encyclopedic Arrangements to Astronomical Simulations

Chair: Ahmet Tunç Şen (Columbia University)

- **Samuel Gessner** (CIUHCT, University of Lisbon) – Instruments of Insight: Revealing the Tangible Dialogue Between Books and Instruments in Libraries
- **Gaye Danişan** (Istanbul University) – Simulating Lunar Motions: Ghiyāth al-Dīn ibn Faṭḥ-ʿAllāh al-Kātib al-Baghdādī's Heart-Shaped Diagram in the Context of Ottoman Volvelles
- **Jindra Kubickova** (Charles University) & **Zuzana Vařáková** (Charles University) – The Encyclopedic Nature of the Collection of Kunstkammer of Emperor Rudolf II in Prague

Lecture Hall (Amfi 8)

P.2.1. The Concept of the Sciences in Bernard de Fontenelle's Philosophy

Chair: Sophie Serra (Lund University)

Organizer: Daniel Špelda (Masaryk University)

- **Daniel Špelda** (Masaryk University) – Bernard de Fontenelle's *Histoire de l'Académie Royale* (1699–1714): Science Pulls Back the Veil of Nature
- **Dagmar Pichová** (Masaryk University) – The Deaths of Academicians in Fontenelle's Éloges des académiciens
- **Eszter Kovács** (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) – Giants in a Scientific Battlefield: Du Châtelet's Annotations on Academic Eulogies

Lecture Hall (Amfi 9)

S.2.2. Text and Transmission: Interpretive Practices and Scholarly Networks in Early Modern Europe

Chair: Gerhard Wiesenfeldt (University of Melbourne)

- **Lenka Řezníková** (Institute of Philosophy of the Czech Academy of Sciences) – Rooted or Planted? The Power of Etymology in J. A. Comenius and Early Modern Culture of Knowledge
- **Vladimír Urbánek** (Institute of Philosophy of the Czech Academy of Sciences) – News and Prophecy Between Upper Hungary and Amsterdam: Mikuláš Drábík, Jan Amos Comenius and Learned Communication
- **Jiri Michalik** (Palacky University Olomouc) – Early Critics of the Rosicrucian Manifestos: Budovec and Libavius

Lecture Hall (D 328)

No session scheduled

10:45 – 11:00 | Coffee Break (Hall of Honor / Şeref Holü)

11:00 – 12:00 | Parallel Sessions and Panels

Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

S.2.3. From Observations to Representations: The Cultural Lives of Astronomy

Chair: Vladimír Urbánek (Institute of Philosophy, Czech Academy of Sciences)

- **Justyna Rogińska** (Polish Academy of Sciences) – Gottfried Kirch's Observational Journals (1677–1710) and the Secrets of Early Modern Astronomical Observations
- **Maciej Jasiński** (Polish Academy of Sciences) – Sobieski Moves the Sun: Poems Dedicated to King Jan III of Poland by Johannes Hevelius's Correspondents

Lecture Hall (Amfi 8)

P.2.2. Making Science Global: Examples from Mesmerism and Newtonianism

Organizer: Derya Gürses Tarbuck, Bahcesehir University

Chair: Stefano Gulizia (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)

- **Rob Illife** (University of Oxford), **Derya Gürses Tarbuck** (Bahcesehir University) – Global Newtonianism – Newtonianism in Action: the Making of a Global Movement

- **Kapil Raj** (*Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales*) – What does it Take to Make Science Global? Moving Mesmerism from France to Britain to Colonial India in the mid-19th Century

Lecture Hall (Amfi 9)

S.2.4. *Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Knowledge, Belief, and Cultural Imagination*

Chair: Matthijs Jonker (*Utrecht University*)

- **Brian Li** (*University of Cambridge*) – The Stone-Eaters: Lithophagy and Scholarly Fantasies of Ascetic Diets in Late Imperial China
- **Juan Acevedo** (*University of Lisbon*) – Non-Western Science and Arts: A View from Latin America Through the Works of J.M. Briceño Guerrero

ROOM 3

No session scheduled

12:00 – 14:30 | Lunch & Optional visit to the IU Turkish Hamam Culture Museum, Rıdvan Çelikel Archaeology Museum or IU Rare Books Library Collections (Registration Required)

14:30 – 16:00 | Parallel Sessions and Panels

Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

P.2.3. *Cross-Cultural-ness of Astronomical Instrumentation Reconsidered*

Organizer: Silke Ackermann, (*History of Science Museum, Oxford University*) & Taha Yasin Arslan, (*Istanbul Medeniyet University*)

Chair: Taha Yasin Arslan (*Istanbul Medeniyet University*)

- **Silke Ackermann** (*History of Science Museum, Oxford University*) & **Taha Yasin Arslan** (*Istanbul Medeniyet University*) – What do we mean by “Islamic Science” in Museums?
- **Afra Akyol** (*Istanbul Medeniyet University*) – Cross-Cultural Perspectives on the Front of the Astrolabe’s Mater
- **Beyza Topçuoğlu** (*Istanbul Medeniyet University*) – Al-Shāmīla as a Sundial: Tracing Its Influence Across Civilizations
- **Feyzanur Şaşmaz Akyüz** (*Istanbul Medeniyet University*) – Comparative Study on Astrolabe Manuals from the 14th Century Islamic Civilisation and the West

Lecture Hall (Amfi 8)

S.2.5. *Intellectual Mobility, Commerce, and Academic Networks*

Chair: Luís Campos Ribeiro (*University of Lisbon*)

- **Stefano Gulizia** (*Ca' Foscari University of Venice*) – Gift-Economy and the Jesuit Management of Relics in the Asian Mission
- **Mai Lootah** (*Rice University*) – Intellectual Mobility and the Dutch East India Company: The Republic of Letters in the Ottoman World
- **Nihal Özdemir** (*Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakıf University*) – Science, Commerce, and the Circulation of Knowledge: The James Watt and Matthew Boulton Partnership in 18th-Century Knowledge Networks

Lecture Hall (Amfi 9)

S.2.6. *Wonder and Correction: Interrogating Knowledge Across Early Modern Geographies*

Chair: Juan Acevedo (*University of Lisbon*)

- **Matthijs Jonker** (*Utrecht University*) – A Polyglot Parrot in Baroque Rome
- **Feray Coşkun** (*Ozyegin University*) – Between Wonder and Skepticism: Ottoman Engagement with Medieval Islamic Cosmographies
- **Djoeke van Netten** (*University of Amsterdam*) – Correcting Arctic Knowledge. Uncertain Islands and Animals in Far North

Lecture Hall (D 328)

No session scheduled

16:00 – 16:15 | | Coffee Break (Hall of Honor / Şeref Holü)

16:15-17:15 | Keynote Lecture (MAIN HALL)

Harun Küçük (*Associate Professor of History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania, USA*)

Is It Time to Abandon ‘Islamic Science’? Genres, Languages, Centers and the Problem of Periodization in Light of Recent Scholarship

17:30 – 19:00 | Optional visit to the Yenikapı Shipwrecks (Gathering at 17:30) (Limited to 30 people; Registration required)

-----DAY 3 (18 September 2025)-----

9:15 – 10:45 | Plenary Panel

Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

P.3.1 *Together, with, against: Building and Reassembling Astronomical Traditions in Three Different Contexts*

Chair: Matthieu Husson (*LTE-Observatoire de Paris*)

- **Florence Somer** (*Observatoire de Paris*) – The Taqvim B-1441 of the Fuzuli Institute of Manuscript (Ölyazmalar Institutu) held in Baku
- **Sophie Serra** (*Lund University*) – Authorities and Controversies in Latin 15th Century Astronomy: The Case of Manuscript Berlin, Staatsbibliothek, Lat. Fol. 246
- **Divna Manolova** (*Ghent University*) – John Nathaniel's Cosmological Dossier in Vaticanus Graecus 1908 and Its Place in the Manuscript Tradition of Cleomedes' The Heavens

10:45 – 11:00 | Coffee Break (Hall of Honor / Şeref Holü)

11:00 – 12:30 | Parallel Sessions and Panels

Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

P.3.2. *Prognostication, Fortune, and Risk: How Early Modern People Navigated Material Fortunes through Almanacs and Astrological Consultations*

Chair: Florence Somer (*Observatoire de Paris*)

- **Jakub Ochocinski** (*European University Institute*) – Celestial Science and Practical Knowledge: Everyday Uses of Calendars in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth
- **Tunahan Durmaz** (*European University Institute*) – A 'Pathology' of Prognostications: Courtly Politics of Medical Astrology in Ottoman Istanbul in the Late 17th Century
- **Luís Campos Ribeiro** (*University of Lisbon*) – How It Shall Speed? Astrological Practices in Early Modern Nautical Culture

Lecture Hall (Amfi 8)

S.3.1. *Sacred Authority and the Politics of Faith in Early Modern Cultural Landscapes*

Chair: Monika Frazer-Imregh (*Károli University*)

- **Lisa Klotz** (*University of California*) – Kepler, Witchcraft, and the Law
- **Zachary Schwarze** (*Rice University*) – Light-Dark and Death Divine: "Bad Mariology" in Colonial Mexico
- **Erin Bell** (*University of Lincoln*) – From Prophets to Martyrs in the First Two Generations of Quakerism, 1650s-1690

Lecture Hall (Amfi 9)

S.3.2. *Intellectual Lineages and Methodological Innovations in Early Modern Studies*

Chair: TBA

- **Gerhard Wiesenfeldt** (*University of Melbourne*) – Dynasties and Networks: Knowledge in Academic Families
- **Karine Durin** (*University of Nantes*) – Opinions and Experiments in Antonio Gómez Pereira's *Antoniana Margarita* (1554): Digression and History in Natural Philosophy
- **Thijs Ossenkoppele** (*University of Amsterdam*) – Counting the Bees: A Data-Driven Investigation into Early Modern British Thought (1605-1776)

Lecture Hall (D 328)

No session scheduled

12:30 – 14:30 | Lunch & Optional visit to the IU Turkish Hamam Culture Museum or Rıdvan Çelikel Archaeology Museum (Registration Required)

14:30 – 16:00 | Parallel Panels and Workshop

Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

P.3.3. Cultures of Trust and Global Connections in Early Modernity. Remarks on Pacts and Agreements in Western and Central-Eastern European Texts

Organizer: Luisa Brotto, *University of Pisa*

Chair: Matthias Roick (*Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences*)

- **Lorenzo Fancello** (*University of Pisa*) – Pierre Gassendi and Baruch Spinoza: The Advantages of Cooperation
- **Filippo Marchetti** (*University of Pisa*) – Defending Utopia, or Which Political Theology Best Suits the Polis
- **Luisa Brotto** (*University of Pisa*) – Reaching Agreements in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth: Early Modern Trust-Based Strategies for Conflict Management

Lecture Hall (Amfi 8)

P.3.4. Ways of Knowing Water in Early Modern Europe

Chair: Andre Araujo (*University of Brasilia*)

Organizer: David Gentilcore (*Ca' Foscari University of Venice*)

- **Samuel Barney Blanco** (*Ca' Foscari University of Venice*) – Professional Expertise and Measuring Water Justice in Early Modern Rural Communities: The Venetian Terraferma and the Kingdom of Valencia (1500–1600)
- **Oscar Schiavone** (*Ca' Foscari University of Venice*) – Experimenting with Water at the Spa: Francesco Redi as a Chemist in Bagni di Lucca (1669)
- **David Gentilcore** (*Ca' Foscari University of Venice*) – The Knowledge and Practice of Water Quality in Early Modern Europe

Lecture Hall (Amfi 9)

No session scheduled

Lecture Hall (D 328) | WORKSHOP

W.3.1. Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence: Methodological Developments in the Study of Astronomical Sources

Organizers: Somkeo Norindr (*LTE-Observatoire de Paris*), Matthieu Husson (*LTE-Observatoire de Paris*)

16:00 – 16:15 | | Coffee Break (Hall of Honor / Şeref Holü)

16:15 – 17:45 | Round Table (MAIN HALL)

On a Personal Note: Handwritten Knowledge Transfer in Ego-Documents

Chair: Matthias Roick (*Polish Academy of Sciences*)

Speakers: Alicja Bielak (*Polish Academy of Sciences*), Gábor Förköli (*Polish Academy of Sciences*), Sooyong Kim (*Koç University*)

17:45- 19:15 | Optional visit to the Yenikapı Shipwrecks (Gathering at 17:30) (Limited to 30 people; Registration required)

-----DAY 4 (19 September 2025)-----

9:15 – 10:45 | Parallel Sessions and Panels

Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

S.4.1. Medical and Natural Knowledge Networks in the Early Modern Ottoman and European Worlds

Chair: Stefano Gulizia (*Ca' Foscari University in Venice*)

- **Jessica Hogbin** (*Syracuse University*) – Recording Melancholic Deaths: Necrologies and Healthcare in Early Modern Venice and Padua
- **Zongbei Huang** (*Tsinghua University*) – Rembert Dodoens's Construction of an Epistemology of Observational Experience: A Case in Sixteenth-Century Medical Empiricism
- **Nazime Özgür Tamdoğan** (*Ankara University*) – An Evaluation for the Understanding of Rational Sciences in the Context of Natural Sciences Works in the Classical Period Ottoman

Lecture Hall (Amfi 8)

S.4.2. The Movement of Science: Optical, Astronomical, and Horological Knowledge Across Cultures

Chair: Gaye Danişan (*Istanbul University*)

- **Sena Aydın** (*Istanbul Medeniyet University*) – Light-Colour Relationship in Taqi al-Din and His Primary Source Ibn al-Haytham
- **Víctor Pérez-Álvarez** (*Independent Researcher*) – Islamic Clepsydrae in the Christian Spain During the Late Middle Ages
- **S. Ceren Özdemir** (*Independent Researcher*) – The Armillary Sphere in Molla Ali's Risâle-i Meyyâl: A 17th-Century Latin-to-Ottoman Turkish Translation and Its Structural-Functional Analysis

Lecture Hall (Amfi 9)

S.4.3. *Embodied Knowledge: Applied Sciences and Material Practices in Ottoman and Arabic Traditions*

Chair: Nazan Karakaş Özür (*Çankırı Karatekin Üniversitesi*)

- Sarah Sabban (*American University of Beirut*) – Ways of Knowing: Exploring Science and Practice in the Early Modern Arabic Notion of al-*Ṣināʿa*
- Deren Ertaş (*Harvard University*) – From the Mine to the Market: A History of Silver in the Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Empire
- Alper Atasoy (*Independent Researcher*) – Cross-Cultural Knowledge Transfer in Military Reform: The Impact of Rochefort's 1717 Proposal on the Ottoman Empire

ROOM 3

No session scheduled

10:45 - 11:00 | Coffee Break (Hall of Honor / Şeref Holü)

11:00 - 12:30 | Parallel Sessions, Panels and Workshop

Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

S.4.4. *Medicine, Morality, and the Supernatural: Cultural Narratives of Health in Premodern Societies*

Chair: Vladimír Urbánek (*Institute of Philosophy of the Czech Academy of Sciences*)

- Dávid Molnár (*University of Tokaj*) – The Divine and Demonic Beverage: Antonio Gazio's Medical Treatise on Wine and Beer
- Salome Gviniašvili (*Independent Researcher*) – Sacred Healing: The Interplay of Magic and Religion in Georgian Folk Medicine
- Elisa Ramazzina (*University of Insubria*) – The Science of Aging: Metaphors, Medicine and the Quest for Vitality in Early Modern England

Lecture Hall (Amfi 8)

S.4.5. *Reframing Knowledge: Critical Approaches to Historiography, Evidence, and Representation*

Chair: Kaan Üçsu (*Istanbul University*)

- Utku Can Akın (*University of Toronto*) – How Not to Contextualise Materialism in Ottoman Historiography
- Andre Araujo (*University of Brasilia*) – The Graphic (Re)Configuration of Historical Evidence: The Collective Construction of Diplomatics in Eighteenth-Century Germany
- Gül Kale (*Carleton University*) – A Critical Historiography of the Intersection Between History of Architecture and Science in the Islamic World

Lecture Hall (Amfi 9)

S.4.6. *Sparks of Knowledge: Early Electrical Science and Mathematical Perspectives*

Chair: Meltem Kocaman (*Istanbul University*)

- Lorenzo Voltolina (*Università di Padova*) – Giovanni Poleni and the Early Development of Electrical Science in Northern Italy
- Tuğçe Esenduran (*Istanbul Technical University*) – Scientific Instruments of the 18th-Century Electrical Phenomena from a Philosophical Perspective: An Analysis in the Light of Sturgeon's Lectures on Electricity
- Alessia Salierno (*Università degli Studi di Milano*) – Leibniz on the Representation of Geometrical Objects: The Role of Algebra

Lecture Hall (D 328) | WORKSHOP

W.4.1. *How Can We Use the Astrolabe in Education to Inspire a New Generation?*

Organizer: Wilfred de Graaf (*Utrecht University*)

12:30 – 14:30 | Lunch & Optional visit to the IU Turkish Hamam Culture Museum, Rıdvan Çelikel Archaeology Museum or IU Rare Books Library Collections (Registration Required)

14:30 – 15:30 | Parallel Sessions

Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

P.4.1. *Medicine and Slavery in the Early Modern Mediterranean World*

Organizer: Valentina Pugliano (*Ca' Foscari University of Venice*)

Chair: Mustafa Yavuz (*Istanbul Medeniyet University*)

- Valentina Pugliano (*Ca' Foscari University of Venice*) – Alessandro Pini (1653–1717), Medico Condotta: Galley Slavery, Medical Practice and Venetian Public Health
- Ana Struillou (*Institute of Historical Research*) – Captivity, Slavery and Circulation of Medical Knowledge Between Early Modern Spain and North Africa

Lecture Hall (Amfi 8)

S.4.7. Astronomy in Practice: Instruments, Texts, and Cross-Cultural Dialogues

Chair: Florence Somer (*Observatoire de Paris*)

- **Mostafa Yavari** (*University of Tehran*) – The Unsacred Space: Observatories in Islamic Lands
- **Kaveh Niazi** (*Stanford Online High School*) – An Astronomical Summa of the Safavid Era: Tashrīḥ al-Aflāk by Bahā' al-Dīn al-ʿĀmilī

Lecture Hall (Amfi 9)

P.4.2. Inside/Outside the 'Box': Boundaries, Materiality and Affect in the Early Modern Home

Chair: Matthijs Jonker (*Utrecht University*)

- **Christine Quach** (*University of Maryland*) – Capturing Time: Temporal Shifts in Boxed Enclosures
- **Nur'Ain Taha** (*Utrecht University*) – Whalebone Wonders: Materiality, Craft and Knowledge of Baleen Boxes in Early Modern Netherlands

Lecture Hall (D 328)

No session scheduled

15:30 - 15:45 | Coffee Break (Hall of Honor / Şeref Holü)

15:45 - 16:45 | Conference Closing and Annual General Meeting | Main Hall (Kurul Odası)

17:30 – 19:00 | A visit to the Istanbul University Observatory Research and Application Center: (a) Tour of the Historical Dome and Astronomy Collection (b) Planetarium Show

19:00 – 21:30 | Evening Reception – Astronomy Department Garden