

FAQ ABOUT SUMMER 2011 ANCIENT GREECE

ACADEMICS

(1) What courses are involved?

Every participant will be taking two 3-credit courses, for a total of 6 credit hours. They are PHIL 240 (Greek Philosophy in Context), and MATH 103 (The Nature of Mathematics: The Mathematics of Euclid).

(2) Are there any pre-requisites for the program or course?

No. Both of the courses are suitable for students with no background in philosophy, math, ancient history, or Greek literature. Having some interest or experience in these areas is naturally a good thing, but it's neither expected nor required.

(3) Can I receive Gen Ed credit for these courses?

Yes. PHIL 240 will count towards Cluster Two (Human Questions and Contexts); if you want this to count in this way, you'll need to fill out some paperwork for Gen Ed to allow it to count as GHUM 250 (Foundations of Western Culture). MATH 103 will count for your math requirement in Cluster 3, Group 1.

(4) I've already taken MATH 103. What can I do?

You can take MATH 103 multiple times for credit, since each professor teaches the course differently. So having taken it once is not a problem.

(5) Will either course count for BA or BS credit?

Yes. For those of you pursuing a B.A., PHIL 240 will fulfill your philosophy B.A. credit requirement. For those of you pursuing a B.S., MATH 103 will count as one of your two required math courses (either as part of Gen Ed cluster three, or as your B.S. Quantitative Requirement).

(6) How will the courses work?

They'll be much like normal courses: you'll have readings to do, problems to work, classes to attend, etc. But a significant part of the courses will involve visiting many ancient sites that play a role in the course materials. Sometimes we'll meet in a classroom, but other times we'll discuss the material as we're travelling or when we're on site (e.g., at the Acropolis in Athens).

REQUIREMENTS

(1) Does it matter what my major is?

No. We have had students participate from a number of different majors.

(2) Does it matter whether I'm a freshman, junior, etc.?

No.

(3) Do I need to know Greek?

No. It wouldn't hurt to know a few phrases, of course, but it's neither required nor expected. All course activities will be conducted in English, either by us, or by English-speaking tour guides.

(4) How many students will be participating?

We're aiming for a program with 10-15 students total.

(5) How much will the program cost?

There are three main costs. First, as with any of JMU's short-term programs, you will need to pay for airfare to and from the program location, and you'll need to book these flights on your own. (We'll be starting on the island of Samos, and ending in Athens).

You'll also need to pay tuition at the same rate you would for summer courses taken here on campus. Everyone will be enrolled in 6 credit hours (3 for each course).

Finally, you'll need to pay what they call the "Supplemental Program Fee", which covers costs for lodging, food, all travel during the course itself, course texts, site visits, etc. while we're overseas. We don't have a firm number here yet because it depends upon the number of participants, the currency exchange rates, etc,

but our very rough estimate is that this fee will be \$4500 for each of you. We'll update you once we know this cost more precisely.

TRAVEL

(1) When will the program take place?

Tentative dates: May 9-June 9, 2010. We'll be spending the first week (May 9-May 13) on campus to get some of the classroom work out of the way, and we'll meet on the island of Samos on May 17. The program will end on June 9 in Athens.

(2) Where will we be staying?

We'll be staying in four different hotels, with 2 or 3 of you to a room. The first will be on the island of Samos, the second will be on the island of Naxos, the third will be on the island of Santorini, and the fourth will be in Athens. Last year, we stayed in the following hotels, so it will probably be something similar to them. We'll update this sheet with the latest information once we have it. (Note that last year we stayed in Paros, instead of Naxos, where we'll be staying this year).

Samos: Hotel Gagou Beach <http://www.gagoubeach.com/>

Paros: Akrotiri Hotel <http://www.akrotirihotel.gr/>

Santorini: Hotel Santorini Palace <http://www.santorinipalacehotel.gr/>

Athens: Hotel Amazon <http://www.amazonhotel.gr/>

(3) Are meals included?

While overseas, all breakfasts will be included, occasional group dinners will be included, and you'll be given food allowance money periodically for the remaining meals, which you'll buy on your own.

(4) How will we be travelling in Greece and Turkey?

Primarily by bus or ferry, and of course by foot. All costs for in-country travel are included except your last-day transportation from our Athens hotel to the Athens airport. We may also end up having to take one in-country flight if the ferry schedules aren't working in our favor, but if so, this cost will be included in your program fee.

(5) Will we have any free time during the trip?

Yes. You will naturally need to devote a reasonable portion of it to working on the courses (readings, assignments, etc.), but we've left open many afternoons and evenings. There will be a few free days worked in as well.

MISCELLANEOUS

(1) When will I know if I've been accepted into the program?

Please see the OIP website for this information. Here's the link:

http://www.jmu.edu/international/abroad/forms_jmu_shortterm.shtml

As it says there, you'll be notified by November 23 if you apply by the deadline, which is November 1.