

The Isles of Greece! 2010

The Northern Sporades

Updated 23 November 2009

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to a variety of aspects of life in the islands of Greece's Northern Sporades over the eight millennia from the Neolithic to our own time. Topics include history, literature, geology, religion, philosophy, ethnography, marine biology, archaeology, and cultural resources management. Sailing and hiking, lectures and readings, visits to sites and museums, conversations with faculty and fellow students, student reports, encounters with our Greek hosts, and travel diaries will provide opportunities for students to acquire information and reflect on their experiences. In particular, the nautical life will give students a sense of the Greek islands as the Greeks saw them in an age before mechanized travel: from the sea in sailing vessels. Students will learn to sail and to live aboard a sailboat. Certified divers will have the option of participating in at least four dives. Nondivers will be snorkeling.

In previous years The Isles of Greece! has focused on the Cyclades, the Dodecanese, and the Ionian Islands. For descriptions of past programs, including photographs and student comments, visit [The Isles of Greece!](http://people.usd.edu/~clehmann/islesofgreece/index.htm) (<http://people.usd.edu/~clehmann/islesofgreece/index.htm>).

The course takes place 17 May to 6 June 2010. The fee will be \$2600 plus 3 hours of tuition (at rates for summer 2010, probably about \$700). Graduate tuition will be about \$900. One student whose sailing experience recommends him or her to the captains will be appointed first mate and receive an offset of \$500. The fee covers all major expenses except for travel to Athens.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Participants will gather for an initial informational meeting Sat 12 December 2009 (a nonrefundable \$750 deposit is due at that time) and a preparatory session Sat 27 March 2010 (the balance of the fee is due at that time). The instructors will make special arrangements for non-resident students who cannot attend these meetings. Each student will receive a substantial packet of readings that must be prepared for discussion at the March meeting. The readings include sailing guides, historical texts, and modern studies relevant to the course. This round of reading includes Cahill's *Sailing the Wine-Dark Sea* (see the reading list at the end of the prospectus).

Each student will in consultation with the instructors prepare a report on some topic relevant to our trip: an archaeological site or feature, a philosophical movement, a religious practice ancient or modern, a geological feature, an environmental problem, etc. These reports should be carefully researched and prepared in advance, along with appropriate handouts for all participants. For each report the student must submit an annotated bibliography at the March meeting. Suggested topics appear at the end of the prospectus. In addition to the reading packet, each student will prepare one of the books in the reading list (see below) and bring it along for the boats' library. These readings will provide the basis for ongoing discussion.

Each student will keep a reflective journal describing all aspects of the trip on a daily basis and emphasizing academic content.

Graduate students will in addition submit a major research paper treating their report topics.

Students registering for six credits prepare a second report and an additional book from the reading list.

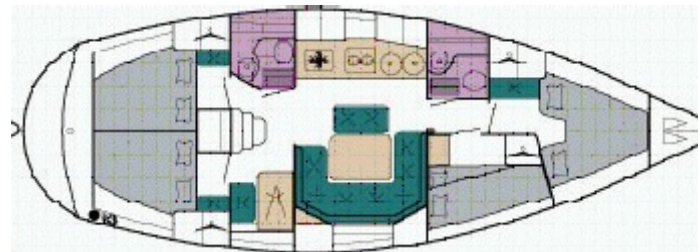
The instructors will evaluate the reports, participation in discussions and lectures, and the journal as the basis for the final grade. See the [evaluation rubric](http://www.usd.edu/~clehmann/islesofgreece/Rubrics.pdf) (<http://www.usd.edu/~clehmann/islesofgreece/Rubrics.pdf>).

CONDITIONS

After three nights in Athens, the group will travel by bus to Delphi, Kalambaka, and Volos. Then we take the ferry to Skiathos where we embark on our yachts; these yachts will be our home for the next two weeks. The yachts will be about forty-five feet long, each with three or four two-person cabins. Linen, blankets, and towels are provided. Each boat has two heads (bathroom with toilet and sink; the bathroom doubles as a shower stall; one can also shower on the swimming platform at the stern), a galley (kitchen) and salon, and cold running water (also hot when the engine has been running). This Bavaria 41 Holiday (which Stone and Lehmann sailed in the Cyclades in June of 2003) is typical, though somewhat smaller than our boats. Visit [Virgin Island Sailing Ltd](http://www.visailing.com/kiria/Kiriacoulis-yacht-charters.html) (<http://www.visailing.com/kiria/Kiriacoulis-yacht-charters.html>) for more information on the charter company we use.



Conditions on the boat will be quite crowded and privacy non-existent—but such is part of the adventure! Two people will share a bed that is irregularly shaped and less than double size, and the cabin walls are quarter-inch plywood. You will find plenty of room for reading, writing, snacking, and studying, plenty of deck space for sunbathing and dolphin-spotting, the entire sea for swimming and snorkeling, and—as we shall be in a harbor most nights—plenty of activities on shore: shops, restaurants, clubs, Internet cafes, hiking.



Air temperatures will be in the 70s and 80s. Water temperature will be in the 70s. The winds will freshen toward midday, and it is possible that strong winds can keep us in port and require adjustments to our itinerary. It will not rain much if at all. We shall normally breakfast and lunch on the boat. Food will be available for snacking and dinner, but most people will want to dine out in a taverna overlooking the harbor. A given day will feature visits to sites, student reports, and lectures, as well as three to five hours of sailing.

For lots of info on the islands visit [Matt Barrett's Web site](http://www.greektravel.com/greekislands/) (<http://www.greektravel.com/greekislands/>).

WHAT TO BRING

1. Several changes of comfortable, informal warm-weather clothing (we'll have buckets for washing clothes; a past participant recommends three shirts, a pair of shorts, and a pair of pants), swimming suit, a waterproof jacket, and a light sweater.
2. Sun protection: hat, sunglasses, sun block.
3. Beach towel, toiletries, medicine (including medicine for motion sickness if needed), extra pair of prescription glasses, contact lenses.
4. Shoes with good gripping soles (not black—they scuff the boat, and wear closed shoes unless you don't mind stubbing toes against the seeming millions of projections on a boat). We'll do a lot of walking, so the shoes should be sturdy.
5. Camera, film; journal (green or blue paper is easier to write on in the glare of the Mediterranean sun), pens; required and recreational reading; handouts for reports.
6. Snorkeling equipment (masks, snorkel, booties, and fins). Divers: the dive centers we use will provide all other equipment; you may of course bring your own.
7. One medium soft collapsible bag and one small bag to hold all your gear. You will be carrying your own stuff for considerable distances, rollers can't always manage the irregular pavements, and everything must fit into the very limited and irregular storage space on the boat. If you're traveling before or after this tour, consider leaving an additional bag at the airport or at a left-luggage station near our hotel.

In the past students have spent \$500-1000 for personal expenses. Airfare from Sioux Falls is currently about \$1400, but prices change constantly, and students can creatively find lower fares. Here's the most important piece of advice: lay out all the clothing and money you think you'll need; halve the clothing and double the money. Bring some cash. Traveler's checks are a hassle and involve high exchange fees; an ATM check card is as secure and far more convenient, and you'll find ATMs in every town. Greece uses the Euro.

WHAT'S COVERED—WHAT'S NOT

Your fee pays for all transportation during the course, entry fees, eight nights lodging, a berth on the boat, all food on the boat, and a few group meals off of it. Tuition is billed separately. The fee does not include transportation to and from Athens, most meals off the boat, and the optional dives. The instructors will provide advice about air travel. During the spring semester Mr Stone will offer a course leading to scuba certification and Mr Lehmann an introduction to Modern Greek. Students register for academic credit through the Division of Continuing Education at the University of South Dakota. Students from outside the SD regental system can arrange for transfer of academic credit to their own institutions. Each student accepted into the program must pay a deposit of \$750 by 12 December. This deposit reserves the yachts and rooms and cannot be refunded. The balance of the fee must be paid at or before the meeting on 27 March. The instructors advise students to consider trip insurance. One student with sailing experience will serve as first mate and receive a fee reduction of \$500.

THE FINE PRINT

Although this will be a relaxing and enjoyable trip, it is an educational endeavor, and all participants will be expected to perform to high academic standards and to represent their institution well. All study-abroad students must sign the university's standard Acceptance, Release and Waiver Form. They are subject to and protected by the rules and procedures detailed in the [USD Student Handbook \(http://www.usd.edu/studenterv/handbooks/StudentHandbook0708.pdf\)](http://www.usd.edu/studenterv/handbooks/StudentHandbook0708.pdf). Students who find it difficult to conduct themselves as responsible adults should familiarize themselves with this information before joining our program. In particular, the instructors will dismiss from the program with a failing grade any student who violates academic integrity or the laws of Greece, or who insult our hosts or brings our program into disrepute; in such a case the student must make and pay for his or her own arrangements for an early departure from Greece.

YOUR INSTRUCTORS

Clayton Lehmann teaches ancient history at the University of South Dakota and has lived and traveled in Greece for nearly thirty years. An avid and certified sailor for the last decade, he has chartered yachts in various Greek waters. He will lecture in Greek history, religion, and archaeology

and captain one of the boats.

Nelson Stone teaches philosophy and religion at Mount Marty College and has sailed his whole life. He joined Lehmann for a sailing and diving tour of the Cyclades in June 2003, when the two of them conceived the idea of teaching this course, now in its sixth year. He will lecture on philosophy and religion, provide sailing instruction, and captain one of the boats. A PADI scuba instructor, Mr Stone will also serve as dive master.

Brennan Jordan teaches about minerals and the origin of volcanoes at the University of South Dakota. He has led student trips all around the western US and directed four research expeditions in Iceland and Mongolia in the last six years. He will lecture on the geology and landforms of Greece, and direct students in observation and interpretation of geologic features encountered during the trip. This will be his second season in Greece.

Peter Nicolaides is a professional diver, biologist-oceanographer and offshore engineer. He directs the Aegean Diving College, the Aegean Institute, and the Center for Marine Environmental Education on Paros. For the past thirty years he has been involved in numerous underwater archaeological expeditions acting as the technical director. He has worked with National Geographic Foundation (he discovered the Dokos wreck in 1975, a Cycladic ship, the oldest known to date) and with J Y Cousteau for nine months on the *Calypso* in 1976, excavating several ancient wrecks. He was the Secretary of the Hellenic Institute of Marine Archaeology from 1975 to 1988. He will offer lectures in marine archaeology, geology, marine ecology, and cultural resources management and serve as dive master.

In addition we shall benefit from the expertise of scholars in Greece who will discuss their work on site.

APPLICATION

Apply for the program in the form of a letter containing the following information: your name, email address, mailing address, telephone number; school, year in school, major; contact information for one academic reference; passport number, scuba certification agency and number, sailing resume (as available); brief (ca 300 word) essay explaining how a program like this fits into your educational goals. Specify in which discipline you want to take the credits: History, Classical Humanities, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Art History, English, Honors, Earth Sciences, or Political Science (students registering for six credits should specify two different disciplines). Email your letter to Mr Jordan (Brennan.Jordan@usd.edu) or Mr Stone (nstone@mtmc.edu) before 30 Nov 2009. The instructors will select fifteen students and a list of alternates on the basis of academic preparation and interest and sailing experience. Neither sailing experience nor diving certification is required for application. Students may continue to apply until the end of January 2010 because additional berths may open up.

Already as you go the islands are becoming magical. They invite you back before ever you are out of sight of them. And they have now a new attraction for you. In your mind's eye you see, like a figure in a sorcerer's crystal the remembered figure of yourself happy and spellbound in the islands.

Kininmonth, *The Children of Thetis*

Itinerary

Given the exigencies of life at sea, prepare to be flexible!

Day	Night in	Activity
17 May	Athens	Arrive, check into hotel (after 3 pm)
18	Athens	National Museum (kouroi), Byzantine Museum, Kerameikos, Agora,
19	Athens	Acropolis (Parthenon), Acropolis Museum (korai); Peter's lectures, evening group meal
20	Delphi	Gla, Osios Loukas (Byzantine Art&Arch), Corycian Cave hike
21	Kalambaka	Delphi (Treasures; Temple of Apollo; Athletics); Thermopylae
22 (Sat)	Makrinitisa	Meteora, Sesklo
23	Skiathos	Volos Museum; ferry to Skiathos; check out and provision boats
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1 June		
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3		
4	Skiathos	
5 (Sat)	Athens	Disembark; transfer to Athens
6		Depart



Reading List

- Athas, Daphne. *Greece by Prejudice*. Philadelphia and New York: J B Lippincott Company, 1962.
An American woman explores her Greek roots and reflects on Greece of the late 1950s with wonderful sensitivity and with all her senses open.
- Bennett, Janey. *The Pale Surface of Things*. Victoria: Hopepeace Press, 2007.
The lives of Greeks, Americans, and Greek-Americans interweave one summer on Crete.
- Bent, J Theodore. *The Cyclades, or Life Among the Insular Greeks*. Ed Gerald Brisch. Oxford: Archaeopress, 2002.
Traveling the Greek islands in the 1880s.
- Cahill, Thomas. *Sailing the Wine-Dark Sea: Why the Greeks Matter*. New York: Random House, 2003.
Required reading for all participants.
- Carroll, Michael. *Gates of the Wind*. London: J Murray, 1965.
A young man sails the Aegean in search of the perfect place to build his home; he finds it in Skopelos.
- Clift, Charmian. *Mermaid Singing*. Indianapolis and New York: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1956.
Republished with *Peel Me a Lotus* (Pymble: HarperCollins, 2001).
A memoir of life in Kalymnos in 1954, when Clift and her family abandoned their careers in London and moved to Greece. She and her husband George Johnston wrote *The Sea and the Stone* during this year.
- _____. *Peel Me a Lotus*. London: Hutchinson, 1959. Republished with *Mermaid Singing* (Pymble: HarperCollins, 2001).
A memoir of a year in Hydra, when Clift and George Johnston bought a house and had their third child.
- Charmian Clift and George Johnston. *The Sea and the Stone*. Indianapolis and New York: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1955.
A novel about the sponge-divers of Kalymnos and their families as their industry collapses.
- De Bernières, Louis. *Corelli's Mandolin*. New York: Pantheon, 1994. Reissued by Penguin as *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*.
Historical romance set in Kefalonia during World War II. An Italian officer fights with the Greeks against the Germans after Italy's withdrawal from the Axis.
- Durrell, Gerald. *My Family and Other Animals*. London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1956.
A hilarious account of a boy's adventures in Corfu with his family (including Lawrence), neighbors, and the flora and fauna of the island.
- Durrell, Lawrence. *Prospero's Cell: A Guide to the Landscape and Manners of the Island of Corcyra*. London: Faber and Faber, 1945.
Durrell's first travel book, a memoir of his years in Corfu before World War II.
- _____. *The Greek Islands*. London and Boston: Faber and Faber, 1978.
A brief look at many islands with personal observations and nice illustrations.
- Fermor, Patrick Leigh. *Mani: Travels in the Southern Peloponnese*. London: John Murray, 1958.
A brilliant travel writer describes southern Greece in the 50s.
- Fowles, John. *The Magus*. Rev ed. Boston: Little, Brown, 1978.
Games of love and betrayal on a Greek island.
- Friedrich, Walter L. *Fire in the Sea: The Santorini Volcano: Natural History and the Legend of Atlantis*. Trans Alexander R McBirney. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ Press, 2000.
The geology of Thira and the latest theories about the Bronze Age eruption.
- Gage, Nicholas. *Eleni*. New York: Ballantine, 1996.
The Greek Civil War ravages a Greek village and its families.
- Gray, Peter. *People of Poros: A Portrait of a Greek Island Village*. New York and London: Whittlesey House, 1942.
A personal account of life in Poros just before World War II.
- Horton, Andrew. *Bones in the Sea: Time Apart on a Greek Island*. New Orleans: Grand Illusion Productions, 1996.
A young family spends a summer and fall on Kea in 1987, giving Horton opportunity to reflect on the island, Greece, and time away from work.
- Horton, George. *Home of Nymphs and Vampires*. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1929.
A panorama of the Aegean islands in the 1920s by an American classicist and diplomat.
- Innes, Hammond. *Levkas Man*. London: Collins, 1971.

A thriller placing an idiosyncratic search for early Homo sapiens against the background of the Cold War.

Kazantzakis, Nikos. *Zorba the Greek*. Various translations.
Hardly needs comment.

_____. *Report to Greco*. Various translations.
Biographical, insightful analysis of the modern Greek mind.

Keeley, Edmund, and Philip Sherrard, eds. *A Greek Quintet: Poems by Cavafy, Sikelianos, Seferis, Elytis, Gatsos*. 3d ed. Limni: Denise Harvey, 2000. Earlier editions titled *The Dark Crystal* and *Voices of Modern Greece*
Greece's greatest modern poets, including Nobel-Prize winners.

Kininmonth, Christopher. *The Children of Thetis: A Study of Islands and Islanders in the Aegean*. London: John Lehmann, 1949.
An analysis of the character of the maritime Greeks after World War II and during the Greek Civil War, with an account of the authors wartime activities in Greece.

Levi, Peter. *The Hill of Kronos*. New York: E P Dutton, 1981.
A Jesuit priest (at the time), teacher, scholar, and translator of Pausanias visited Greece frequently in the 60s and 70s, and writes about the landscape and antiquities, Greek poets, and Greece under the Colonels,

MacKenzie, Compton. *Greece In My Life*. London: Chatto & Windus, 1960.
From spying in WW I Athens to a trial in Old Bailey for exposing official secrets to a BBC crew filming *The Glory That Was Greece* in the late 50s: a fascinating, opinionated memoir.

Manus, Willard. *This Way to Paradise: Dancing on the Tables*. Athens: Lycabettus Press, 1998.
An American moves to Rhodes and lives there for thirty-five years, watching mass tourism take its toll.

Mercouri, Melina. *I Was Born Greek*. New York: Doubleday, 1971.
Autobiography of the famous actress, political activist, and Greek Minister of Culture

Merrill, James Ingram. *The (Diblos) Notebook*. New York: Athenaeum, 1965.
One of America's great poets offers a quasi-biographical novel set in a quasi-Poros.

Miller, Henry. *The Colossus of Maroussi*. New York: New Directions, 1958.
Quirky, idiosyncratic, idolizing Greeks but disdaining foreigners. Miller encounters some of Greece's greatest writers just before World War II.

Myrivilis, Strates. *Life in the Tomb*. Trans Peter Bien. Hanover: Univ Press of New England, 1977.
Perhaps the greatest novel about World War I.

Papadiamantis, Alexandros. *Tales from a Greek Island*. Trans Elizabeth Constantinides. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Univ Press, 1987.
Greece's first important prose writer; a native of nineteenth-century Skiathos.

Psychoundakis, Giorgos. *The Cretan Runner*. Trans Patrick Leigh Fermor. London: J Murray, 1955.
The Greek resistance in cooperation with the British in German occupied Crete.

Raeburn, Nancy. *Mykonos*. Minneapolis: New Rivers Press, 1992.
Personal experiences collected by a Minnesotan living in Mykonos in the 1980s.

Rand, Christopher. *Grecian Calendar*. New York: Oxford Univ Press, 1962.
Description of a year in Greece (1960) originally written for *The New Yorker Magazine*.

Stone, Irving. *The Greek Treasure*. Garden City: Doubleday, 1975.
Biographical novel about Heinrich and Sophia Schliemann.

Stone, Tom. *The Summer of My Greek Taverna*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 2002. In the mid 80s Stone rented a share in a taverna in Patmos and learned a hard lesson about what happens when you take a Greek as your partner instead of your friend.

Storace, Patricia. *Dinner with Persephone*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1996.
Personal experiences by a remarkably perceptive visitor to Greece in 1992.

Tennant, Emma. *A House in Corfu: A Family's Sojourn in Greece*. New York: Henry Holt, 2002.
Intimate memoir of Tennant's parents move to Corfu where they built a house in the early 1960s; they identify the site as Odysseus's landing place in Phaeacia where he encountered Nausicaä.

Tsigakou, Fani-Maria. *Through Romantic Eyes: European Images of Nineteenth-Century Greece*. Alexandria: Arts Services International, 1991.
Beautifully illustrated analysis of how Europeans visualized Greece in the eighteenth and

nineteenth centuries.

Vassilikos, Vassilis. Z. Trans Vassilikos and Marilyn Calmann. New York: Ballantine, 1969.

Anti-fascist political murder mystery based on the assassination of a socialist minister of the Greek government in 1963.

Wheeler, Sara. *Evia: Travels on an Undiscovered Greek Island*. London: Tauris Parke Paperbacks, 2007.

A sympathetic journey through the island of Euboea in the summer of 1990.

Zinovieff, Sofka. *Eurydice Street: A Place in Athens*. New edition. New York and London: Granta Books, 2005.

The first year making a home in Athens for a woman who moves with her husband and their children to his native country in 2001.

Report Topics

Kouroi and Korai

Croesus

Erechtheum (Acropolis)

Parthenon (Acropolis)

Socrates in the Agora

Philosophical Schools in Athens

Athenian Burial Practices (Kerameikos)

Theology of Icons (Byzantine Museum)

Paul and the Church in Greece

The Greek Theater

Greek Mythology

Greece and Modern Tourism (Skiathos)

Medieval Church Architecture (Hosios Loukas)

Ancient Athletics (Delphi)

Temple and Cult of Apollo (Delphi)

The Corycian Cave (Delphi)

The Battle of Thermopylae

Greek Orthodoxy and monasticism (Meteora)

Sesklo

The National Marine Park of Alonissos, of the Northern Sporades

Modern Greek Music

Byron

Piracy in the Ancient Mediterranean

Ancient Seafaring

Ancient Greek Medicine

WWII and Civil War

Environmental Issues in Modern Greece

Women in Myth

Greece under the Ottomans

Volcanoes of Greece

Earthquakes and Faults of Greece

Geologic sources of construction materials in ancient Greece

Sea level changes in the Mediterranean Sea

Plate tectonics of Greece and the Mediterranean region

The Alpine orogeny in Greece

Geology of caves in Greece