

Greece Yesterday and Today
Spring 2025
Turlington 2319
M, W, F, Period 4 (10:40-11:30 AM)

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Chrysostomos Kostopoulos, Classics, Center for EU Studies

Contact Info: ckostopo@ufl.edu, 352-294-7146, Dauer Hall 115A

Office Hours: Monday to Wednesday periods 2-3 or by appointment

The best way to reach me is through email. You do not need an appointment for walk-in office hours, but without an appointment, you may have to wait your turn.

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Updated information to be posted on the class canvas web page.

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY PERIODS 3; TUESDAY AND THURSDAY PERIOD 3-5 OR BY APPOINTMENT

COURSE CONTENT: The impact of ancient Greek culture and civilization on the Western World is tremendous. Everything from politics, philosophy, science, art, literature and sports was impacted in some way by the ancient Greeks. Therefore it is not surprisingly that the study of ancient Greek civilization and culture is a standard part of our liberal arts education. However, many disregard the cultural and historical continuity of the Greek people and overlook the significance of modern Greece in its contemporary role. From the creation of the Modern Greek state at the beginning of the 19th c. to today, Modern Greek civilization continues to expand upon the ancient traditions representing a uniquely diverse fusion of the old with the new.

This is a broad interdisciplinary course that will attempt to provide an overview of the timeless achievements of the Greeks from the ancient to modern times putting special emphasis on the continuity of the Greek civilization. During the semester we will examine some important aspects of Greek history, science, and politics, in addition to culture, literature and the arts.

The class is taught in English and there are no special requirements.

GENERAL EDUCATION CREDIT

Humanities, International, Satisfies 6000 Words of Writing Requirement

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Content Objectives

- Students will be able to identify key events in the ancient and modern Greek history.
- Students will be able to identify what makes ancient Greece a unique and fascinating civilization and to be able to demonstrate the continuity between ancient and modern Greek civilizations.
- Students will be able to examine the enduring influence and the vast contributions of the Greeks in fields such as politics, science, arts, culture, etc. (e.g. The importance of Greek rationalism as the foundation for the Western philosophical tradition, Hippocratic medicine and Greek science, democracy, and political organization).
- Students will be able to evaluate the impact of modern Greece on contemporary European events and current developments (e.g. The victory of the Greeks against Mussolini's forces in WWII, The European Financial Crisis, European integration etc.)

Communication Objectives:

- Students will be able to communicate their knowledge, thoughts, and reasoning about ancient and modern Greek history, society, and politics clearly and effectively in written and oral form through the class assignments.

Critical Thinking Objectives:

- Students will be able to utilize their ability to differentiate between opposite points of view and interpret and evaluate sources pertaining both to ancient as well as modern Greece.
- Students will be able to examine critically the idea of Greek identity as a dynamic continuum and will be able to critically compare it with their own identity.

TEXTBOOK: Required: Roderick Beaton, *The Greeks: A Global History*, Basic Books, 2021. The class notes as well as all secondary material (articles, etc.) will be posted on the Canvas web site.

MATERIALS/SUPPLY FEES

There is no supply fee for this course.

ASSIGNMENTS/ASSIGNMENT WEIGHTS:

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Assignment Description</u>	<u>General Education SLOs Met</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Essay Proposal	A brief proposal of your final essay. Your proposal will include a title, a short one-	<i>Communication, Content, Critical Thinking (Analyze and Connect)</i>	100

	paragraph abstract, and two bibliographical references.		
Essay Draft	A “good faith” draft of your final essay due on Friday, March 28.	<i>Communication and Critical Thinking</i>	100
Essay Peer Review	You will review your classmates draft and provide constructive criticism	<i>Communication, Content, Critical Thinking (Analyze and Connect)</i>	100
Essay	Students will write a 6000 words paper on a topic that relates to any of the modules of the class. The essay is due on the last day of classes, April 23	<i>Communication, Content, Critical Thinking (Analyze and Connect)</i>	200
Quizzes	There will be regular quizzes during the semester based on course readings and class discussion and lectures. The format will be a combination of short answer, multiple-choice, and fill in the blank questions. These will not be difficult but will be intended to test whether you have done the readings and are prepared for class.	<i>Content (Analyze and Connect), Communication</i>	100
In Class Activities	There will be weekly in class activities during the semester based on course readings and the lectures.	<i>Communication, Content, Critical Thinking (Analyze and Connect)</i>	100
Online Discussion Activities	a. Answer the question(s) posted in the weekly discussions. (100 points)	<i>Communication, Content, Critical Thinking (Analyze and Connect)</i>	50
Reflection Activities	These activities will give you the opportunity to reflect and make connections between the concepts discussed in the class and your own personal experiences and histories, work	<i>Communication, Critical Thinking (Analyze and Connect)</i>	50

experience, personal relations,
family interactions, etc.

Attendance and Participation	Attendance in lecture	200
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Total Points		1000
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Please note that all readings, written assignments and exams must be completed by or on the date indicated on the syllabus and will not be rescheduled or accepted late. Requests of any special accommodations must be made to the course instructor in writing and in advance of the class or exam time.

You are more than welcome to discuss any of these requirements or assignments with the professor.

Grading Scale

Percent	Grade
90.0 – 100.0	A
87.0 – 89.99	A-
84.0 – 86.99	B+
81.0 – 83.99	B
78.0 – 80.99	B-
75.0 – 79.99	C+
72.0 – 74.99	C
69.0 – 71.99	C-
66.0 – 68.99	D+
63.0 – 65.99	D
60.0 – 62.99	D-
0 – 59.99	E

For information on how UF assigns grade points, visit: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

A minimum grade of C is required for General Education credit. Courses intended to satisfy General Education requirements cannot be taken S-U.

ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP POLICIES

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Students may only participate in classes if they are registered officially or approved to audit with evidence of having paid audit fees. The Office of the University Registrar provides official class rolls to instructors.

Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. Absences count from the first-class meeting.

Acceptable reasons for absence from or failure to engage in class include illness; Title IX-related situations; serious accidents or emergencies affecting the student, their roommates, or their family; special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences); military obligation; severe weather conditions that prevent class participation; religious holidays; participation in official university activities (e.g., music performances, athletic competition, debate); and court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena).

For all planned absences, a student in a situation that allows an excused absence or make-up exam or other assignment must inform the instructor as early as possible prior to the class. For all unplanned absences because of accidents or emergency situations, students should contact their instructor as soon as conditions permit.

In all other cases, or if you are unsure, please e-mail me as soon as feasible. Absences are generally not excused for non-emergency travel and personal schedule conflicts. You are required to provide appropriate documentation for absences (except for religious holidays), missed work, or inability to fully engage in class.

Technical difficulties are not generally an excuse for missing an assessment; students should have contingency plans in case any such issues arise (see below).

STUDENTS REQUIRING ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

UF EVALUATIONS PROCESS

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on

how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>

Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>

Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/> .

UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/scer/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructors in this class.

COUNSELING AND WELLNESS CENTER

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Class attendance is required for this course and constitutes 20% of your grade. We will regularly circulate an attendance sheet, which you should sign. Signing in for others is considered academic dishonesty. Repeated absences may affect your performance on exams and quizzes since they will be based on the class lectures. Also missing class means possibly missing quizzes and late submission of homework assignments.

Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog and require appropriate documentation: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOS)

Humanities (H)

This course is a Humanities (H) subject area course in the UF General Education Program. Humanities courses provide instruction in the key themes, principles and

terminology of a humanities discipline. These courses focus on the history, theory and methodologies used within that discipline, enabling students to identify and to analyze the key elements, biases and influences that shape thought. These courses emphasize clear and effective analysis and approach issues and problems from multiple perspectives.

Humanities SLOs

▪ **Content:** Identify, describe, and explain the history, underlying theory and

methodologies used in the course. After completing this course, students will be able to identify and describe the main events of ancient and modern Greek history, examine the most relevant aspects of Greek culture, and evaluate the social, cultural and political context of the Greek world. (Assessed through discussion posts, quizzes, and essay.)

▪ **Critical Thinking:** Identify and analyze key elements, biases and influences that shape

thought within the subject area. Approach issues and problems within

the discipline from multiple perspectives. After completing this course, students will be able to analyze opposite points of view concerning ancient and modern Greece, interpret and evaluate relevant sources, and compare critically the Greek traditions with Europe. (Assessed through discussion posts, quizzes, and essay.)

▪ **Communication:** Communicate knowledge, thoughts, and reasoning clearly and effectively. After completing this course, students will be able to communicate their knowledge, thoughts, and reasoning about the ancient and modern Greece clearly and affectively in written and oral form through the class assignments. (Assessed through reflection activities, discussion posts, and essay)

International (N)

This course also meets the International (N) of the UF General Education Program. International courses promote the development of students' global and intercultural awareness. Students examine the cultural, economic, geographic, historical, political, and/or social experiences and processes that characterize the contemporary world, and thereby comprehend the trends, challenges, and opportunities that affect communities around the world. Students analyze and reflect on the ways in which cultural, economic, political, and/or social systems and beliefs mediate their own and other people's understanding of an increasingly connected world. After completing this course, students will be able to identify different aspects of the Greek culture and civilization and its role and impact on contemporary Europe. Students will be able to analyze and

reflect on the ways in which Greece influenced the social, political, and cultural history of modern Europe. (Assessed through reflection activities, discussion posts, and essay)

General Education Learning Outcomes

This section of CLA3114/EUS 3930 satisfies the requirements for General Education Credit in the following area: Composition- E6 (6,000 words). Course grades now have two components: To receive writing credit, a student must receive a grade of “C” or higher and a satisfactory completion of the writing component of the course to satisfy the CLAS requirement for Composition (C) and to receive the 6,000-word University Writing Requirement credit (E6). You must turn in all papers totaling 6,000 words to receive credit for writing 6,000 words. The writing requirement ensures students both maintain their fluency in writing and use writing as a tool to facilitate learning. PLEASE NOTE: a grade of “C-” will not confer credit for the University Writing Requirement or the CLAS Composition (C) requirement. The instructor will evaluate and provide feedback on the student's written assignments with respect to content, organization and coherence, argument and support, style, clarity, grammar, punctuation, and mechanics.

Course Schedule

Week 1 **Introduction**

1. Syllabus, discussion of course objectives, requirements, exam format, important course dates etc.
2. Introduction, the importance of Greek civilization for the western world. Ancient and modern Greek identity. Continuity in Greek culture and civilization.
Readings: Lecture Notes
Bernard Knox, "The Continuity of Greek Culture" in Bernard Knox "The Oldest Dead White European Males, and Other Reflections on the Classics" Norton 1993

Week 2 **Greek Identity**

1. Who were the ancient Greeks? An overview of ancient Greek history from the Mycenaean Age to the times of Alexander the Great.
Readings: Lecture Notes
Pomeroy, Burstein, Donlan, Roberts, Ancient Greece, Oxford 2011 (Third Edition) pp. 31-49
2. Who are the modern Greeks? Racial origins, Fallmerayer and Paparrigopoulos. An overview of the Greek state from its origins in 1821 to now.
Readings: Lecture Notes

Mango, C. (1965). Byzantinism and Romantic Hellenism. *Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes*, 28, 29–43

Week 3 Greek Religion

1. Religion and Identity. Polytheism and religious syncretism in ancient Greece. From ancient paganism to Orthodox Christianity.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Paredes, A. (1965). [Review of Modern Greek Folklore and Ancient Greek Religion: A Study in Survivals]. *The Journal of American Folklore*, 78(310), 356–356

2. Church and the Modern Greek state. The Politicization of the Greek Church Discourse. Reasons and Consequences.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Buckler, F. W. (1942). Barbarian and Greek, -- And Church History. *Church History*, 11(1), 3–32

Week 4 Greek Politics

1. The concept of polis as a political environment. Solon and the rise of democracy in Athens. Democracy at the age of Pericles. How was Athenian democracy different from our modern democracy?

Readings: Lecture Notes

Sheldon S. Wolin, Democracy: Electoral and Athenian, *PS: Political Science and Politics*, Vol. 26, No. 3. (Sep., 1993), pp. 475-477

2. Politics in modern Greece. The Greek constitution. Euroscepticism, European Integration and the Modern Greek identity.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Janning, J. (2005). Leadership Coalitions and Change: The Role of States in the European Union. *International Affairs (royal Institute of International Affairs 1944-)*, 81(4), 821–833

Week 5 Greek Art

1. An overview of ancient Greek art and architecture. The classical ideal. Important monuments and artifacts. Art and religion in ancient Greece.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Winter, F. E. (1984). The Study of Greek Architecture. *American Journal of Archaeology*, 88(2), 103–106

2. Philhellenism and the classical revival. The impact of neoclassicism on the establishment of modern Greece. *Art in contemporary Greece, an overview.*

Readings: Lecture Notes

Philhellenism in England (1821-1827). (1936). *Philhellenism in England (1821-1827). The Slavonic and East European Review*, 14(41), 363–371

Week 6 Greek Wars

1. Wars in ancient Greece. The Persian Wars. The Peloponnesian War. Alexander the Great and Greek expansion.

Readings: Lecture notes

Vasunia, P. (2009). Herodotus and the Greco-Persian Wars. *PMLA*, 124(5), 1834–1837

2. Wars in modern Greece. The Greek war of Independence. WWI and the Asia Minor Catastrophe. WWII and the Greek Civil War.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Parker, J. S. F. (1997). [Review of *The Origins of the Greek Civil War*]. *The English Historical Review*, 112(448), 1020–1021

Week 7 Greek Culture and Folklore

1. Aspects of Greek Culture from ancient to modern. The Living tradition and Folklore. Folk religion at the core of Greek social life.

Readings: Lecture Notes

2. Greek folk music and dance. Superstitions and Proverbs. The Greek Shadow Theater.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Week 8

Discussion and Writing Workshop-Preparation for the Essay

Week 9 Greek Sports

1. Greek Identity and the Olympic Games. The Origins of the Olympic Games. *Greece's Dual Identity, Ancient and Modern.*

Readings: Lecture Notes

2. Sports in modern Greece. Athens 2004, Not Just Games. Fusion between Greece's ancient legacy and that of a modern European country.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Traganou, J. (2009). National and Post-National Dynamics in the Olympic Design: The Case of the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. *Design Issues*, 25(3), 76-91

Week 10 Greek Language

1. Greek Language and Identity. History of Greek, from ancient to modern. How similar to ancient Greek is Modern Greek?

Readings: Lecture Notes

2. Language and politics in modern Greece. The Language Controversy. Katharevousa and Demotic Greek.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Week 11 Greek Science

1. An Overview of Greek Science. Sophists, Philosophers and Mathematicians. Greek medicine and its influence. Hippocrates and Galen.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Greek Science And Modern Science. (1920). *Greek Science And Modern Science*. *The British Medical Journal*, 1(3100), 748-749

2. The Modern Greek educational system. The importance of education for the Greek Society.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Heath, T. L. (1948). Greek Mathematics and Science. *The Mathematical Gazette*, 32(300), 120-133.

Week 12 Greek Theater, Music, Cinema

1. The origins of Theater in Greece. Ancient Greek Tragedy and Comedy. Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides. Aristophanes and the birth of political comedy.

Readings: Lecture Notes,

Easterling, Patricia, editor. 1998. The Cambridge Companion to Greek Tragedy. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press pp 35-45

2. Folk songs and poetry in modern Greece. Music in the 20th c. Greece. Rebetika, Theodorakis and Hadjidakis. Greek cinema.

Readings: Lecture notes,

Roderick Beaton, Folk Poetry of Modern Greece, pp. 1-34

Herzfeld, "Past Glories, Present Politics" and, "The Creation of a Discipline," in Ours Once More, pp. 3-23, 97-122

Week 13

Greek Philosophy

1. Early Greek Philosophers. The Pre-socratics

Readings: Lecture Notes

2. Socrates, Plato, Aristotle. Greek Ethics

Readings: Lecture Notes

Week 14

Week 15

Hellenistic Age

1. The Hellenistic Age - Alexander the Great

2. Review for the Upcoming Exam

Readings: Lecture Notes

Week 16

Conclusion

Essay Due