

Virtual Odyssey in Athens

Information technology is changing many aspects of human endeavor and existence. This is beyond dispute for most. What are contested are the social, educational and ethical implications of these changes. At the center of this technology/society interrelationship we find many complex questions about the nature of the human, history, philosophy, culture, freedom and much more. This is indeed a vast intellectual landscape.

As COVID-19 has had a global impact on international education with study abroad programs being cancelled due to the pandemic, Webster Athens is addressing these changes and has developed several virtual courses as a “Pre-Study Abroad” stepping-stone – not intended to substitute the semester abroad, but to enhance it when the student decides to come abroad.

The virtual courses offered will cover the areas of **Modern Greek Culture and Society**, **Greek Mythology and Religion** and **Traces of Ancient Athenian Democracy** and will afford students the opportunity to learn through on-line classroom lectures, discussions, virtual tours of archaeological sites and museums and educational videos.

Why do a virtual study abroad course?

- The courses offered at Webster Athens will allow students to explore the ancient and modern Greek world virtually and discover how cutting-edge digital tools like 3D-modeling are reshaping the disciplines of ancient Mediterranean world.
- Students can experience an online journey to ancient Greece’s most famous archaeological sites as unravel the mysteries of its ancient civilizations and temples.
- Greek culture has been explored in as much depth as its mythology, history, philosophy and politics. By uncovering the richness and diversity of Greek culture virtually, students can gain a broader understanding of modern Greece as a whole, and thus be better prepared for a full semester abroad.
- Students can develop a clearer and a more sophisticated understanding of modern Greece by exploring the role of mythology, art, philosophy, literature and democracy developed in ancient Greek society.
- Discover that the Greeks were the first to explore most of the questions that continue to concern Western thinkers to this day and examine the historical, social, cultural and philosophical phenomena that laid the foundation for Western Civilization.
- Explain how going beyond mythmaking and religion, the Greeks strove to understand in logical, rational terms, both the universe and the position of men and women in it. The result was the birth of philosophy and science.

Virtual Courses Offered for the Spring and Summer 2021:

1. PHIL2080/RELG2030: Virtual Greek Mythology and Religion (Spring 1 and Summer 1)
2. ANSO3100/ILC2150 [GLBL][INTC]: Virtual Modern Greek Society & Culture (Spring 2 and Summer 2)
3. **ANSO3110/ ILC 2150 [GLBC,INTC] / POLT4100 Traces of Ancient Athenian Democracy (Spring term 2 and Summer 2) (3 credits)**

Students can enroll in one or all courses.

Virtual Course Descriptions:

PHIL2080/RELG2030: Virtual Greek Mythology & Religion (Spring term 1 and Summer 1) (3 credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of mythology and religion through the virtualization. This kind of education has led to a multitude of new possibilities for gaining knowledge about historical past of Western civilization, its culture, mythology, religion, philosophy, art, literature and political institutions. Symbolic analysis is investigated from the standpoint of the theories of Campbell, Graves, and Jung. The objective of this course is to provide students with a theoretical framework for the symbolic analysis of myths on the psychological, social, historical, cosmological and metaphysical levels. This is achieved through a mastery of the principles of Campbellian and Jungian philosophy.

ANSO3100/ILC2150[GLBL][INTL]: Virtual Modern Greek Society & Culture (Spring term 2 and Summer 2) (3 credits)

A virtual 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, coffeehouse, and church. An analysis of the ways in which Greek culture has adapted to social and economic change, including the effects of mass tourism. By uncovering the richness and diversity of Greek culture virtually, students can gain a broader understanding of modern Greece as a whole.

ANSO3110/ ILC 2150 [GLBC,INTC] / POLT4100 Traces of Ancient Athenian Democracy (Spring term 2 and Summer 2) (3 credits)

This course is meant to expose students through virtual online learning to the concept of democracy, particularly Athenian democracy, but with careful consideration of the concept and ideals of democracy. Through the virtual visit to and study of the political, social, and cultural institutions of the democracy of ancient Athens, students will consider the strengths and weaknesses of this unique form of government. Democracy is one of those terms that are easy to define but hard to say what that would look like in the real world. Each class will combine material presented through a variety of multimedia sources, class discussion and online interactive projects.

Each course is 8- weeks long and is 36 hours of live Zoom lessons.

Spring term 1: January 11-March 5, 2021 (deadline to apply January 4, 2021)

Spring term 2: March 8 – April 29, 2021 (deadline to apply March 1, 2021)

Summer 1: May 24 – July 16, 2021 (deadline to apply May 17, 2021)

Summer 2: June 22 – August 13, 2021 (deadline to apply June 15, 2021)

**Application process is easy and there is no application fee. Cost: \$725 USD per credit (one 3 credit class is \$2,175) Tuition Assistance: 5% if registered for 2 or more courses.*

In addition to this tuition assistance, students will receive a \$500 housing scholarship for their semester abroad when they actually come abroad.

For more information please contact: Dina Skias, Director Odyssey in Athens, Webster Athens (skiasd@webster.edu)



Spring and Summer Term 1 SCHEDULE OF VIRTUAL CLASSES [all courses 3 credits] [Spring 1: January 11 – March 5, 2021] [Summer 1: May 24 – July 16, 2021]

MDST 3150: Retail Business Social Media Promotion Virtual Internship

MNGT 4950: B2B Research & Arrangements Virtual Internship

MNGT 4950: Retail Business Analysis Virtual Internship

MNGT 4950: Retail Business Social Media Promotion Virtual Internship

MNGT 4950: Tourism Operations Project Management Virtual Internship

PHIL2080: Virtual Greek Mythology and Religion

RELG2030: Virtual Greek Mythology and Religion

Spring Term 2 SCHEDULE OF VIRTUAL CLASSES [all courses 3 credits]

[Spring 2: March 8 – April 29, 2021] / [Summer 2: June 22- August 13, 2021]

ANSO3100: Virtual Modern Greek Society & Culture

ILC2150 [GLBL][INTC]: Virtual Modern Greek Society & Culture

ANSO3110: Traces of Ancient Athenian Democracy

ILC 2150 [GLBC,INTC]: Traces of Ancient Athenian Democracy

POLT4100 Traces of Ancient Athenian Democracy

MDST 3150: Retail Business Social Media Promotion Virtual Internship

MNGT 4950: B2B Research & Arrangements Virtual Internship

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