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Fall 2017, A Summer of New UNH International Program, New Classics Summer Program in Greece

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UNH Global

New Classics Summer Program in Greece

Jim Parsons, COLA Center for Study Abroad

Monday, October 23, 2017

In May 2017, nine students traveled to Greece on the first iteration of the College of Liberal Arts' UNH-in-Greece program, sponsored by the Department of Classics, Humanities & Italian Studies. This new summer study abroad opportunity allows students to earn 10 credits over five weeks under the guidance of UNH faculty.

Students spend most of their time based in Athens, but begin the program with a one-week intensive travel course that takes them throughout Greece, including visits to Delphi, Mycenae and Nafplio. Audrey Getman (History '19) feels the itinerary helped her gain a better understanding of her host country, noting that "...the program helped me to really appreciate Greece because it gave us a chance to see more than just Athens. That first week we spent traveling was very valuable to put everything in perspective."

The program has no course prerequisites and was designed to offer Discovery credit and meet the needs of a wide variety of students. Program Director and Professor of Classics Stephen Trzaskoma launched the program with a required class that focuses on the development of democracy in Ancient Greece. "At a time when so many Americans are thinking about our democracy and how it works," Trzaskoma says, "it's valuable to consider how the ancient Athenians thought about their city, which created the very first democracy on the planet."

The program was developed in partnership with Hellenic American University, a New Hampshire-based institution with a degree-granting Athens campus offering English-language academic programs to Greek and international students. In the future, Trzaskoma would like to build on the program's broad appeal and create an academic and cultural experience that is enriching for both

students within the Classics program and for those from all majors on campus. “One priority,” he notes, “is to attract a more diverse group of students—diverse in terms of background, academic profile, financial need—and especially to find ways to reach students who do not think they can study abroad in the first place.”

For an interactive view, follow Audrey Getman from the Temple of the Oracle and classes in Athens to the Theatre of Dionysus in the Acropolis Museum, when she took over UNH’s Snapchat (<https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/2017/07/live-greece>) to bring viewers along for her summer studies in Greece.



UNH in Greece summer 2017 cohort traveling the country with an HAU instructor

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[Athens \(/global/tags/athens\)](/global/tags/athens)

[classics \(/global/tags/classics\)](/global/tags/classics)

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Countries: [Greece \(/global/country/gr\)](/global/country/gr)

News & Events (</global/news-and-events>)

[News \(/global/news\)](/global/news)

[New Classics Summer Program in Greece \(/global/new-classics-summer-program-greece\)](/global/new-classics-summer-program-greece)

[Calendar of Events \(http://calendar.unh.edu\)](http://calendar.unh.edu)

[Events Around the Seacoast Area \(/global/events-around-seacoast-area\)](/global/events-around-seacoast-area)


[Buddies Without Borders \(/global/buddies-without-borders\)](/global/buddies-without-borders)


[NH International Seminar \(/global/nh-international-seminar\)](/global/nh-international-seminar)


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