**MS356 The present past: re-imagining Greece through heritage**

**SUMMER**  
Dr. Athena Hadji

NAME Athena Hadji  
EMAIL  
HOURS AVAILABLE by appointment (email me to request one)

## Class Meetings

### Course Description
Greece has historically been in the crossroads between East and West, due to its geography, on the one hand, and contact with its eastern and western neighbors established early on, on the other hand. This has resulted into a rich, multifaceted, fascinating heritage, tangible and intangible alike, that is still present today, both in its capital city Athens and the periphery. Greek heritage is manifested on architecture, archaeological remains, culinary traditions, music, even more unconventional forms of expression, such as contemporary graffiti and street art in the metropolitan centers, Greek countryside and its islands alike.

The course focuses on a journey – literally and metaphorically – into aspects of Greek (and also world, as defined by UNESCO) heritage. We will delve into the past, as a complex and ever-present entity and unravel the constituent elements of cultural heritage in contemporary Greece. Among others, we will trace the presence and influence of the following: the classical Greeks and the Romans; the Knights; the Ottomans; the Italians in the S Aegean islands; the vernacular and its roots; the natural and the cultural; current receptions of the past; tourism management and the quest for authenticity in Greek sites and monuments; contemporary art in Greece; Greek heritage as it relates to world heritage.

The aim of this course is to help you form a solid and educated opinion with regard to what constitutes Greek heritage in the 21st century as well as how we can all contribute, as educated travelers, to the preservation and dissemination of this cultural knowledge. Alongside the particulars of the Greek situation, you will acquaint yourselves with the terminology, international legal framework and challenges for world heritage in the current world.

### Course Resources and Activities
The course will explore contemporary attitudes toward Greek heritage, with lectures, site visits, student reports and field projects, drawing from the professor’s extensive research and expertise in cultural heritage and Greek archaeology and art history.

Thus, we will read selected texts from a variety of sources, including but not limited to, academic articles and books, news pieces, official guidelines with regard to heritage policies in Greece and beyond, and literary travel accounts, from Pausanias to Lawrence Durrell. We will utilize relevant videos and images, as heritage can only be (re)imagined through visual aids.

It is expected that the students critically analyze the required and suggested readings and take a stance toward aspects of heritage presentation and protection that we will cover in class and in the field. Short field reports and student presentations/debates are expected to be the outcome of this process of critical thinking, reading and writing throughout the course.

Working and thinking with others is essential and fundamental for the successful completion of the course. Cultural heritage, in Greece and otherwise, can only be perceived and studied as a collective effort, and the exchange of opinions and information in an encouraging and open to diverse views environment is vital.
Learning Objectives
The course aims at a broader understanding of what constitutes Greek heritage or ‘Greekness’ beyond the established and obvious connection with archaeology and the classical past. It is designed ideally for students of archaeology, art history, fine arts, art curating, classics, philosophy, architecture, geography, social and cultural anthropology, heritage studies or any discipline with interest in the humanities.

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1) Explore, compare and contrast established notions of ‘Greekness’ with sometimes unexpected ‘fresh’ views or a re-examination of traditional aspects of heritage.
2) Reflect on the historical past with reference to its current reception(s).
3) Understand the past as a fluid entity that has consequences on the present, rather than a fixed product of earlier times.
4) Analyze the multifaceted entity that cultural heritage is at present.
5) Evaluate the importance of the natural aspect in the protection of cultural heritage.
6) Acquire first-hand knowledge of how institutions, such as UNESCO and ICOMOS, as well as national legislation protect heritage sites and monuments.
7) Through visits to sites and monuments of cultural interest and historical importance understand site management and people flows on these sites and develop the ability to critically assess how such places become integral for cultural identity formation.
8) Familiarize themselves with terms such as genius loci, world heritage monument, diachrony, place vs. space, the fluid past.

Course Requirements
Due to the nature of the course (intensive daily attendance and frequent travel), students are not required to submit a lengthy final essay (i.e. term paper). However, a course grade will be assigned, based on throughout-the-course student evaluation. Components contributing to the final grade will be the following:

- Final exam
- A brief midterm essay assignment (see specifications below).
- Active participation (not merely physical presence, but the expression of critical opinions and contribution to class dialogue) and co-operation with the professor and fellow students.
- Short field reports and student presentations, individual and/ or group, when visiting sites and monuments.
- In-class debate.
- 120-150 pages of reading per week. Please note that weekly load of reading varies depending on each week’s subject matter and/ or travel load. Readings will be placed on reserve at the CYA library and also on eclass as .pdf documents or links to websites.

Oral presentation
To receive credit for an oral presentation, you must turn in its written form (a short report that you will read) after the end of the presentation. No late assignments will be accepted.

Exams
- Final exam: Friday 9:30 am-12:00 pm

Grading and Evaluation (also consult course rubrics for assessment criteria for different assignments)
Your grade for this course will be based on the following distribution:
Final exam 40%
Midterm essay 20%
Debate 20%
Short essay 5%
Oral presentation 5%
Active participation and contribution 10%

Class Participation Your attendance and in class writing and analysis are vitally important to your success in this course.
Use of Laptops  In-class or on-site use of laptops and other devices is permitted if that facilitates course-related activities such as note-taking, looking up references, etc. Laptop or other devise privileges will be suspended if there are not used for class-related work.

Attendance Students are expected to report for classes promptly. CYA regards attendance in class and on-site as essential. Absences are recorded and have consequences. Illness or other such compelling reasons which result in absences should be reported immediately in the Student Affairs Office. The course implements a no-absence policy, except for a medical or other emergency.

Policy on Original Work Unless otherwise specified, all submitted work must be your own, original work. Any excerpts from the work of others must be clearly identified as a quotation, and a proper citation provided. (Check Student handbook, pg 9)

Course Outdoors Activities Note The course field trips might require strenuous physical activity, i.e. a lot of walking in high temperatures, considerable standing, and/ or hill walking. Make sure to wear a hat and sunscreen and stay hydrated during field trips. Snacks are also advised. Certainly, there will be breaks.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities If you are a registered (with your home institution) student with a disability and you are entitled to learning accommodation, please inform the V.P. for Academic Affairs and make sure that your school forwards the necessary documentation.

Books, Course Materials, Moodle
For books, please see detailed bibliography at the end of the syllabus and specific readings for each day. You are responsible for keeping up with every day's required reading, as laid out on syllabus and posted on each week's Moodle. Recommended reading is strongly advised but not mandated.

Websites (checked for functionality at time of syllabus drafting. If any non-working link is found, please notify the Professor)
1. The Acropolis Museum Official Website
http://www.theacropolismuseum.gr/en

2. Bernard Tschumi (architect of the Acropolis Museum), page about the museum project
http://www.tschumi.com/projects/2/#

3. Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports, official page for the Athenian Acropolis
http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/3/eh351.jsp?obj_id=2384

4. UNESCO World Heritage Monuments page for the Athenian Acropolis
http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/404

5. Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports, official page for Knossos
http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/3/eh351.jsp?obj_id=2369

6. Heraklion marine castle (Koules)

7. Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports, official page for Medieval Town of Rhodes
http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/3/eh351.jsp?obj_id=7029

8. UNESCO World Heritage Monuments page for Medieval Town of Rhodes
https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/493

9. Rhodes Synagogue (Kahal Shalom)

10. New York Times article about Athenian graffiti and street art, 2014

11. The Economist article about Athenian graffiti and street art, 2017

12. Documenta 14 Official Website

13. The Parthenon of Books, Marta Minujín, 2017

http://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/minujin-the-parthenon-of-books-t14343

Videos
1. Parthenon, by Director Costa Gavras, 2009
4. The Parthenon of Books, Marta Minujín, Kassel, 2017

Sound clips
Glory of the Parthenon, from album THE ANCIENT GREEK MODES, by Michael Levy, 2010

Films
Rembetiko, Kostas Gavras, 1983, in Greek with English subtitles,
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G21q_5iac90

Class Schedule
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class Day</th>
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<th>Topic / Readings / Assignments Due</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Cultural heritage: an introduction</td>
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Description
Part A: We will introduce ourselves and the course objectives and requirements will then be presented. We will go through the syllabus to ensure basic points are thoroughly understood.

Part B: The introductory class will address the following questions:
What is heritage? Kinds of heritage: the tangible and the intangible (The Parthenon is heritage, but so are rembetiko songs); the cultural and the natural (ancient art is heritage, but so are Mediterranean gardens)
What is Greek heritage?
Who guards heritage? Who owns heritage?
What are ‘stakeholders’ with regard to heritage?
Who owns the past? Repatriation vs. world heritage
Where is the past? Time-as-space; space-as-place. Identity building with relation to the present past.
What constitutes a diachronic perspective on heritage?
Heritage and reactivation of historical settings: contemporary art and cultural heritage

Required reading
West and Ansell in West 2010, Ch.1: 7-47 and Gagliardi, Latour and Memelsdorff 2010, Introduction: XV-XVII.
2
The Parthenon marbles: Acropolis museum visit and lecture

Description
Any Greek heritage class naturally (?) begins its inquiry with the Parthenon, hallmark of Classical Athens, inspiration for neoclassical architecture of the 19th century, a point of debate as yet unresolved, a continuously sacred place until its declaration as a monument by the them newly-formed Greek State. The first of three lectures-visits in what I call "The Parthenon Series", today we will examine the existing as well as swept aside not by the sands of time but by trowel glorious ruins in a diachronic examination of the architecture of cult. Surprising facts will emerge.

Required reading
Website 1

Recommended reading
Website 2

3

Description
The N slope of the Athenian Acropolis and Anafiotika. The Athenian Acropolis is a world-famous monument, and almost everybody, at least in the so-called western world (and beyond) can with eyes shut recall the archetypal shape of the Parthenon if called upon this task. However, there is certainly more than meets the untrained eye. Our second Parthenon session focuses on the ever-charming hidden gem of the Acropolis: the N slope. We will walk around its periphery which will eventually take us to the S slope and we will descend to a surprisingly insular community in the heart of Athens, the so-called Anafiotika neighborhood in the area of Plaka.

Questions of gentrification, listed architecture, tourist attractions and traps disguised as heritage will spontaneously emerge.

Required reading: whose genius loci?
Loukaki 1997
Levi 1997 [1980]: 44-60
Roth and Roth Clark 2014, Chapter 11: 234-244
Website 3

Recommended reading:
Pausanias Book I: XXII.4-XXVIII.3
Website 4

4
The Classical Parthenon vs. The Parthenon of Books

Description
Classical archaeology and its contemporary reception. Contemporary art inspired by Classical Greek architecture, democracy and values. We will explore the relationship between the 5th century Parthenon and its circumstances with contemporary Argentinian artist Marta Minujín's The Parthenon of Books in its 1983 and 2017 incarnations. We will examine the most significant contemporary art event, according to some, Dokumenta, as it unraveled in 2017 between Kassel, Germany, where it was founded, and Athens, Greece. The Dokumenta 14 motto was
“Learning from Athens”. As we prepare to leave Athens for the greatest part of the next couple of weeks, we will evaluate what we have learnt from Athens so far.

**Required reading**

*Dokumenta 14* official website (Website 14)
Websites 15, 16

**Recommended reading**

Goldberger 2009, Ch. 1: 2-40.

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**5 Crete trip**

**Description**

Crete trip orientation.

**Required reading**

Hadjii, 2016.
MacGillivray, 2000, Ch.4: 169-241.

**Evening: Boat to Heraklion**

**Description**

The first day of the trip will focus on Minoan Knossos and early 20th century archaeology.
Between Knossos and the Archaeological Museum of Heraklion, we will see evidence for Dr. Hadji’s research project that links Sir Arthur Evans and Minoan "goddesses" with the John Marshall Archive, as presented in class.

The discussion will expand to a consideration of authenticity in archaeology and the ethical question of forged artifacts (and architecture).

**Required reading**

MacGillivray, 2000, Ch. 2: 67-105.
Website 5

**Recommended reading**

Preziosi and Hitchcock 1999, Ch.1: 1-19

**First Assignment: Oral presentation**

To be presented on site at Knossos (written form, i.e. notes, floor plans, outline, etc. to be handed to the Professor at the end of Knossos tour, bearing Group no. and students’ names)

In groups of 3 guide the class through Knossos (with the Professor’s help)

Group 1: general topography and history of site (site entrance)
Group 2: the palace (central courtyard)
Group 3: Sir Arthur Evans and restoration works at Knossos (restored portico)
Each group talks for 15-20 minutes

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**6 East Crete-Spinalongha**

**Description**

A former Venetian fortress, Ottoman town, and Leper Colony, now a declared monument, on the UNESCO WHS tentative sites list. Discussion on the connection between (Greek) landscape and history; discussion on grim sites tourism management and approaches. Discussion on the increasing popularity of dark tourism. Discussion on UNESCO WHS and its criteria.

**Recommended reading:**

Hislop 2005
Recommended reading
Psychoundakis 1998 [1955]

8

Description

Venetian Heraklion. During our walking tour of Heraklion we will explore Venetian fortification works and ship sheds; churches; fountains; the Loggia; St. Mark's Basilica; and a sensational marine castle (Koules). Ottoman remains will be indicated and discussed also.

Required reading
Blue Guide Crete, Heraklion chapter
Website 6

Recommended activity
The Historical Museum of Crete, https://www.historical-museum.gr/

9

Midterm essay

What do you infer about shifting ethics and shifting aesthetics in cultural heritage protection and display policies in the 21st century?

Develop your thoughts based on class discussions, readings, sites visited, and present a critical opinion.

Length: 1,000 words. DUE IN CLASS MONDAY JULY 8.

10

Rhodes trip

Description

The island of Rhodes, the largest island of the Dodecanese (S Aegean) archipelagos, is unique in that it preserves with remarkable clarity overlapping and often conflicting traces of its varied and multifaceted past. At the same time, it is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world, with a long ‘summer’ season that lasts from at least mid-April to early November. In Rhodes, we will look at heritage from a twofold perspective: on the one hand we will follow the traces of civilizations past, from prehistoric occupation through Greco-Roman antiquity, the Byzantine Empire, the period of the Knights and their spectacular fortification works, the Ottoman domination, down to the unusual for this part of the world Italian Occupation in the first half of the 20th century. On the other hand, we will observe tourism management and people flows in the sites and museums we visit and discuss profitable heritage, heritage-for-consumption, and its consequences on the character of a place, its genius loci.

UNESCO and World Heritage. In preparation for our trip to Rhodes, a designated WHS (World Heritage Site) by UNESCO since 1988, we will examine the history, operating principles, guidelines, and mechanisms of UNESCO, with special emphasis on the WHS list and its mandates. We will briefly mention other WHS in Greece, for comparative purposes and to highlight the diversity in UNESCO'S WHS catalog.

Required reading
UNESCO Official WHS website
Websites 7, 8

11

Description

Fondation Marc de Montalembert Mediterranean garden visit and tour

Archaeological Museum of Rhodes: The Marine Venus, the God Helios (the Colossus of Rhodes) and another Mediterranean garden. How are all these related to a Hospital for the Knights and a brilliant Italian archaeologist of the 20th century? From Rhodes to Pompeii.

bonus tour: an Ottoman villa and a tête-à-tête with the only Early Cycladic figurine of Rhodes, as researched by Dr. Hadji and presented in class.
Required reading
NOTE: Rhodes readings are all placed on Tuesday’s class description, but are relevant for the entire week. It is up to the students to divide the readings load, according to their time and interests (this pertains to the recommended readings) during the Rhodes trip.

Barthes 74-77
Durrell 1960: 37-38; 45-54; 133-142
Hadji forthcoming b
McGilchrist 2010: 30-120
Website 11

Recommended reading
Barber 1997: 65-93
Durrell1960: 80-93; 107-132
Horden and Purcell 2000: 463-484
Websites 9, 10

12 Walking tour of Ottoman Rhodes: cemetery, mosques, clock tower, hamam baths and library

Recommended activity
Medieval wall, moat and gates walk
Monte Smith Apollo sanctuary: temple, stadium and odeion visit (and adjacent Nymphaea)

13 Jewish Rhodes: Kahal Kadosh Shalom Synagogue, The Jewish Museum and the Jewish quarter

The Italian Administration Archive, what happened to the Jews of Rhodes, the documents

Recommended activity
Visit Lindos, Filerimos or Kamiros

14 Lawrence Durrell in Rhodes; Grande Albergo and Villa Cleobulus; walking tour of Italian era architecture in the modern town of Rhodes

Afternoon departure for Athens

15 Contemporary art in Greece

Description
We have touched upon the state of contemporary art in Greece when discussing Documenta 14, with reference to Marta Minujín’s Parthenon of Books early in the course. The class will examine literally the state of the art today, with a visit to the National Museum of Contemporary Art and a discussion of its history, architectural and otherwise. Among others, we will discuss gentrification, re-activation of historical edifices, art policies and politics in Greece today.

Required reading

Recommended reading
ANTI Athens Biennale catalog (on reserve in the library).

Second assignment, due at the beginning of class today
Museum of Rhodes: Compare the old display of Marine Venus (Afrodite Aidoumeni), as commemorated in Robert McCabe’s photograph with the current display, as seen and studied on site.
In a short essay, critically analyze the issue of (visual) priorities in the display of cultural heritage by official bodies (such as the Ministry of Culture in this case).
Syllabus

Essay length: ca. 500 words.

16

GRAFFITI and street art: the inscribed heritage

**Description**
We will study selected works from the rich and varied corpus of Athenian street art, focusing on works related to and/or inspired by Greek antiquity.

**Required reading**
Bachelard 1964 [1958]: 211-231
Hadjī 2015

**Recommended reading**
Hadjī in preparation, Introduction

Third assignment: in-class debate
Reading the Florence convention critically (link on first class presentation, .ppt file on eclass), comment on how floral heritage is preserved for future generations. You can draw from your experience of visiting the Fondation Marc de Montalembert and Archaeological Museum Mediterranean gardens in Rhodes, also from your visits to the National Garden and smaller parks in Athens (landscaping of the Athenian Agora and the Acropolis archaeological sites can also be used as examples). You can also resort to the Montalembert Foundation’s website for information pertaining to the vision and the planning of the gardens.

Groups A and B will debate on issues of authenticity for 21st century historical gardens, sustainability of garden projects (irrigation, pest control etc.), and the integration (or lack thereof) of the natural with the cultural as UNESCO mandates already in 1972.

Debate notes will be handed to the Professor for assessment at the end of class.

17

Athens public art tour and Picasso exhibition, Museum of Cycladic Art

**Description**
Public display of art has been paramount for the city of Athens, since its namesake goddess gave it the olive branch and the promise of patronage. A walking tour will take us to selected works of sculpture, from the 19th century and the embellishment of the new capital of the (also new) Greek state with monumental art, to contemporary art works displayed outdoors and indoors in unexpected places.

18

Final exam revision session

**Description**
We will highlight the main points learnt throughout the summer course; discuss exam format and requirements; address any issues the students might still have with particularly troubling terms, sites, concepts, ideas.

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Final exam, 9:30-12:00 pm

Course schedule, in terms of subjects and readings, may be subject to change to benefit student learning and in keeping up to date with current research
Full Bibliography


Supplementary titles for further reference