

Dr Atlihan Onat Karacalı – FHEA, FRSA, Affiliate BIID

Lecturer in Interior Design at the University of Lancashire (HBU–UCLan Joint School, China)

www.atlihankaracali.co.uk • akaracali@lancashire.ac.uk • [ORCID: 0000-0003-2688-1304](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2688-1304)

Profile

Interior Design academic with extensive international experience, a strong record of publications and collaborations, and an established presence in cross-cultural teaching environments. Research expertise includes vernacular architecture, climate-responsive design, interior design concepts, storytelling in design, and video game architecture. Teaching experience spans BA and MA levels, with a focus on fostering reflective, critical, and cross-cultural learning.

Professional Memberships

- **Higher Education Academy** (Advance HE) – Fellow (FHEA)
- **Royal Society of Arts**, Manufactures and Commerce – Fellow (FRSA)
- **Athens Institute** for Education and Research (ATINER) – Research Fellow
- **British Institute of Interior Design** (BIID) – Affiliate Member
- **Royal Institute of British Architects** (RIBA) – Affiliate Member
- **Chamber of Interior Architects of Türkiye** – Delegate Member
- **Association for Learning Technology** (ALT) – Certified Member candidate (CMALT)

Academic Appointments

- Lecturer in Interior Design (MA & BA Hons) – University of Lancashire, China [2023 – **present**]
- Associate Dean & Course Leader – Istanbul Topkapi University, Türkiye [2019 – 2023]
- Lecturer / Assistant Professor – *multiple (seven) universities*, Türkiye [2010 – 2023]

Education

- **PhD** in Architecture – Yildiz Technical University [2018] – full scholarship
- **MSc** in Interior Architecture – Istanbul Kultur University [2012] – full scholarship
- **BA** in Interior Architecture and Environ. Design – Bilkent University [2009] – full scholarship

Teaching Profile (Modules)

- **Postgraduate:** Research Methodology, Research in Context, Reflective Practice, Experimental Practice, Specialist Practice, Advanced Practice
- **Undergraduate:** Design Context, Drawing & Modelling, Interior Design Studio, Basic Design, Ergonomics, Retail Design, Computer-Aided Design, Climate-Responsive Design, Vernacular Arch.

Research & Publications

- **Books (2)**

- *Neolithic Near East and Göbeklitepe Architecture*
(ISBN: [9786052882825](#))
- *Ergonomics for Interior Design Students*
(ISBN: [9786254300240](#))

- **Book chapters (2)**

- *A New Detailed Method for Vernacular Architecture Research, Part I: Introduction and Inputs*
(ISBN: [9786257767712](#))
- *A New Detailed Method for Vernacular Architecture Research, Part II: Outputs and Result*
(ISBN: [9786257767712](#))

- **Peer-reviewed articles (9)**

- *An Evaluation of Restitutions Prepared for the Architecture of the Neolithic Site of Göbeklitepe and a Proposition*
(<https://doi.org/10.5505/megaron.2018.60362>) [ESCI Index](#)
- *An Examination of History, Culture and Architecture of Old Bedesten, İstanbul Grand Bazaar*
([link](#))
- *A Design Studio Workshop Proposal for Comparable Evaluation of the First-Year Architecture and Interior Design Students*
(<https://doi.org/10.46474/jds.814379>)
- *An Evaluation of the Historical Development of the Built Environment of The City of Amasya*
(<https://doi.org/10.29228/JASSS.47231>)
- *A Review of Architectural Features of Amasya Yalıboyu Houses and a Suggestion*
(<https://doi.org/10.29228/ijiiia.165>)
- *Fictional Vernacular Architecture as a Worldbuilding Element: Structure Samples from the World of Warcraft Video Game*
(<https://www.webofscience.com/wos/woscc/full-record/WOS:001343366600009>) [ESCI Index](#)
- *Considering Sidewalls as an Architectural Ground: Parasitic Architecture Approaches in Design Studio*
(<https://doi.org/10.46474/jds.1117609>)
- *Think Globally, Design Locally: Urban Vernacular Approach for Climate Crisis*
(<https://doi.org/10.29228/ijiiia.184>)
- *Between Ancient Monuments and Present Moments: The Diary of a Modern Philhellene*
(ISSN: [2732-7698](#)) (Published in Greek.)

- **Theses (2)**

- *Relationship Between Brand Identity and Interior Design in Clothing Stores*
([link](#))
- *Space Analyses over the Restitutions of Neolithic Anatolian Findspots*
([link](#))

- **Proceedings (13)**

- *An Evaluation of Architectural Findings from Neolithic Anatolian Findspots* (ISBN: [978-605-68150-5-8](#))
- *How Can Neolithic Architecture Shed Light on Shelter on the Mars Surface* (e-ISBN: [978-605-9532-13-6](#))
- *A New Model for the Research of Vernacular Architecture* (ISBN: [978-605-7892-72-0](#))
- *Economy as an Input in Vernacular Architecture Research* (e-ISBN: [978-605-7594-12-9](#))
- *Climate as an Input in Vernacular Architecture Research* (ISSN: [2566-3402](#))
- *The Tale of a Building Material: How Can Prehistoric Past Shed Light on the Martian Future in Terms of Earthen Architecture* (ISBN: [978-1-64181-284-9](#))
- *A New Urban Vernacular for Sustainable Housing of Modern Cities* (ISBN: [978-605-2253-05-2](#))
- *The Place of 'Residence Environment' in Interior Architecture Education* (ISBN: [978-605-2253-05-2](#))
- *Vernacular Structures of the Fictional Space: Rediscovering the Azeroth from an Architectural Perspective* (ISBN: [978-605-2253-24-3](#))
- *Beyond Physical Borders: Use of Vernacular Architecture in Videogame Worldbuilding* (e-ISBN: [978-605-73130-6-5](#))
- *Fictional Vernacular Architecture as a Worldbuilding Element: Structure Samples from the Avatar: The Last Airbender Animated Series* (e-ISBN: [978-625-98004-3-1](#))
- *From Function to Story: A Contemporary Definition of Concept in Interior Design* (ISBN: [978-960-598-715-2](#))
- *An Old-School Cure for a Contemporary Problem: Can Vernacular Architecture Tackle Climate Crisis?* ([link](#))

- **Research Projects (Current)**

- Book – *Vernacular architecture: From Local Intelligence to Digital Worlds and Outer Space*. Research monograph proposal and sample chapter submitted to **Routledge (Taylor & Francis)** (under editorial consideration)
- Article – about interior design concept (under peer review)
- Article – *Between Object and Art: Artificial Intelligence as a Mediator of Cross-Cultural Design Thinking in Studio Education* (working title)
- Podcast – *Hodja on Architecture* (on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, and YouTube) (public dissemination of design research)

- **Research Projects (Conceptual Stage)**

- Article – *Teaching Interior Design Across Cultures: Reflections from Transnational Education*
- Article – Vernacular wisdom to space architecture
- Article – Peacemaking through placemaking
- Book – *Design with Myths: Spatial Narratives in Greek Mythology*
- Book – Fiction: Middle Age moon landing (alternative history)
- Book – Fiction: Climate crisis dystopia (alternative future)
- Podcast – *Hodja on Everything: An Intellectual Freedom Manifesto*

Teaching Profile (Duties)

- Developed transparent module briefs outlining semester structure, assessment criteria, and detailed rubrics.
- Designed scaffolded assessment strategies combining early-stage reflective work with final project-based outputs.
- Embedded reflective checklists to support students in progressing from descriptive to critical and analytical thinking.
- Integrated cross-cultural content and global design perspectives to engage diverse cohorts, particularly Gen Z learners.
- Incorporated AI as a pedagogical tool to support ideation and critical reflection, while emphasising academic integrity and authorship.
- Contributed to curriculum design through the development of innovative, student-centred learning activities and assessment methods.
- Fostered professional awareness by aligning teaching with industry expectations, including presentation skills, deadlines, and portfolio development.

Professional & Academic Service

- Referee for academic journals
 - Athens Journal of Architecture
 - International Journal of Design and Art
 - International Journal of Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Art
 - Nisantasi University Journal of Social Sciences
 - Bodrum Journal of Art and Design
- Jury Member for Frame Magazine Interior Design Awards
- Committee Member for MA thesis examinations
- Chair for Interior Architecture Microsymposium in the Athens Institute conferences

Languages

- Turkish (native)
- English (fluent)
- Italian (basic)
- Greek (basic)
- Chinese (elementary)

References

- Prof Sion Hughes — Academic Leader, University of Lancashire
- Paul Greene — Academic Manager, University of Lancashire
- Dr Gregory Papanikos — President of the Athens Institute