
LANGUAGE AND CULTURE OF KEFALONIA, GREECE (3)

Instructors	Professor Marilena Theotokatos, Director, Argostoli Language School. (Fall 2005, Spring 2006) Professor Silvia Macci, Director, Synergy of Arts, Athens, Greece (Fall 2005, Spring 2006)
Objectives	Modern Greek language and comparative studies in traditional and contemporary Greek culture, integrating language and the performing and visual arts. Students will explore the idea of "community" through different artistic mediums including modern dance, photography, and video. The course emphasizes understanding traditional and contemporary cultures of Greece, including local agriculture, music, dance, and myth narratives.
Overview	This course provides an orientation to Modern Greek culture and language. Students begin with an immersion into Modern Greek language, learning basic skills and emphasizing conversational Greek, that will enable them to become self reliant during their stay in Greece. Emphasis placed in introduction to contemporary life, beginning with the Athenian culture during their first week in Greece, involving walking tours through historic Athens visiting urban spaces, cultural monuments and urban resources, as well as the contemporary Athenian scenes. This will be an opportunity to introduce students to "European" mixed use urban development. On the island of Kefalonia, students will become familiar with the functional orientation of the host community through walking tours and excursions around the island. An interpretive modern dance class will introduce students to movement as a vehicle for expanding their skills in individual and group sensitivity and expression. Interpretation of the ideas of community and sustainability are expressed through creative movement, as students will choreograph a dance piece depicting the case study community. Digital photography and video are two additional mediums that will be incorporated in cultural interpretive projects.
Text	<i>Modern Greek: A New, Improved and Expanded Edition in the Monotonic System.</i> Theodore C. Paploizos.
Grades	Grades for the course will be based on two language exams worth 50 points, and two artistic projects worth 50 points. Combining dance movement and visual interpretation studies of the case study community.
Projects	The final class project will consist of a creative artistic interpretation of the concept of sustainability, expressing "spirit of place" of the case study community. The final product, consisting of a dance performance and visual exhibit, will be integrated as a creative element in the planning studio redevelopment plan.
