INTRODUCTION:
The purpose of these two courses is 1) to give students the opportunity to visit and experience the “cradle of Western civilization;” and 2) to challenge them to re-examine that very same “classical” perception of Greece and the Greeks in light of Greece’s other rich cultural heritages: Greece of the Byzantine Empire, Greece during its 350-year occupation by the Ottoman Turks, and modern Greece, that is, Greece since 1821.

Students will gain an appreciation of Greek classical, medieval and modern civilizations by traversing Greece and visiting ancient archeological sites, exploring Byzantine castles and monasteries, touring numerous museums and art galleries, wandering the streets of dozens of Greek cities, traveling to a few of Greece’s renowned islands, and meeting contemporary Greeks. Students will learn about Greek geography, history, society and culture.

While in Greece, students will attend lectures on various aspects of Greek civilization, participate in class visits to site locations, read assigned articles and books, and give one presentation. Students will learn about the role of geography on Greek civilization; the impact of Catholic and Islamic rule on Greek culture; the use of myth, religion, and modern political philosophy to legitimize thought and deed; the challenge of living among archeological treasures and the problems those treasures can create for modern city planning; the impact of tourism on Greek society; and how Greeks view themselves and their past.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
The Department of History has adopted a number of learning outcomes that reflect those of the university. The outcomes are in the realms of communication and critical thinking skills and content knowledge. In this course students will demonstrate their proficiency in all three areas in the oral presentation (oral communication and content knowledge), the daily journal (written communication, critical analysis, and content knowledge), the two short-answer examinations, and classroom discussion. Specifically, they will critically assess the content from assigned readings, lectures, site visits, and discussion and express that assessment in well-organized, concise, accurate, grammatically correct, and articulate oral presentations and journals.
**EVALUATION:**
Course evaluation will consist of 1) attendance at all lectures and participation in discussions (20%), 2) one class presentation (20%), 3) two short-answer exams (40%), and 4) completion of a journal of your intellectual and cultural reflections (20%).

Required Readings:
Boatswain, T and Nicolson, C. *A Traveller's History of Greece.*
Course Packet – includes daily schedule, lecture topics, articles, etc.

**Class presentations:**
At least six weeks prior to departure, students will receive a topic on which they will give a presentation while in Greece. Students will research the topic prior to departure and be prepared to give a ten to fifteen minute presentation on it.

**Journal:**
The journal is an essential component of the program. In the journal, students will record their intellectual reactions to the academic content of the course and, more important, their thoughtful and analytical impressions of Greek society, culture, politics, and geography. It will not contain judgmental opinions, but objective musings and reflective inquiries. The journal is not a diary. It will not, for example, contain daily logs of the times one awoke or cafes visited. Students should write about what strikes them as interesting or what they find curious in the assigned readings, at the archeological sites, museums, and monasteries, and, finally, about observed everyday life. For example, what are your impressions of the Parthenon, Meteora, and Athens? How does the legacy of Greece’s classical, pagan past interact with its Christian and modern present? How do the memories and legacies of Greece’s period of Ottoman domination influence contemporary Greek society and culture? Students should make journal entries at least once a day and keep the journal separate from notes and other materials. We will collect the journals three times during the course to read and make comments.

**First assignment:** Before you arrive in Greece, write an entry about your current impressions of Greece. What comes to your mind when you think about Greece? What do you expect to encounter while there? This should be no less than one page.