

A photograph of ancient Greek temple ruins, featuring several tall, fluted columns and a stone entablature against a clear blue sky. The ruins are situated on a rocky, elevated platform.

# ODYSSEY IN ATHENS

A STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM IN GREECE  
GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE

**Webster**  
UNIVERSITY

Athens Campus



Dina Skias, Director of Student Affairs and Odyssey in Athens and Owen Hunt, Odyssey alumnus fall 2005 and current graduate student assistant for Odyssey in Athens.

## Message from the Director

**G**reetings from Athens. I am the Director of the **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** study abroad program and want to invite you to join us for a semester or year abroad. What better time in your life to come abroad and explore this beautiful country, while at the same time earning academic credit and learning about yourself? Students from all over the United States, with a variety of backgrounds have joined the program. Some students have been abroad before, while for others it was their first time. Why Greece? You may ask... and Why Athens? Greece is the birthplace of so many modern ideas and Athens is the center of where it all happened. The University is in an excellent location for formal study - at the foothills of the Acropolis. Just walking around the streets near the University, you can take in so much of this ancient, yet modern, city. Plus, the cost of the program is significantly less than most US colleges and universities, and you do not need to interrupt your program of study to attend. Interacting with the local community on a daily basis allows you to learn more about the culture, as well as yourself. We look forward to your joining our **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** family.

*Dina Skias*





# Contents

## Odyssey in Athens

A study abroad program at the Athens Campus of Webster University

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### Overview of Program

General Overview

Orientation

Housing

Curriculum

Excursions

Student Activities

#### Admissions Policy and Procedures

Admissions policy and procedures

Expenses

Accreditation and transcripts

Medical Care

#### Semester Courses

Special Odyssey Courses

#### Application

General Application

Study Abroad Approval Form

Plan of Study Form

[www.webster.edu.gr](http://www.webster.edu.gr)



Summer students on the southern slope of the Acropolis with the Odeon of Herodes Atticus in the background

## General Overview

**W**ebster University, founded in 1915 with its home campus based in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, is the only Tier I private, nonprofit university with campus locations around the world including metropolitan, military, online and corporate, as well as American-style traditional campuses in North America, Europe, including Athens, Africa and Asia. With over 160,000 alumni and 22,000 students from 50 states and 148 countries, Webster is defining global education for the future. Small, highly interactive classes encourage innovation, collaboration, and self-expression. Students have all the advantages of a student-centered university that supports personalized learning and gives every student an opportunity to excel. Webster University Study Abroad programs are ranked in the top 2 percent by the *U.S. News and World Report "America's Best Colleges 2014."* Additionally, the **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** Study Abroad program was ranked in the top 10 study abroad programs worldwide for two years in a row through the website [www.abroad101.com](http://www.abroad101.com). The rankings were based on student reviews. The first ranking was in 2011 and the **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** program ranked number 8 worldwide and in 2012 the program jumped to number 5. Also, the **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** program received a ranking of number 3 for Top Program Providers.

The Higher Learning Commission of North Central Association of Schools and Colleges (NCASC) accredits Webster University.

Further, prestigious accreditation bodies in their respective fields accredit the various schools/departments of the University. Webster University's mission is to ensure high quality learning that transforms students for global citizenship and individual excellence.



The Roman Agora with the Webster University Athens Campus Library and Cultural Center in the background



Summer students visiting the Acropolis with their Art and Archaeology class.

The Athens branch hosts our **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** study abroad program. It is a unique program designed to afford college students a rich cultural experience in the birthplace of Western civilization. They take accredited courses in their chosen fields of study alongside Greek and other international students. This feature distinguishes **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** from other study abroad programs and facilitates the process of cultural integration.

**ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** is based in the facilities of Webster University Athens -in the historic area known as Plaka- at the base of the Acropolis. Two buildings house classrooms, computer lab, library, administrative offices, and a cultural center. With its extraordinary artistic, intellectual and cultural heritage, Athens is richly endowed with resources for formal study and experiential learning. The museums at the Acropolis and the Ancient Agora, as well as the National Archaeological Museum, the Cycladic Museum, and the Benaki collections are within minutes of the University's facilities.

Athens is a modern city with a plethora of activity. Cultural events including concerts, gallery exhibits, dance and theatre are an integral part of everyday life. Sporting events such as soccer and basketball bring the people of Athens together cheering passionately for their teams, as they did in ancient times. The spirit, energy and thought of the ancient Greeks taught the world so much.

In 2004, Athens played host to the most successful and remembered Olympics in history, as the Games returned

home. Many parts of Athens were modernized for this historic event, including a new subway system, new streets, sidewalks and other forms of transportation, which all help to make the city very user friendly and easy to get around. The Games' success reminded tourists around the world of Athens' rich history and its unique place among European capitals. Many visitors commented on the friendliness and hospitality of the Greek people.

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"My Odyssey in Athens experience was simply unforgettable. Not only was I given the opportunity to live in a city full of culture and history, I was also able to meet and live with people from across the world. I learned more about the world and myself during my time in Athens and will fondly remember every moment."

Zhiela Ashtianipour, Junior Psychology and Sociology student, Virginia Commonwealth University, Fall 2006

Summer students on their excursion to Ancient Corinth



Lecture with spring students at the Ancient Theatre of Epidavros during their excursion

"I loved my experience in Athens. Although the city took some getting used to (this was my first time living in a city), I now love it and can't imagine going back to suburbia. I saw so many amazing things and really loved being immersed in a different culture. I'll never forget swimming in the turquoise water next to the caves in Matala on Crete in late October."

Thea Gallis, Junior English/Philosophy student, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Fall 2002

## ORIENTATION

From the moment students arrive in Athens, they are met at the airport and taken to their apartments. Much time is spent in the first few days helping students become familiar with their new environment. Walking tours of Athens and information about particulars such as grocery shopping, transportation, laundry and telephone use, in addition to bank and post office locations are all covered. Also, activities are scheduled to allow students to meet Greek and other international students. In addition, the Director is always available to assist students with their needs and help them adapt to their new environment.

## STUDENT HOUSING

Students have an opportunity to be independent by living in shared furnished apartments in the Plaka area - right next to the university facilities of **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS**. The narrow, picturesque streets of Plaka are teeming with cafes, restaurants, galleries, and artisan workshops. Students will find themselves spending many an evening discussing philosophy and politics, Kazantzaki's Zorba, or the hottest Greek pop singer, as they linger in Plaka over late-night meals of olives, feta cheese and crusty bread.



Spring students on their excursion at the archaeological site of Mycenae in front of the Lion's Gate

## CURRICULUM

The **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** curriculum is unique in that it offers a diverse variety of accredited upper-level courses. Students can continue their programs of study and earn college credit which transfers back to their home institutions. There are no specific program requirements; however, students are encouraged to take full advantage of the Greek language and culture courses. All courses are taught in English by distinguished faculty from the US and Europe. Courses surveying Greek civilization from the ancient times to the present cover art and archaeology, ethnography and culture, history, literature, politics, and language. Courses with an international or cross-cultural focus include anthropology, business administration, communication, history, literature, political science, international studies, international relations, philosophy, music and economics. For a complete list of all courses offered, please refer to our webpage:

<http://www.webster.edu.gr>

## EXCURSIONS

Excursions are an integral part of **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS**. Students have an opportunity to learn first hand about ancient sites. Mycenaean, Epidavros, Meteora, Monemvasia,

Sparti-Mystras and Delphi are a few of our destinations. Students also take organized trips to the Greek islands. The cost of university-organized group travel is fully covered by the program fees. Students may use their free weekends to travel on their own and quickly will discover that Greece abounds with exquisite natural beauty. From the famous Greek islands with crystal blue seas and dazzling sunlight to the mountain ranges and lush valleys blanketed with olive trees, there is so much to explore. Travel within Greece is easily available from Athens at a relatively low cost.

"After going abroad through Odyssey in Athens, I am grateful that I had the possibility to experience four months in Greece. The people made the trip wonderful and I definitely would do it again. I had trouble deciding if I wanted to go abroad but I do not regret my decision one bit."

Natalia Klimkiewicz, Sophomore Accounting student,  
SUNY Geneseo, Spring 2012

Summer students at the entrance of the stadium in Ancient Olympia



"Even though I am not normally excited by history, it was difficult not to become interested in a city with ancient ruins everywhere, not to mention a great view of the Acropolis from my apartment rooftop! I got to visit the many monuments and museums in the city and toured many other places in Greece, including Thessaloniki, Mt. Olympus, Cape Sounio, and Ancient Olympia on the Odyssey excursions."

Carey Hart, Sophomore Communication student, University of Indianapolis, Fall 2004

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Once their academic obligations are met, students are free to live their own lives and are encouraged to take full advantage of the cultural and recreational activities available to them. They can participate or attend any of the organized sporting events of the University, such as men's basketball or soccer and women's volleyball. Similarly, student organizations such as the International Student's Association and community service opportunities, such as working with the endangered sea turtles through the non-profit organization, Archelon, have been popular choices for the Odyssey students. The Director can assist students in pursuing their interests.

## ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

**ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** accepts applications from students in good standing at their home institutions who are eager to learn about the landscape, culture, and people of Greece. Graduate students are also encouraged to apply for our semester, summer session, or year-long program. Students from over 100 different colleges and university have enrolled in the Odyssey program. Enrollment is for a single semester (up to 17 credits for undergraduate or up to 10 credits for the graduate programs), a full academic year (up to 41 credits- includes the winter session in January or up to 25 credits



Odyssey students in Scuba diving class  
in the crystal clear waters of the Aegean Sea.

annually for graduate level), winter or summer session (up to 7 credits for undergraduate or up to 4 credits for graduate programs). Although the junior year is preferred by most students who study abroad, sophomores and seniors can apply to **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** with approval from their universities. Students in transition to graduate school or employment in the international arena are also welcomed. Deadlines for admission are June 15th (for the full year and fall Semester) and November 15th (for the spring semester.) After these dates, applicants are considered on a space availability basis. A rolling admissions policy provides for notification approximately 30 days after receipt of a completed application.

### **MEDICAL CARE**

Program fees do not include medical insurance. Students should check to see that their insurance adequately covers them while living abroad. Medical care is generally provided on a reimbursement basis; students will need to pay for services rendered and submit the bill to their personal insurance carrier. Staff will assist in securing the services of a qualified physician; however, **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** assumes no legal responsibility in the event of an accident or illness.

"From exploring the hustle of Syntagma Square, to finding a quiet corner in the National Gardens, my time in Athens has been nothing if not an extraordinary departure from a spring semester in Ithaca, NY. In my time here, I have participated in courses which have expanded my worldview and educated me about European cultures, politics and history. The language barrier has been a breeze; it's comforting to be able to speak small tidbits of Greek, knowing I can rely on English if need be. The wonderment of waking up, wandering the streets, picking up a gyro for lunch, all while the Acropolis towers over me, is astonishing."

Kelsey Fowler, Junior Journalism student,  
Ithaca College Spring 2012

Dr. Stanley Sfekas, Professor of Philosophy and Religion lecturing to students in the Ancient Agora.



## EXPENSES

The **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS** program fee includes tuition, housing, orientation, group excursion costs, student ID, computer lab and library fees, transcript and student support services. It does not include roundtrip airfare, meals, laundry, personal spending money, as well as, medical/accident/property insurance, text books, or independent travel. (Students can expect to spend \$120-150 per week on meals, laundry, entertainment, and miscellaneous needs.) Total costs are considerably less than those at private colleges and universities in the US. For program costs please go to:

<http://www.webster.edu.gr>

## ACCREDITATION AND TRANSCRIPTS

Academic credit is transferred to a student's home institution on the basis of a transcript issued by Webster University. Each student is responsible for arranging academic credit with his/her own college or university before applying to **ODYSSEY IN ATHENS**. Letter grades are based on fulfillment of all course requirements, including written and oral assignments, exams, and class attendance. An official copy of a student's transcript is mailed to the home college and an unofficial copy is sent to the home address. Transcripts are released only after all financial obligations have been met.

"Today is our one year anniversary of all of us, Spring '07 Odyssey students, getting on planes to come to Athens. I have talked to many of the students today just to reminisce and realize how much better our lives were a year ago today. Not a day goes by that I don't think about my wonderful days in Athens."

Anne Nolte, Junior Mass Communication student,  
Minnesota State University, Spring 2007



Spring group on their excursion to Meteora

## SEMESTER COURSES

Please note that students can select from our full program of courses. For a list of courses offered please refer to the web page <http://www.webster.edu.gr>. In addition to the undergraduate curriculum, special courses have been devised for the Odyssey students. You will find below a list of the special courses. Please note that these courses are not required, but we encourage you to take advantage of them.

## SPECIAL ODYSSEY COURSES

### Fall Semester

### Spring Semester

ANTH 3000	Modern Greek Society & Culture	ANTH 3000	Greek Art & Archaeology
SOCI 3000	The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum	SOCI 3000/ARHS 4600	Greek Art & Archaeology
ILC 1090	Elementary Modern Greek Language I	SOCI 3000	The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum
POLT 1000	The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum	ILC 1090	Elementary Modern Greek Language I
RELG 3030	Greek Mythology & Religion	HIST 1010	Modern Greek History & Politics
MEDC 3150	The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum	POLT 1000	The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum
PHIL 2080	Greek Mythology & Religion	MEDC 3150	The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum
INST 2550	The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum	POLT 1000	Modern Greek History & Politics
SOCI 3000	Modern Greek Society & Culture	INST 2550	The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum
HIST 1010	The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum	HIST 1010	The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum

**ANTH 3000/SOCI 3000: Modern Greek Society & Culture** (3 credits) An examination of the ethnographic make-up of modern Greek society - family, gender roles, village organization, kinship. Students will explore the concepts of honor, shame, patronage, and ritual as they apply to the workplace, the marketplace, coffee-house, and church. An analysis of the ways in which Greek culture has adapted to social and economic change, including the effects of mass tourism.

**ANTH 3000/SOCI 3000: Greek Art & Archaeology** (3 credits) A survey of the art and archaeology of Greece from the Early Bronze Age up through the hellenistic period. Special emphasis is given to the Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations, and to archaic and classical Athens. The course combines classwork with visits to museums and archeological sites of Athens and Attica, with particular view toward the ways in which art forms mirror the ideals and beliefs of the ancient Greeks.

**HIST 1010/POLT 1000: Modern Greek History & Politics** (3 credits) The history of Greece from the War of Independence in 1821 to the present. This course examines the social, political, and cultural forces that have shaped Greek society since its emergence as a sovereign state. It explores the issues of nationalism and sovereignty, the tension between authoritarianism and democracy, and the nature of modern Greek identity, with a particular look at the relationship between domestic and international politics, the legacy of the Civil War, the ramifications of the invasion of Cyprus, and the international recognition of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM).

**ILC 1090: Elementary Modern Greek** (3 credits) Dialogues, conversation, and intensive drills in grammar, syntax and vocabulary are designed to help students achieve fluency in the spoken language, as well as proficiency in the written.

**RELG 3030/PHIL 2080: Greek Mythology & Religion** (3 credits) A study of Greek mythology and religion from the Bronze Age through Classical period: the pantheon of the gods, rituals, festivals, palace cultures, temple cultures, and sacred sites.

### **SOCI 3000/POLT 1000/MEDC 3150/INTS 2550/HIST 1010: The Ambassador's Social and Political Forum**

(3 credits) The Ambassador's Forum is an innovative program of Webster University, Athens Campus. The Forum offers the rare opportunity to students majoring in International Relations, Political and Social Sciences, and Communications to attend lectures given by Ambassadors from various countries who know diplomacy and international relations best. The program has been running with increasing success for ten consecutive years and it has been enthusiastically attended by students from multi-cultural backgrounds. More than 400 Ambassadors in Athens have honored the Forum, and we are indebted to them for their invaluable contribution to the success of this curriculum. The Ambassador's Forum takes place on the premises of Webster University Athens Cultural Center, in Plaka.

## WHERE ODYSSEY IN ATHENS STUDENTS HAVE COME FROM:

Adelphi University • Alma College • American University • Appalachian State University • Arizona State University • Assumption College • Augustana College • Babson College • Bennett College • Binghamton University • Boston College • Boston University • Bridgewater College • Broward Community College • Buffalo State College • Butler University • California Polytechnic at San Luis Obispo • California State University at Chico • California State University at San Marcos • Carthage College • Chatham College • Christopher Newport University • Clemson University • College of Charleston • College of Saint Elizabeth • College of William and Mary • Colorado State University • Columbia College • CUNY – John Jay College of Criminal Justice • Davidson College • DePaul University • Drake University • Eastern Illinois University • Eckerd College • Endicott College • Elizabethtown College • Erie Community College • Fairfield University • Fairleigh Dickinson University • Florida International University • Fordham University • George Mason University • George Washington University • Georgetown University • Goucher College • Grand Valley State University • Hawaii Pacific University • High Point University • Illinois State University • Indiana University Bloomington • Indiana University of Purdue University at Indianapolis • Iowa State University • Irvine Valley College • Ithaca College • James Madison University • Juniata College • Kean University • Lesley University • Lewis and Clark College • Linfield College • Macalester College • Manchester College • Marist College • Marquette University • Mary Washington College • Meredith College • Messiah College • Miami University • Middlebury College • Minnesota State University • Montana State University • New York University • Northeastern Illinois University • Northwestern University • Old Dominion University • Our Lady of the Lake University • Pace University • Palomar College • Purdue University • Queens College • Queens University of Charlotte • Radford University • Regis College • Rhode Island College • Saint Mary's College at Notre Dame • Sarah Lawrence College • Seattle Pacific University • Seton Hall University • St. John's University • Saint Louis University - Madrid • St. Petersburg College • SUNY Binghamton • SUNY Buffalo • SUNY Cortland • SUNY Geneseo • SUNY New Paltz • Syracuse University • Temple University • The College of New Jersey • Towson University • Transylvania University • Union College • University of Alabama • University of Albany • University of Arkansas • University of Buffalo • University of California, San Diego • University of California, Santa Barbara • University of Charlotte • University of Cincinnati • University of Colorado • University of Colorado at Denver • University of Florida • University of Illinois • University of Indianapolis • University of Iowa • University of Kentucky • University of La Verne • University of Louisville • University of Maryland, College Park • University of Mary Washington • University of Massachusetts, Amherst • University of Miami • University of Minnesota • University of Nebraska- Lincoln • University of New England • University of New Hampshire • University of Oklahoma • University of Oregon • University of Pittsburgh • University of Rhode Island • University of Richmond • University of Rochester • University of South Florida • University of St. Thomas • University of Tennessee • University of Texas at Dallas • University of Washington • University of Wisconsin, Green Bay • University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee • Utah Valley State College • Vanderbilt University • Virginia Commonwealth University • Virginia Military Institute • Wagner College • Washington and Lee University • Washington State University • Webster University • Western Carolina University • West Chester University • Westfield State College • West Virginia University • Western Carolina University • Western Michigan University • Western Washington University • Winona State University

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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- Webster University Athens Campus brings the best of American education to Greece, expanding the Partnership in Learning to an ever growing international community.



## Webster University

### ATHENS ADMINISTRATION & ADMISSION:

9 Ipitou St., Syntagma Square, Athens 105 57 • Tel.: 210 32.37.077, 210 32.39.908-9 • Fax: 210 32.48.502  
**CULTURAL CENTER & LIBRARY:** 5 Markou Avriliou / 2 Kiristou & Lysiou Street, Plaka, Athens 105 57

**HEAD OFFICE:** 470 East Lockwood Avenue, St. Louis Missouri 63119

<http://www.webster.edu>  
<http://www.webster.edu.gr>

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