

Classical Studies in Greece (Classics 251)

January 3-29, 2021

EXTENDED DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the history and art of ancient Greece. It covers more than 2000 years of Greek civilization, from the Bronze Age through the archaic, classical, and Hellenistic periods. The itinerary takes students all over Greece, with extended stays in Athens and Attica, Crete, the Peloponnese, and Thessaloniki. When not visiting museums and archaeological sites, students have the opportunity to experience modern Greek culture as well.

After completing the course, students should be familiar with the important people, places, and events of each major period of ancient Greek history, as well as the evolution of ancient Greek art and architecture. They should have a clear picture of the interplay between Mediterranean geography and the history of Greece and should be acquainted with the methods used by archaeologists and historians to study the Greek past. Finally, they should be able to assess critically the ancient Greek beliefs and traditions that continue to be influential today.

Students must be fit enough to walk for several hours each day, often in hilly terrain. Trails may be stony, steep, and narrow; paths may be dusty or muddy. The group travels by motor coach, stays in ten different hotels (usually double rooms), and spends two nights on a ferry. In each of the hotels and on the ferry, students have different roommates, randomly assigned.

GE Credit: Historical Studies in Western Culture (HWC) and Artistic Studies (ALS-A)

Major Credit: Ancient Studies, Classics, Greek, Latin

Prerequisite: None, but at least one course in the art, language, literature, history, philosophy, or religion of ancient Greece is strongly recommended; students who have taken one or more such courses will be given priority in the selection process.

Maximum Enrollment: 30

Instructor: Professor Anne H. Groton, Department of Classics

Cost (subject to change**):

\$5,300 estimated program fee billed to student account (includes international airfare to/from MSP, housing, program events, group transportation, 3 meals/day)

International airfare/transportation to program site from MSP (included in program fee)

\$160 estimated passport/photos (paid out of pocket, based on U.S. citizenship)

\$125 estimated books, course materials (paid out of pocket)

\$5,585 Total Estimated Cost

**All costs are estimates. Due to COVID-19 some program costs cannot be finalized now. Program costs will be updated in September prior to the application deadline.

Students may apply for the Loomis Scholarship or the Randall-Wilkes Scholarship (\$5,300 each). Winners will be selected on the basis of merit and high financial need.

Academic Requirements:

1. Each student is required to attend all of the planned events, including lectures and visits to sites and museums, and to participate in all of the group discussions.

2. Each student is required to buy the printed course packet and to buy or rent the two textbooks (in either print or electronic form), bring all three to Greece (or at least be able to access them there), and read them according to the schedule set out in the syllabus.

3. Each student is required to take the three written exams that will be given during the month, covering the lectures and assigned readings and the visits to sites and museums.

4. Each student is expected to take notes, either on paper or electronically, during class meetings and at the sites and museums visited each day; taking notes on the assigned readings is also highly recommended. Many students enjoy keeping a journal of some sort or writing a blog in which they reflect on their personal experiences.

Grading: 3 exams = 90%; class participation, civilized behavior, enthusiasm = 10%.

Required Textbooks (paperbacks):

Stansbury-O'Donnell, Mark D., *A History of Greek Art* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2015, ISBN-13 978-1444350159) (\$69.75 new)

Pomeroy, Sarah B. et al., *A Brief History of Ancient Greece: Politics, Society, and Culture* (Oxford University Press, 4th edition, 2019, ISBN-13 978-0190925307) (\$49.95 new)

Classics 251 course packet: contains maps, reference pages, selected passages from ancient Greek and Roman literature, and other material useful for the course.

PROPOSED ITINERARY

- Jan. 3: Fly to Greece
- Jan. 4: Arrive in Athens; walking tour of Plaka
- Jan. 5: Athens: Theater of Dionysos, Acropolis, Acropolis Museum, Temple of Olympian Zeus
- Jan. 6: Athens: Marathon, Brauron, Cape Sounion, St. Paul's Monastery in Laurion
- Jan. 7: Athens: Kerameikos, Kerameikos Museum, Agora, Roman Market, Hadrian's Library, Lyceum, Cycladic Museum
- Jan. 8: Athens: Ancient Trireme, Piraeus Archaeological Museum, National Archaeological Museum; ancient mask workshop
- Jan. 9: Athens: Exam 1 in morning; rest of day free; evening sail to Heraklion (on Crete)
- Jan. 10: Heraklion: Knossos, Heraklion Archaeological Museum, Mallia
- Jan. 11: Heraklion: Gortys, Phaistos, Agia Triada, Matala
- Jan. 12: Heraklion to Chania; visit Rethymnon (old town and Venetian fortress) on the way; evening sail to Piraeus
- Jan. 13: Piraeus to Nauplion; visit Eleusis, Corinth, and Nemea (or Isthmia) on the way
- Jan. 14: Nauplion: Nauplion Archaeological Museum, Mycenae
- Jan. 15: Nauplion: Tiryns, Argos, Epidauros, Palamidi fortress
- Jan. 16: Nauplion to Sparta; visit Mystras, Sparta Archaeological Museum on the way
- Jan. 17: Sparta to Pylos; visit Ancient Messene on the way
- Jan. 18: Pylos: Exam 2 in morning; Pylos to Olympia; visit Methoni fortress, Nestor's Palace, Chora Museum on the way
- Jan. 19: Olympia: site, Olympia Archaeological Museum, Museum of the Olympic Games
- Jan. 20: Olympia to Delphi; visit St. Andrew's Church, Patras Archaeological Museum, Rion-Antirion Bridge on the way
- Jan. 21: Delphi: site, Delphi Archaeological Museum
- Jan. 22: Delphi to Kalambaka; visit monasteries at Meteora on the way
- Jan. 23: Kalambaka to Thessaloniki; visit Archaeological Site of Aigai (Vergina)
- Jan. 24: Thessaloniki: city tour, churches, Thessaloniki Archaeological Museum
- Jan. 25: Thessaloniki: Archaeological Museum of Pella and/or Amphipolis and Philippi
- Jan. 26: Thessaloniki to Volos; pass Dion Archaeological Park and Museum on the way
- Jan. 27: Volos to Athens; visit Thermopylae and Thebes Archaeological Museum on the way
- Jan. 28: Athens: Exam 3 in the morning; rest of day free
- Jan. 29: Fly to USA