



Twice a month,  
Mondays 5 pm - 7 pm

**Venue:**

Conference Hall  
Zentrum Moderner Orient  
Kirchweg 33  
14129 Berlin-Nikolassee

Participants are asked to register  
at the following address:

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The seminar is a joint activity of  
the Zentrum Moderner Orient  
(ZMO) and 'Europe in the Middle  
East – The Middle East in Europe'  
(EUME).

EUME is a project at



which is funded by



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Wissenschaft und Forschung

For more information please visit

[www.zmo.de](http://www.zmo.de)  
[www.eume-berlin.de](http://www.eume-berlin.de)  
[www.forum-transregionale-studien.de](http://www.forum-transregionale-studien.de)  
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## Urban Studies Seminar 2012 - 2013

Chaired by Prof. Ulrike Freitag and Dr. Nora Lafi

Annual Theme: Cities as Laboratories of Change

Monday, February 11th, 2013, 5 pm - 7 pm

### German 'Expertise' and Urban Interventions in the Construction of the Ottoman Rail Network: A Visual Analysis, 1868-1919

Lecture by Peter Christensen

This lecture will examine a range of archival and original visual materials relating to the construction of the Ottoman railway network, in particular the Baghdad and Hejaz railways, and the evidence they provide in detailing the formation and development of Wilhelmine orientalism as not only a political and economic practice but also an aesthetic, architectural and urbanistic one. Special attention will be also be given to relevant precedents throughout the 19th Century.

**Peter Christensen** is a Ph.D. Candidate in Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning at Harvard University and Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter, Lehrstuhl für Architekturgeschichte und Kuratorische Praxis at the Technische Universität München. His research centers on the practice and historiography of geopolitics as a discrete field of inquiry since the Nineteenth century and its implications on spatial practices with particular interest in the borders of Islamic and Judeo-Christian civilizations. He is currently writing his dissertation entitled "Railway Orientalism: Architecture and the German Construction of the Ottoman Rail Network, 1868-1919." Prior to coming to Harvard, Peter served as Curatorial Assistant in the Department of Architecture and Design at the Museum of Modern Art (2005-2008). Peter holds a professional Bachelor of Architecture from Cornell University, a Master of Design Studies in the History and Theory of Architecture, with distinction, and a Master of Arts, both from Harvard.