

CLAS 320/420

GREEK FIELD TRIP

GENERAL INFORMATION

Places: archaeological sites and museums throughout mainland Greece and Crete.

Dates: Fieldwork: 15 November-20 December 2010. The trimester ends 13 February 2010. All written work is due by Monday 14 February.

Lecturers: Dr. David Rosenbloom (david.rosenbloom@vuw.ac; 463-5478); Dr. Matthew Trundle (matthew.trundle@vuw.ac.nz; 463-6785).

Additional Information: This course has a Blackboard Page. Announcements and further information can be found there.

COURSE DELIVERY

CLAS 320/420 is a study of archaeological remains and museums in mainland Greece and Crete. Students will have time to research their specific sites in advance of the trip. They will also have 3 days at the British School of Athens to further their research and to complete oral reports on their site. Students will give reports to the class at most sites, supplemented by lecturers' questions, comments, and observations and those of the class. Some sites may feature guest lecturers. The lecturers will also convene sessions to discuss sites and artifacts seen during the field trip.

CONTENT

CLAS 320 and CLAS 420 consist primarily of site reports that form the basis for a research essay. A site report should include: (1) description of the essential features of the site and details of its discovery and excavation; (2) summary of the site's history and functions; (3) an analysis of its architectural and/or religious, social, political importance both within its locale and in its links with other centers; (4) if your site has an associated museum, you should discuss its most important holdings.

CLAS 320 students must choose one site to research and conduct the group through it. CLAS 420 students must choose two sites to research and conduct the group through them.

SET TEXTS

The set text for CLAS 320/420 is the *Greek Field Trip Course Materials*, which contains plans and background information for the sites we will visit and study, but students are required to research their sites more fully in the VUW Library and in the British School at Athens Library in advance of the trip. You should conduct your research before you leave Wellington to determine which periodicals and texts the VUW Library does not hold and make sure to use them in the British School Library. The British School at Athens library catalogue is online (http://ambrosia.ascsa.edu.gr:8991/F7/?cat_id=55). You should use it before you arrive in Athens. It is also a good idea to make virtual visits to sites before visiting them. Explore <http://www.stoa.org/mets/> before we leave for Athens and Google your particular site for further information and images. *Be advised that not all internet sites contain accurate information.*

OPTIONAL/RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Though not required, these texts will prove helpful on the trip:

P. Pugsley, *Blue Guide to Crete* (Norton, 2010, 8th edn)

C. Mee and A. Spawforth, *Greece: An Oxford Archaeological Guide* (Oxford, 2001).

S. Marker and J. Pettifer, *Blue Guide: Greece* (Norton, 2006, 7th edn).

E. H. Cline ed. *The Oxford Handbook of the Bronze Age Aegean* (Oxford, 2010).

AIMS

- (1) to give students a thorough experience of archaeological sites and museums in mainland Greece and Crete, studied first from plans then explored on the ground;
- (2) to understand material culture in relation to the economic, social, religious, and political life of the communities in which these sites and objects played a role;
- (3) to offer students a broad archaeological and historical overview of Crete, the Peloponnese, Athens and its surroundings as a foundation for further study.

OBJECTIVES

Students who have successfully completed this course should:—

- (1) have a knowledge of the basic concepts and terminology of bronze-age and classical archaeology and be familiar with the major features of Roman and Byzantine building in Greece.
- (2) have a mastery of the geography, history, and significance of the major archaeological sites studied in this course;
- (3) understand relationships between material culture and the economics, religion, history, and society of Ancient Greece and Crete;
- (4) have developed techniques of independent research in the field as well as in libraries and museums, and be able to communicate their findings both in oral and in written form.

ASSESSMENT

CLAS 320 and 420 are 100% internally assessed. Assessment consists of: (1) site report(s); (2) a one-hour, short-answer terms test which examines your overall knowledge of the sites and museums visited in this course. **You must pass this test in order to pass the course;** (3) research essay.

CLAS 320: (1) one site report (30%); (2) terms test held **19 Dec. 2010** (20%); (3) research essay of 4,000-5,000 words due **14 February 2011** (50%).

CLAS 420: (1) two site reports (30%); (2) terms test held **19 Dec. 2010** (20%); (3) research essay of 6,000-7,000 words due **14 February 2011** (50%). This essay may (but need not) contain a comparison of the two sites studied intensively in this course.

NB: the terms-test differ for CLAS 320 and 420.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this course is to enable students to develop a capacity to conduct independent research and to communicate the findings of their research orally and in writing. The oral site analysis and its written version, the research essay, attempt to satisfy this objective.

This course also offers an overview of archaeological sites and museums on mainland Greece and Crete; the terms test ensures that students acquire a broad knowledge of the language of archaeological analysis and learn the specific features and importance of the sites studied in this course. For this reason, to reiterate: **students cannot pass CLAS 320/420** unless they pass the terms test.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass this course, students must:

- 1) deliver their site report(s)
- 2) sit and pass the terms test
- 3) hand in a research essay by the due-date (14 February 2011).

WORKLOAD

Students are required to spend some time preparing before they leave, and writing up their essays after they return. Students can expect to spend at least 6 hours per day traveling, visiting sites and museums; many days

will require more than 6 hours. Time for research and study must be worked in around these sometimes grueling days.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

See the course blackboard page.