



Athens through the Ages
Instructor: Georgia Sermamoglou, Ph.D.
January 4-13, 2018

Course Description: This course provides an overview of Athenian history from classical antiquity to the present. We visit archaeological sites and museums each morning, and use the material remains as springboards for the detailed discussion of historical events, political institutions, as well as topics in Greek religion, literature, and art. Afternoons are devoted to the study of Modern Greek culture, including introductions to the Modern Greek language, literature, film, and traditional dance.

Course Requirements: This course meets daily for six hours of instruction (total: 54 contact hours). An online course pack will be provided by the instructor, including required and recommended readings. Students are expected to read (in English translation) the material assigned for each class and to participate in daily discussions.

January 4

Morning: The Athenian Acropolis: Parthenon, Erechtheion, Temple of Nike

Afternoon: Orientation to the modern city

January 5

Morning: The Athenian Agora: Bouleuterion, Tholos, Temple of Hephaestus, Stoa of Attalus; Agora Museum

(Readings from Pausanias, *Description of Greece*)

Afternoon: Modern Greek lesson 1: Basic Conversations

January 6

Morning: Pnyx: The Assembly; Areopagus: The Athenian Law-Courts;

Theater of Dionysus: Ancient Greek Drama

(Reading: Aristophanes, *Assemblywomen*)

Afternoon: Modern Greek lesson 2: Basic Conversations

January 7

Morning: Kerameikos: The Ancient Cemetery; Ancient Burial Customs

(Reading: selection of grave epigrams)

Afternoon (optional): Dinner at a Greek restaurant

January 8

DAYTRIP: Eleusis: The Eleusinian Mysteries; Ancient Beliefs about the Afterlife
(Reading: Homeric Hymn to Demeter)

January 9

Morning: Plato's Academy (Reading on Site: Plato, *Crito*)

Afternoon: Greek Film (screening, followed by discussion)

January 10

Morning: Roman Athens; Philopappus Monument, Temple of Zeus, Roman Agora, Library of Hadrian

Afternoon: History of 20th-century Greek Music

January 11

Morning: Byzantine and Ottoman Athens: Byzantine Churches; Mosques

Afternoon: Modern Greek Poetry in Translation: A Selection

January 12

Morning: Neoclassical Athens; Zappeion, Academy, University, National Library, House of Schliemann

Afternoon: Visit to a gallery of contemporary art, or ceramic art workshop

Optional: Dinner

January 13

Day of departure