



**study
abroad**

INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMIC
PROGRAMS

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Greece

UW CLASSICS IN GREECE

IAP PROGRAM HANDBOOK

Let Your Mind Wander

UW Classics in Greece Summer 2019 IAP Program Handbook

The UW Classics in Greece study abroad program is offered by International Academic Programs (IAP) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This program handbook supplements the [Study Abroad Handbook](#) and provides you with the most up-to-date information and advice available at the time of publication. Changes may occur before your departure or while you are abroad.

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Contact Information

On-Site Program Information

Your primary contact in Greece will be UW Professor Jeremy Hutton, the Program Leader (PL). While in Greece, Professor Hutton will be staying in the same housing as students.



Professor Jeremy Hutton
Department of Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies
960 Van Hise Hall
jmhutton@wisc.edu

The PL serves as the liaison between the study abroad office and our program provider, Educational Tours and Cruises(ETC). He is responsible for all academic and administrative matters concerning program participants. The PL attends classes, field trips, and excursions, and is available to help students find appropriate solutions to personal, health, and academic problems during the program.

Establish good communication with your PL. If you are experiencing difficulties with the program or with your adjustment to the culture, your PL is a good person to seek out for assistance and support. Be sure to keep your PL informed of your travel plans when you are away from the program.

For this program, IAP works closely with Educational Tours and Cruises, LLC, a company that specializes in custom-designed study tours.

Thalia Cocconi, Operations Manager
130 Renfrew Street, Arlington MA 02476
Tel: (800) 275-4109

IN GREECE:
Tel: (+30) 210 8951725, 210 9657441
Fax: (+30) 210 8955419
Email: edtours@ed-tours.com
Website: www.ed-tours.com

UW-Madison Information

International Academic Programs (IAP)
University of Wisconsin-Madison
301 Red Gym, 715 Langdon Street
Madison, WI 53706
Tel: 608-265-6329
www.studyabroad.wisc.edu

Jessa Boche, Study Abroad Advisor
boche@wisc.edu
Tel: 608-265-6329

Emergency Contact Information

If an emergency comes up during business hours (8:00am - 4:30pm Central), please call the IAP office at 608-265-6329.

If an emergency comes up during non-business hours, parents and students can reach a member of the IAP staff by calling 608-516-9440. This is for emergencies only, where the health or safety of a student is an issue.

Your Program Leader can be reached during the program on a Greek mobile phone. You will receive this number prior to arrival.

If you are calling from the US (or with a US phone): 011 30 6947 010 724

Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)

All program participants who are U.S. citizens are advised to register with the US Department of State's STEP program. The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is a free service to allow U.S. citizens and nationals traveling and living abroad to enroll their trip with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. You should register [online](#) prior to departure.

US Embassy in Athens

91 Vassilisis Sophias Ave
10160 Athens, Greece
Tel: +30-210-721-2951
Web: <https://gr.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulate/athens/>

The website of the US Mission in Greece serves as a gateway for the Greek public to learn more about the United States and for those around the world interested in Greek-American relations. The site provides timely and relevant information on embassy services and activities, developments in US-Greek and US-EU relations, and selected issues of global importance

Program Dates

Departure from the US:	May 12, 2019
Arrive in Athens, Greece:	May 13, 2019
Course dates	May 13 – May 31, 2019
Departure from Athens, Greece	May 31, 2019

****The program will officially start at 2:00PM on Monday, May 13th**, at the meeting point in the Athens airport. When making travel arrangements, be sure to allow enough time to land and exit the customs and baggage area. This process typically takes 20-30 minutes. Specific details regarding arrival can be found below in the "Travel and Arrival" section below.

Preparation Before Leaving

Immigration Documents

Passport

A passport is needed to travel to Greece. Apply immediately for a passport if you do not already have one. Passport information and application forms can be found on the U.S. State Department [website](#). If you already have your passport, make sure it will be valid for at least 6 months beyond the length of your stay abroad.

Visa

No visa is required for U.S. passport holders for stays less than 3 months. Students from other countries should consult with the Greek Embassy regarding visa requirements.

Handling Money Abroad

The currency in Greece is in Euros. As of January 2019, the exchange rate is: 1.00 USD = .87 Euros. For the latest currency exchange rate, visit [Oanda](#).

Banks

Banks in Athens are typically open Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 2pm. The National Bank of Greece has branches in Syntagma Square and in Omonia Square. The latter is open later and has some weekend hours.

Credit Cards

Most hotels and restaurants, retail stores, jewelry stores, etc. accept major credit cards. You may withdraw cash 24 hours a day from your personal account in the US in most ATM machines.

Packing

All manner of clothing is possible in Greece, within the limits of decency and good taste. You are expected to dress in a respectable manner when visiting churches and monasteries. When entering a church, you should wear clothes that cover your knees and shoulders (no shorts or tank tops). You will see tourists entering churches with far less clothing than is required, but it can be considered offensive.

Light casual clothing is the best defense against Greece's intense summer heat, lightweight hat is recommended. Cottons and linens are far preferable to synthetics. Skirts, sleeveless dresses, slacks, long shorts and T-shirts are acceptable in any but the most formal situation. Bring a light sweater, wind-breaker, or light jacket for unexpected cooler evenings. Remember to bring comfortable walking shoes.

Additional [packing tips](#) can be found in the Study Abroad Handbook.

Electronics

Electrical currents and outlets differ by country. Before you depart, look into the electrical outlet styles in your host country. Laptops, cell phones, chargers, and all other electrical devices may require the use of a plug adapter, and some devices may need a voltage converter. Converters and adapters can be purchased at electronics and travel stores in the U.S. REI offers a [World Electricity Guide](#) on their website.

Small electrical appliances, such as hairdryers, sometimes have different voltage requirements that are not compatible with electrical grids overseas. Consider purchasing such items in the local voltage after you arrive in your host country. Increasingly, personal items like laptops, cell phone chargers, and electric razors are usable worldwide. Be sure to check compatibility in advance.

In some countries, digital snooping is commonplace, leaving your sensitive information vulnerable to theft. Prepare your device for travel by backing up your sensitive data and removing all information not needed for the duration of your program, updating security protections, and familiarizing yourself with local laws and security..

Travel and Arrival Information

You are responsible for making your own travel arrangements, which includes arranging flights that will allow for appropriate arrival time before the course start date. You may wish to arrange flights with other students on the program or fly to Greece on your own.

The program will officially start at **2:00PM on Monday, May 13th**, at the meeting point in the Athens airport. The meeting point in the Athens airport is a column stating : meeting point, between Terminal A and Terminal B, next to a cafe. This is our meeting point.

The program staff, Program Leader, and other program participants will then board a bus that will take you to your hotel in the city of Nafplio (approximately 2 hours away). A detailed program itinerary can be found below.

When making travel arrangements, be sure to allow enough time to land and exit the customs and baggage area. This process typically takes 20-30 minutes.

Airports

[Athens International Airport](#), Eleftherios Venizelos, has all the amenities of a large airport including a hotel, post office, courier service, banks, currency exchanges, ATM's, as well as many stores and restaurants. The airport is 27 kilometers (17 miles) southeast of Athens and is accessible by car, taxi, metro, and bus. The airport code is ATH.

The Academic Program

General Information

Experience the timeless beauty of ancient ruins while living in the modern cosmopolitan city of Athens. Explore the civilization that gave rise to drama, philosophy, and democracy over two thousand years ago and its impact on our world today. This program will provide the opportunity for you to visit major ancient Greek archaeological sites in Athens and beyond, tour fascinating museums, relax on Mediterranean beaches and explore the winding streets of the Plaka. Study the literature, monuments, and artifacts of ancient Greece while taking a walk through history with other UW-Madison students!

Discover many well-known, historical attractions in and around Athens, including the Athens National Museum, the Acropolis and the Temple of Olympian Zeus. This hands-on program allows you to reconstruct the daily life of those who inhabited ancient Athens and explore the impact of democracy, war, and imperialism on ancient Athenian culture and art. You'll also take day trips to explore areas outside of Athens.

You should bring your college student ID card with you to Greece. Students with International Student Cards or student IDs receive a fifty (50%) reduction to most sites and museums. On first Sunday of the month, sites and museums are FREE of charge (except guided tours).

Course Information

This program will include a mixture of lectures and discussions in conjunction with field trips to archaeological sites and museums in modern Athens, its suburbs, and nearby islands and cities.

Registration

IAP will register you for a special "Study Abroad Course" for the term(s) you will be studying abroad; therefore, it is not necessary for you to register on the UW-Madison campus. This is a temporary registration, which will be converted into graded UW-Madison credit after the completion of your program.

Course Equivalent Requests (CERs)

The credit you earn on this program will be assigned a UW-Madison equivalent and the grade you receive in the course will be recorded on your UW-Madison transcript. Upon completion of the course, students will earn 3 UW-Madison credits. Check the course equivalent list on the program page for more information about the type of credit you will earn.

UW Classics in Greece 2019 Program Itinerary

changes may occur on-site

- **Sunday, May 12**
Students depart the US
- **Monday, May 13**
Students arrive in Athens. Meet your program guide, Program Leader Jeremy Hutton, and other program participants at the meeting point in the Athens airport. Drive to Nafplio and attend the program Welcome Dinner.
Overnight in Nafplio

- **Tuesday, May 14**
Breakfast is provided. Morning stroll around Nafplio. Depart by bus to visit Epidaurus, visit the Ancient Theatre, famous for its acoustics. Visit an olive oil press and learn how the famous Greek olive oil is made. Evening dinner with folk dancing demonstration.
Overnight in Nafplio
- **Wednesday, May 15**
Breakfast is provided. Morning pick up for full day guided visit at Mycenae.
Overnight in Nafplio
- **Thursday, May 16**
Breakfast is provided. Morning travel to Athens, visiting Ancient Corinth on the way. Transfer to the port of Piraeus for boat ride to the island of Naxos (tentative departure 5:30PM, arrival 10:45PM – depending on boat schedule).
Overnight at Hotel Grotta in Naxos
- **Friday, May 17**
Breakfast is provided. Free day for students to explore the local area.
Overnight in Naxos
- **Saturday, May 18**
Breakfast is provided. Walk to the port to board morning excursion for day trip to the island of Delos to visit the birthplace of Apollo. Continue to Mykonos for lunch and free time. Return to Naxos by early evening.
Overnight in Naxos
- **Sunday, May 19**
Breakfast is provided. Morning walking tour of the port of Naxos. See the famous Portara temple of Apollo. Afternoon transfer to the port for return ferry to Athens (tentative departure 3:05PM, arrival 7:05PM – depending on boat schedule). Arrive in Athens and travel to hotel.
Overnight in Athens
- **Monday, May 20**
Breakfast is provided. Visit the Acropolis and the Acropolis Museum.
Overnight in Athens
- **Tuesday, May 21**
Breakfast is included. Guided visit at the Agora and Kerameikos.
Overnight in Athens
- **Wednesday, May 22**
Breakfast is included. Depart by bus for guided visit at the National Archaeological Museum.
Overnight in Athens
- **Thursday, May 23**
Breakfast is included. Depart by bus for Marathon and then continue to Cape Sounion to visit the temple of Poseidon, overlooking the Saronic gulf (swimming opportunity for those interested).
Overnight in Athens

- **Friday, May 24**
Breakfast included. Depart hotel for center of Athens for Ancient Mask workshop.
Overnight in Athens
- **Saturday, May 25**
Breakfast included. Day trip to town of Eretria (swimming opportunity for those interested).
Overnight in Athens
- **Sunday, May 26**
Breakfast included. Free Day.
- **Monday, May 27**
Breakfast included. Day trip to Delphi where the famous Oracle was located.
Overnight in Athens
- **Tuesday, May 28**
Breakfast included. Half day trip to site of Vrauron (swimming opportunity for those interested).
Overnight in Athens
- **Wednesday, May 29**
Breakfast included. Morning departure to reach the port of Piraeus. Board the 1-hour ferry ride to the island of Aigina. Visit the Temple of Aphaia and explore the town of Aigina.
Overnight in Athens
- **Thursday, May 30**
Breakfast included. Travel by tram to Stavros Niarchos Foundation/Cultural Center where new architecture meets old and new “culture.” The National Library of Greece and the National Lyric Opera are also housed here. Attend the program’s Farewell Dinner.
Overnight in Athens.
- **Friday, May 31**
Breakfast is included. Depart Athens. You will arrange for your own transportation to the airport.

Living Abroad

Greece is located in southeastern Europe, situated on the southern end of the Balkan Peninsula. It is bordered by Bulgaria, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania to the north, and by Turkey to the east. The Aegean Sea lies to the east and south of mainland Greece, while the Ionian Sea lies to the west. It is heir to the heritages of classical Greece, the Byzantine Empire, and nearly four centuries of Ottoman rule. Regarded as the cradle of western civilization and being the birthplace of democracy, Western philosophy, the Olympic Games, western literature, political science, major scientific principles and drama, Greece has a particularly long and eventful history and a cultural heritage considerably influential in Europe, Northern Africa and the Middle East. Today, Greece is a developed country, a member of the European Union since 1981 and a member of the Economic and Monetary Union of the European Union since 2001. Athens, Thessaloniki, Piraeus, and Patra are the country's major cities. (Information in this paragraph adapted from [Wikipedia](#)).

Athens

By the fifth century B.C., Athens had become one of the most popular tourist attractions of Greece with its magnificent temples and monuments, festivals and theatrical performances, and its ports and streets crowded with merchants. Today, Athens is the political capital of modern Greece and offers visitors the opportunity to explore its immense heritage that has had an impact on all modern disciplines from art and drama to philosophy and history. Athens houses some of the most famous ancient Greek sculpture and pottery in the National Archaeological Museum and some of the most remarkable ancient Greek architecture, such as the Parthenon and Erechtheion on the Acropolis, the Theater of Dionysus, the Temple of Hephaestus in the Agora, and the Temple of Poseidon at Sounion.

Housing

Housing will consist of double and triple occupancy rooms. Roommates will be assigned based on the Study Abroad Housing Form you complete when confirming your acceptance on the program. IAP typically assigns students in rooms with others of the same sex. In some locations, this is necessary for legal or cultural reasons. We understand that not all students may identify as female or male, and we want to create a welcoming environment for you while you are abroad. We are happy to work with students who identify as transgender, genderqueer, gender non-conforming, and/or non-binary regarding life abroad. If you have questions or concerns regarding housing as it relates to your gender identity, please contact your Study Abroad Advisor.

Housing Locations

During the program, students will stay in local hotels. Hotel information is below; please note that these specific hotels could change prior to departure. If changes occur, you will be notified as soon as possible.

During the program, participants will be staying at the following hotels*

Nafplio

Hotel Park
1, Dervenakion str.
Nauplion 211 00
Tel: +30 27520 27428
Fax: +30 27520 27045
www.parknafplio.gr

Naxos

Hotel Grotta
Chora 843 00
Tel: +30 22850 24350
Fax: +30 22850 25458
www.hotelgrotta.gr

Athens

Hotel Achilleas
21, Lekka street
105 62 Athens
Tel: +30 210 3233197
www.achilleas.gr

NOTE: A tip of 1 to 2 Euros for housekeeping and porters in hotels is suggested.

Meals

Your hotel will provide complimentary buffet breakfasts at the hotel restaurant for participants. Lunches and dinners may be purchased at the large variety of taverns, cafeterias, and restaurants.

Local dishes are the best at the taverns. Some recommended dishes to try include: astakos (grilled lobster, available mostly on the island), barbounia (grilled red mullet), garedes (prawns), kalamarakea (squids), oktapode (octopus), moussaka (eggplant dish), dolmadakia (stuffed vine leaves with minced meat and rice), paidakia (grilled lamb chops), gyro, souvlaki, spanakopita (spinach pie with feta cheese), Greek salad with tomatoes, cucumbers and feta, stuffed tomatoes and peppers, pastichio (pasta dish) and the traditional kebab.

Greeks typically eat dinner later than Americans do, and some restaurants may not open until 9pm. Tipping is also known as a "service charge", and is included on your bill in Greece. If you feel that the food or service was particularly good, then it is common to leave a small amount more.

Water

Tap water is drinkable, but you may also order a bottle of non-carbonated mineral water. If you like carbonated water, you should ask for it as “soda.”

Be sure to bring an empty, reusable water bottle so that you can stay hydrated while on tours – this way you can save money by refilling your bottle rather than purchasing water.

Alcohol Consumption

The culture surrounding alcohol differs significantly between Greece and the United States. Excessive drinking, consumption of alcohol outside of meals and public drunkenness are considered taboos in the local culture. At the same time, there is a deep appreciation for the responsible enjoyment of certain kinds of alcohol in Greece, particularly wine. Students are expected to modify their behavior while in their host country to reflect these norms. While abroad, you are responsible for obeying local laws and the UW-Madison Code of Conduct. Refer to the [Study Abroad Handbook](#) for more information.

Shopping

Hand-woven Greek textiles embroidered blouses, earthenware and silverware, leather goods such as backpacks, bags, jewelry, copper, bronze, and antiques can be found everywhere, in the old town of Plaka, in Monastiraki (flea market) but especially SHOULD BE AVOIDED on Sunday.

Best streets for museum copies, less expensive jewellery and modern Greek ceramics are in Plaka in Voulis Street, Kidathineon Street ("Vergina Gallery"). For European Casuals, Italian sportswear, designer wear shop, go to Kolonaki in the area between Solonos and Anagnostopoulou Street., Omirou, Iraklitou & Skoufa Street. Best items are those, which are uniquely Greek Folk art, handicrafts, copies of Ancient jewelry/ceramics, as well as "flocati rugs", cotton embroideries.

Museum Information

Museums and sites in Athens (Acropolis), Delphi, Crete, Mycenae and Epidaurus are open in the summer until 6:30-7:00 pm. Most museums are CLOSED on Mondays but schedules might vary.

Transportation

Public Transportation in Athens

Public Transport network in Athens consists of buses, trolley buses, trams, and the METRO. Tickets for all means of transport in Athens, cost the same, 1.4 Euro can be used throughout the network for the duration of 1 ½ hours. Tickets may be purchased at kiosks around Athens and at the metro stops. Ticket should be validated. A 24-hour ticket and monthly card can be purchased at O.A.S.A and METRO booths as well.

The [METRO](#) from Athens International Airport to Athens center locations costs approximately 10 Euros.

The [express bus](#) from Athens International Airport to Athens locations (Syntagma Square) costs approximately 6 Euros.

Approximate Urban Transport Fares

Bus, trolley, tram, metro:	1.4 Euro valid for 1 ½ hours
Day card valid for all transport:	4.50 Euros per day
5 day pass for all transport	9 Euros

Taxis

Taxis are reasonably cheap and sometimes the quickest and easiest way to get around. Athens' taxis are yellow and the taxis outside the Attica area are gray. Always look to see if the driver has turned on

the meter. If the driver refuses to use the meter then it is best to get out and use a different taxi. It is typically easy to catch a taxi in Athens and other large cities, although sometimes the one you flag down will not want to drive you to your desired location. If that is the case, simply wait for the next one.

The taxis in Greece also engage in ride sharing in the sense that they sometimes look for other passengers going to places near your destination if you are riding alone. Please note that taxis will board other passengers on the way but that does not mean you will receive a discount on the ride. Be aware that after midnight taxi fares increase. ALWAYS ask for a receipt from the taxi driver, as he/she is required by law to provide you with one and check that is the correct amount that you need to pay. For cab drivers, a 5-10 % tip is expected. Luggage also has an extra charge; there is an add-on fee for pick-ups or drop offs to airports, port, and bus stations.

Taxi drivers in general speak a surprisingly limited amount of English given that tourism is such a large part of the Greek economy. It does not hurt to have the name of your destination written down or a map available where you can point to where you are headed. If all else fails, use the phrase "Thelo na pao sto..." ("I want to go to...")

Communication

Telephone

All students who travel abroad should have a working cell phone that can accept calls from the United States. You can do this by adding international capability to your current cellular plan, purchasing a temporary phone (either in the U.S. or at your destination) or by purchasing an international sim card for phone that is programmed for your destination. Be sure to do some research prior to departure to determine the best option for you. Below you'll find a couple of articles that may assist with your decision-making:

- [Nerdwallet: Cell Phone Options When You're Traveling Overseas](#)
- [Avoid Pricey Cell Phone Charges When Traveling Abroad](#)

Dialing Basics

When making calls, note any [time zone differences](#). To make an international call to the U.S., dial the [access code](#) for the country from which you are calling, plus the U.S. country code (+1) followed by the appropriate U.S. area code and local number.

Events and Literature

Events

There are many cultural events around Athens and Greece. Please consult the newspaper "Athens News" (on stands every Friday) to check for theatres, movies (original versions), opera ("The Megaron of Music"), art galleries and special events.

Recommended Literature

Fiction: [The Mask of Apollo](#) and [The King Must Die](#) by Mary Renault; [Women of Andros](#) by Thornton Wilder; [The Colossus of Maroussi](#) by Henry Miller; [Zorba The Greek](#) and [A Modern Sequel to the Odyssey](#) by Nikos Kazantzakis

Classics: *Homer's* [The Iliad](#) and [The Odyssey](#) (translations by Robert Fitzgerald); [Mythology](#) by Edith Hamilton

History: [From Alpha to Omega: The Life and Times of the Greek Alphabet](#) by Alexander and Nicholas Humez

Art and architecture: Greek Art by John Boardman

Travel: Literally Companion to Traveling in Greece, by Richard Stoneman; Patrick Fermor's personal journeys to "Mani" or "Roumeli." You may also find a lot of individual guides, published by Lycabettus Press, rich in photography, lively folk and historical lore as well as *FROMMER'S Budget Travel Guides* or *Lonely Planet Guides*.

Student Testimonials

The testimonials below are from past participants; they reflect various students' experiences and are included to provide different perspectives. IAP does not endorse any specific view expressed in this section.

Preparations Before Leaving

I wish I would have packed mini laundry soap packets to clean my clothes in the sink or tub because it is very difficult to find a Laundromat. Plus, you don't exactly have room in your luggage to pack enough clothes for the entire month. We just hung our stuff out to dry over the balcony.

Living Abroad

One of my favorite parts of the program was when we traveled on our own and stayed overnight on the islands. Some of the students went to Santorini while others went to Mykonos, but we all agreed it was worth the extra money and time. I would highly suggest checking out the islands, they have a very different lifestyle than the Athenians do for the most part.

On my own, I began to know Athens really well from jogging around it in the morning and just exploring. I do wish that I had ventured a little farther out on days when there was not a lot we had to do. The countryside is gorgeous.

The program was amazing! It scheduled a lot of exciting day trips. Athens was the best place to be immersed in the culture, but I do wish that we were able to spend more time getting to know the culture of the people who lived outside of the big city. Three weeks is such a short time to do all there is to do in Greece. The food is great, the weather is great, and the water is amazing. Anyone who does this program will have an unforgettable time and some absolutely priceless pictures.