

# Aydin OZTOPRAK

M.I.T / Department of Architecture, House\_n Research Group,  
1 Cambridge Center 4FL 02142, Boston MA  
[oztoprak@mit.edu](mailto:oztoprak@mit.edu), Cell; +1 857-756-5191 Office; +1 617- 452-5640  
[www.aydinoztoprak.com](http://www.aydinoztoprak.com)

## Profile:

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PhD Candidate. 6 years of academic life as teaching assistant to various courses; including industrial design studios. 4 years of professional work as a usability specialist at METU-UTEST Product Usability Unit, simultaneously worked as freelance industrial designer. **Currently Fulbright Visiting Researcher at MIT Department of Architecture – House\_n Research Group.**

## Academic Background

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- **2007-cont. Fulbright Visiting Researcher at MIT - House\_N Research Group**  
Working on the design and evaluation of ubiquitous data collection tools for residential use environments.
- **2004-cont. Ph.D Middle East Technical University / Department of Industrial Design**  
PhD study focuses on data collection methods from naturalistic environments and the application of contextual data on concept generation, concept validation and product design.
- **2001 – 2004 Master of Science Middle East Technical University Department of Industrial Design**  
The study analyzed the application of computer aided design tools, group work and online collaboration environments in design education.
- **2001 – 2007 Teaching assistant in Middle East Technical University, Department of Industrial Design.**
  - 2001 – 02 **Computer Graphics** (Advanced three dimensional modeling, material editing, rendering and animation using recent applications.)
  - 2002 – 03 **Virtual Design Studio** (An international virtual design studio course held in cooperation with the Delft University of Technology.)  
**Industrial Design II** (Issues of innovation, styling, redesign and human-product interaction and Introduction to systematic thinking and scenario building were covered.)
  - 2003 – 04 **Industrial Design III** (Issues of corporate identity, product identity, system design, interface design, and new technologies are covered)
  - 2004 – 05 **Industrial Design IV** (Issues of corporate identity, conceptual thinking, system design, interaction design, and new technologies are covered)  
**Methods and Application of Usability Testing and User Centered Design** Theoretical surveys on observational testing; applications of tools techniques and standards used in observational analysis. The relations between the users tasks and physical, social, organizational environment, socio-cultural contexts.
- **1996 – 2001 Bachelor in Industrial Design Middle East Technical University Department of Industrial Design**

A 4 year industrial design education of professional skills and intellect in a highly challenging and demanding environment. Completed with a degree (**CumGPA; 3.37 / 4.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> Highest**); leading the way to the graduate program.

## Published Work

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- In D. de Waard, K.A.Brookhuis, and A. Toffetti (Eds.)(2006), *Developments in Human Factors in Transportation, Design, and Evaluation. Field versus laboratory usability testing: A first Comparison* (pp. 205-212). Maastricht, the Netherlands: Shaker Publishing.
- Oztoprak A., Erbug C. (2005) *An Evaluation of an Online Collaborative Course*. In *Human Computer Interaction 2005 Conference Proceedings*. Las Vegas - USA
- Akar E.,Oztoprak A. TunçerB. (2004) *Evaluation of a Collaborative Virtual Learning Environment*. In *E-learning International 2004 conference proceedings*. Glasgow – Scotland.

## Professional Experience

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- **2006 May** Usability Testing and Benchmarking of Washing Machines for Arçelik A Research and Development Project for Arçelik.
- **2006 February** Expert Analysis and Design proposal of a Dishwasher Interface. A Research and Development Project for Arçelik.
- **2005 November** Expert Analysis of a Dishwasher Interface. A Research and Development Project for Arçelik
- **2004 December** Ergonomic design and usability evaluation of a metal detector in Product Usability Unit. Human factors research and posture analysis of the product is carried out (
- **2004 November** Computer animation and visualization of various defense industry products for a Turkish company
- **2004 June** Design and manufacturing of a vendor stand for local municipality of Cankaya / Ankara
- **2001 -2004** Design and Computer visualization of various furniture and interiors

## Awards

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- **2007 March** IMMIB 2007 Industrial Design Competition, Winner
- **2007 March** IMMIB 2007 Industrial Design Competition, Honorable Mention
- **2006 July** Duyar Vana International Valve Design Competition, First runner up
- **2006 June** METU PhD Course Performance Award, Best Student in PhD Program
- **2006 March** IMMIB 2006 Industrial Design Competition, Honorable Mention
- **2005 October** Elevator Design Competition, Second runner up
- **2005 March** IMMIB 2005 Industrial Design Competition, First runner up