

HUM 2210 Western Humanities: Ancient to Renaissance - 3 credit hours

Course Dates: 12/10/2026 – 1/7/2027

Course topic:

*HUM 2210 Western Humanities: Ancient to Renaissance course is associated with the “Study Abroad Greece 2026” is a 10 day/9 night journey for students to find artifacts and sites that defined Ancient Greek culture mixed in with modern Greek “living” culture of the people. Greece is one of those countries where the ancient and modern coexist and are irrevocably linked in defining the culture. Modern cities and towns are next to, right on top of, or sometimes in the shadow of ancient sites and this breeds a deep connection to the past for the modern population. This connection is not just for the Greek people in Greece but also those of Greek heritage especially in Tarpon Springs, Florida. This connection is kept alive by the Sister Cities agreements that Tarpon Springs still holds with various cities/islands in Greece. This journey will also honor these agreements by visiting some of the Sister Cities, and maybe even be part of a new agreement. Our journey starts in Athens, after settling in and a welcome dinner, with seeing the Acropolis site and studying some of its history. Also while in Athens for a couple days, we will experience the ancient Agora and Theater along with a day trip to Delphi, the center of prophecy for the Ancient Greeks, **OR** we will take a ferry to the nearby island of Aegina, a Sister City with Tarpon Springs. Upon departing Athens, we will travel to the mainland towns in the Peloponnesus. Cities we will visit include Amaliada (Capital city of Ilida, sister city to Tarpon Springs), Ancient Olympia, Kyllini, Zakynthos island for the festival to St. Dionysius, Kalamata, Nafplion, and Mycenae.*

INSTRUCTOR

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

HUM 2210 Western Humanities: Ancient to Renaissance

Course Description:

This course examines Western cultural and aesthetic perspectives from the Ancient to Renaissance periods with an emphasis on the visual, literary, philosophical, and performing arts. This course partially satisfies the writing requirements outlined in the General Education Requirements. Also, this course, exclusively for students in the SPC Study Abroad Programs, is designed to offer topics of special interest in the humanities to students combined with actual travel and study on-site at one or more SPC Study Abroad program partners. Such course offerings include the examination of the styles and influences of music, art, architecture, theatre, religion, literature and philosophy. Specific content will vary depending on the specific study abroad program. The course includes lectures, discussions, field trips and multiple writing experiences. In addition, the course involves extensive orientation and preparation plus careful monitoring of student work and progress while studying abroad.

PREREQUISITES: ENC 0020 or EAP 1695 or appropriate score on SPC placement test or permission of the Dean.

REQUIRED TEXTS: Required Textbook: The Humanities: Culture, Continuity & Change Vol. I, 4th edition with the REVEL eTextbook. Publisher Information: Pearson Publishing.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Course Goals and Objectives:

1. The student will trace the development of Western culture from the Ancient to Renaissance periods as expressed through its visual arts, literature, philosophy and music by:
 - a. recalling the primary culture and intellectual aspects of each historical period.
 - b. comparing and contrasting the cultural and intellectual aspects of each historical period.
 - c. recognizing the evolution of values through the ages.
2. The student will identify the interdependence of the humanities and natural philosophy or natural science from the Ancient to the Renaissance periods by:
 - a. summarizing the important intellectual discoveries (e.g. in philosophy, mathematics, and physical sciences) of each period.
 - b. recognizing the cause and effect relationship between these intellectual discoveries and cultural movements.
3. The student will relate the humanities to cultural activities in the community by:
 - a. attending or visiting and constructing a critical report on some aspect of art either presented as a live performance or on exhibit in the student's local community.
 - b. identifying, using insights gained in the course, the techniques and skills used by artists whose performance and/or work the student has experienced.
4. The student will explore Western philosophical approaches to self, society, and nature by:
 - a. comparing and contrasting changing concepts of the individual, society and nature through the Ancient to Renaissance periods.
 - b. evaluating values concerning the self, society and nature in fine and performing arts through the Ancient to Renaissance periods.

5. The student will compose meaningful, content-oriented written exercises by:
- a. writing critical reports of cultural activities.
 - b. using primary and/or secondary sources to analyze the historical, religious, philosophical, and/or artistic influences on various works of art.

STUDY ABROAD APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Visit the [SPC Study Abroad page](#) for How to Apply.

MEETING INFORMATION/ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- There will be a mandatory meeting (TBA) for all students in all sections taught on the program as an introduction to the journey we will be taking and pointers on needs, packing, etc.
- There will be a one day “Tour of Tarpon Springs” before the program as well to get a good look at Greek/American culture as a basis for comparison for the course complete with lunch and visits to St. Nicholas Cathedral and St. Michael’s Shrine (TBA). When we return there will be another meeting (not required but definitely recommended) at the Epiphany celebration in Tarpon Springs on Jan. 6, 2027 and RSVP needed because we will have special access.
- Attendance is required for these sessions; failure to attend the sessions before and after the program will result in the student being dropped from the course. Failure to attend sessions after the course could result in a failing grade for the course. Pre-class assignments will be given at the start of the course (TBA).
- The course will be offered online for written submissions, online exams, and discussions during the duration of the program and when the travel is over.
- The program plan for this course (class meetings, activities, etc.) meets or exceeds the requirements of 47 contact hours for the course.

COURSE CONTENT: The over-all goal for the participants is to build skills of critical thinking of the visual arts, performing arts, and Greek culture. Collaborative learning, journal reflection, oral presentation, and museum critical reflection assignments will document the learning process. Greece has its own rich history from the fundamentals of the ancient, also the Roman and Medieval periods as well as the influences of all these periods onto modern Greek culture.

COURSE SCHEDULE: (Full details of focused online readings and detailed assignments will be in MyCourses course shell when class opens).

Required Pre-Program meetings (TBA)

Travel in country:

Day 1 - Friday, December 11

Travel from the U.S.A. to Athens, Greece.

Day 2 - Saturday, December 12

- Arrive in Athens, Greece-Airport Transfer - Private Bus
- Orientation Walking Tour
- Welcome Dinner (included)
- Overnight in Athens

Day 3 - Sunday, December 13

- Breakfast at hotel (Included)
- Athens- Tour of the Acropolis: view Parthenon, Temple of Athena Nike, Propylaea, Erechtheum, and other ruins on site
- Lunch around the Acropolis (students responsible for own meal)
- Tour of the new Acropolis Museum.
- Dinner downtown (students responsible for own meal)
- Return to hotel.

Day 4 -Monday, December 14

- Breakfast at hotel (Included)
- Bus to Delphi – Day journey that includes a walk up to Mt. Parnassus along the Sacred Way, past the Treasuries, the Temple of Apollo, the Theater of Dionysus, and the Stadium where the Pythian Games were once held.
- Lunch in Delphi (students responsible for own meal)
- Tour the Delphi Museum
- Return to Athens for some Cultural Time with maybe the Agora and/or the Theater.
- Dinner downtown (students responsible for own meal)
- Return to hotel.

OR

- Breakfast at hotel (Included)
- Bus/Train to the port at Piraeus then ferry to the island of Aegina
- Travel to Holy Monastery of the Holy Trinity - Saint Nectarios of Aegina
- Temple of Aphaia
- Lunch (students responsible for own meal)
- Explore the port town of Aegina
- Ferry from Aegina to Piraeus
- Dinner downtown (students responsible for own meal)

Day 5 – Tuesday, December 15-Olympia and Amaliada/ Sister City

- Breakfast at hotel (Included)
- Private bus from Athens to Olympia
- Lunch (students responsible for own meal)
- Tour the town and get settled
- Travel to Amaliada, regional center of Ilida
- Possible tour of Agriturismo Magna Graecia (olive oil producer)
- Dinner downtown (students responsible for own meal)
- Hotel in Olympia- overnight.

Day 6 – Wednesday, December 16-Ancient Olympia/Ilida/Sister City

- Breakfast at hotel (Included)
- Ancient Olympia Archaeological site
- Lunch (students responsible for own meal)
- Archaeological museum of Olympia
- Dinner downtown (students responsible for own meal)
- Hotel in Olympia-Overnight

Day 7 – Thursday, December 17-Zakynthos

- Breakfast at hotel (Included)
- Ferry to Zakynthos island from Kyllini
- Lunch (students responsible for own meal)
- Festival of St. Dionysius (whole island celebrates)
- Dinner downtown (students responsible for own meal)
- Hotel in Olympia-Overnight

Day 8 – Friday, December 18-Kalamata

- Breakfast at hotel (Included)
- Travel from Olympia to Kalamata
- Lunch (students responsible for own meal)
- Possible meeting with Local officials for possible Sister City event or local cultural event
- Dinner downtown (students responsible for own meal)
- Hotel in Kalamata-Overnight

Day 9 – Saturday, December 19 Kalamata-Nafplion

- Breakfast at hotel (Included)
- Travel to Nafplion
- Lunch (students responsible for own meal)
- Tour and explore Nafplion
- Dinner downtown (students responsible for own meal)
- Hotel in Nafplion-Overnight

Day 10 – Sunday, December 20 -Mycenae and Athens

- Breakfast at hotel (Included)
- Travel to Mycenae and tour ancient site
- Lunch (students responsible for own meal)
- Travel back to Athens
- Cultural time in Athens
- Farewell Dinner (included)
- Hotel in Athens-Overnight

Day 11 – Monday, December 21-Athens

- Breakfast at hotel (Included)
- Airport Transfer and Flight to Athens Connection with international flight
- Depart Athens, Greece for the U.S.A.

Follow up meetings (TBA) when the travel is over.

GRADING: The final grade will be based on the following:

A= 90-100% B= 80-89% C= 70-79% D = anything below 70% (This is not a passing grade.)

Assignments:

Study Units- 4 Discussions (20% total), 4 Essays (20% total), and 2 Journal/Blog writings (8%)

total).

4 Online quizzes (16% total) and 2 exams (16% total).

1 Museum Critical Reflection - 20% = TOTAL 100

LINK TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE ADVISORY FOR STUDY ABROAD

DESTINATION(S):

<https://www.state.gov/countries-areas/greece/> - This information is subject to change; please check this source again as departure time nears.

GENERAL COLLEGE POLICIES

View [How to be a Successful Student \(Syllabus Addendum\)](#) which provides details about success factors and links to the most current version of fluid information, such as the academic calendar.

Academic dishonesty: View the College's [Academic Honesty Policy](#). Cheating during testing or plagiarism in student essay (from a book, article, or the **Internet**) **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AT ALL**. Plagiarism is the use of another's words or ideas directly without proper documentation in the form of quotation marks, parenthetical references, and works cited references. Any cheating or plagiarism **WILL** result in a Zero on the particular assignment and/or automatic referral to the Associate Provost and/or Academic Dean for further consideration. Such consideration may result in a failing grade and/ or dismissal from school. Further policy information regarding this issue may be found in the Student Handbook and in the "Academic Honesty" brochure. During this semester both Turnitin.com and Honolock will be used to help ensure Academic Honesty.

Student/Teacher Expectations: College courses involve everyone in the classroom, both teacher and student alike. As an instructor in this class, I expect every student in this class to be considerate towards their peers in this class. When traveling abroad, look out for one another to ensure for safety with at least having a traveling buddy. Avoid adventuring by oneself and even on "cultural time", students are welcome to join up with the faculty member.

In turn, students can expect to be treated with respect and encouragement. You also can expect to cover all the proper material relevant to this course in a timely manner. If you email your professor during the school week then you should receive a response within one day. If you email over the weekend, it may take 2 days, or even until Monday before you receive a response. If you need more immediate assistance over the weekend, email me at moutsatsos.basil@spcollege.edu as this is linked with my cell phone. Phone calls will be during office hours usually. If you need help in this class or program, feel free to come see me in my office, or email me. Remember ladies and gentlemen, we are all in this course together, so let's all strive for a great semester.

STUDENT SURVEY OF INSTRUCTION

The Student Survey of Instruction is administered in courses each semester. It is designed to improve the quality of instruction at St. Petersburg College. All student responses are confidential and anonymous and will be used solely for the purpose of performance improvement.

TECHNOLOGY

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

[View the MyCourses Minimum Technology Requirements.](#)

Students should know how to navigate the course and use the course tools. Dropbox-style assignments may require attachments in either Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) or Rich Text Format (.rtf), so that they can be properly evaluated. If an attachment cannot be opened by the instructor, students will be required to re-format and re-submit an assignment so that it can be evaluated and returned with feedback.

Minimum Technical Skills: Specify the minimum technical skills expected of the learner: general and course-specific learners must have to succeed in the course.

MyCourses tutorials are available to students new to this LMS and are located at the beginning of the course. Most features on MyCourses are accessible on mobile devices, although it is recommended that you use a computer for quizzes, tests, and essay assignments.

ACCESSIBILITY OF TECHNOLOGY

- [MyCourses \(Brightspace by Desire2Learn\) Accessibility](#)
- [Turnitin Accessibility](#)
- [Google \(YouTube\) Accessibility](#)
- [Pearson REVEL Accessibility](#)

PRIVACY

- [MyCourses \(Brightspace by Desire2Learn\) Privacy](#)
- [Turnitin Privacy](#)
- [YouTube Privacy](#)
- [Pearson Privacy](#)

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Technical support is available via the [Technical Support Desk](#).

INSTRUCTIONAL CONTINUITY PLAN - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS POLICY

The St. Petersburg College website at www.spcollege.edu is the official source of college information regarding the status of the institution. Other important information will be communicated via SPC Alert, local media outlets, and the college toll-free phone number 866-822-3978. All decisions concerning the discontinuation of college functions, cancellation of classes, or cessation of operations rest with the President or his/her designee. The College realizes that it is possible for a significant natural disaster to compromise SPC campus facilities sufficiently to disrupt the delivery of classes on campus/campuses for an extended period of time, and is planning ways our operations can continue following such an emergency.

So, in the event that a hurricane or other natural disaster causes significant damage to St. Petersburg College facilities, you may be provided the opportunity to complete your course work online. Following the event, please visit the college website for an announcement of the College's plan to resume operations.

Further, in the event of such a disaster, the instructor will continue using the Learning Management System (LMS) of MyCourses for continuation of all required learning and instructional activities in this course, including the issuing of graded online assignments and expectation of student completion of those graded assignments.

Therefore, in order to keep up with all activities in this course during and after a natural disaster, please plan to continue this course by maintaining online access to MyCourses in lieu of meeting in a classroom—possibly through duration of the course's regularly scheduled end date. We will finish this course in MyCourses, as directed by your instructor online, and your instructor will use all graded assignments—both online and formerly on-campus—to assess and issue your final letter grade for this course, as normally planned, despite occurrence of the natural disaster.

TITANS CARE PROGRAM

As an SPC student it's vital that you know Titans Care. You can access resources through SPC's Student Assistance Program (SAP) (<https://mycoursesupport.spcollege.edu/student-assistance-program>), a collaborative resource for students with mental health or general life issues. SAP provides help and education in suicide prevention, mental health, substance abuse awareness and more. It is SPC's belief that supporting mental wellness is everyone's charge and that one loss as a result of substance abuse, mental illness, or suicide is one too many. If you or a loved one are considering suicide, please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.