

## URBS 334 Greek Island Architecture, Culture, and Identity:

Naxos, Amorgos, Santorini, Tinos

Summer Session II

Instructor: Dr Maria Vidali

Field trips and seminars: 5 days per week, usually from Monday to Friday (09.00- 12.00)

Office Hours: 30 minutes before the field trip or by appointment

\*Analytical syllabus and further instructions will follow.

### Course description

This four-week course is a voyage into the life, architecture and prospects of four Cycladic Islands. It will offer students an opportunity to entertain questions of dwelling, belonging, and identity through investigating these local communities and their historical practices of making sustainable architecture. Students will have the opportunity to explore how the environment and local architecture are related to communal life.

This course will take place on four different islands:

**Santorini** is a famous tourist destination with a unique vernacular architecture in a beautiful volcanic landscape. Students will also have the opportunity to see the best preserved ancient settlement in the Cyclades, as well as the way tourism affects life on the islands.

**Amorgos** is an island with high cliffs, great vernacular and religious architecture, and tradition. Students will explore antiquities, unique hiking trails, and its contemporary life.

**Naxos** is another popular tourist destination, with a long cultural history—from antiquity and Venetian times--- with exceptional architecture and tradition in agriculture, music and other social practices.

**Tinos** is an island where the landscape appears semi-artificial, given the construction of countless rows of cultivation ridges and terraces. 45 medieval villages on Tinos provide us with the opportunity to explore different customs and different forms of spatial understanding.

Will these islands be able to sustain their identities given the ever-increasing numbers of tourists?

Will their sustainable way of living survive? The course will conclude with a one-day forum on these matters that will be joined by locals, artists, researchers and architects.

### Course methodology and structure

A day on an island will be structured by a seminar and field trip in the morning, usually from 09:00 to 12:00 though this may be extended, especially when more than one means of transportations are necessary or when the schedule involves a long walk. Then the students will have a lunch break and free time. In the afternoons, they are expected to work on their design lab assignments (group work), which usually will take place in neighborhoods nearby the hotel we'll be staying at. Students also need to devote time to their readings for the next day and complete their work in their logbook related to the sites they visited during the day.

### Learning objectives

By the end of the course students should have:

- Gained knowledge of the methodology of building a deeper understanding, a way of seeing/thinking when traveling.
- Learned about history, tradition, architecture and traditional sustainable living.

# CYA Syllabus

- Created a valuable archive of data about life on the islands and a method to understand them and compare them.
- Improved on writing, graphic design, photography, diagramming and presentation skills.
- Developed a way to interpret and connect places, individuals and communities through the composition of a logbook as narrative.

**Course Requirements** (more information will be uploaded on Moodle)

**1\_Attendance and participation: 10%**

**2\_Reading Analysis:** During the field trip, one of the students will be responsible for a brief,10-minute presentation/ analysis on one of the readings of the day. **Evaluation: 10%**

**3\_Personal archive/Logbook:** This is a significant assignment and students are invited to look at it as an opportunity to create something and stimulate their imagination. It should be regarded as an extension of your everyday habits, and as a reflection of your emotions and critical thinking. In the end, one should look at it as an object of aesthetic value. It will be evaluated on consistency of effort, development, quality of content and form. The logbook has both written and graphic components, synthesis and collages of photographs, sketches and text. Directions on how to create a log book and write a narrative will be available: **Evaluation: 40%**

**4\_Design lab:** Design lab is composed of 4 different assignments, one on each island. Students will work in groups of three or two. **Evaluation: 40%**

**Assignment A\_ Group work on Santorini:** This assignment will take place in Fira. Students will choose a small neighborhood where they will work on an analysis of the elements of this neighborhood (thresholds, doors, windows, steps, plants, etc.). For their analysis, they will use photographs, measurements etc. Their work will be documented on tracing paper.

**Assignment B Group work on Naxos:** This assignment will take place in the castle of Naxos. Students again will choose a small neighborhood where they will take measurements of important elements of the public spaces in the neighborhood, such as steps, plants, benches, etc. Their work will be documented on tracing paper.

**Assignment C\_ Group work on Amorgos:** This assignment will take place in the Chora of Amorgos. Students will observe and take measurements of streets and pathways. Their work will be documented on tracing paper.

**Assignment D\_ Group work on Tinos:** This assignment will take place in the Chora of Tinos. After analyzing the neighborhood of their choice, students will work on a proposal of possible improvement. Their work will be documented on tracing paper.

**Essential Supplies:** You should be equipped with: a 6 X 8 or an 8½ X 11 hard cover, heavy stock log-book/sketchbook, many black pens and/or pencils/ coloring pencils (optional); a digital/analog camera [phone camera], a measurement tape; a block of trace paper A3 (11-3/4 x 16-1/2 inches), comfortable walking shoes (no flip-flops or sandals), a bottle of drinking water and a hat/cap. Paper for the final presentations of the design lab assignments will be provided by CYA.

## **Preliminary readings/ bibliography**

Bachelard, Gaston. *The Poetics of Space*. Translated by Maria Jolas. New York: Penguin Books, 2014.

Casey, Edward. *Getting Back into Place: Toward a Renewed Understanding of the Place-world*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1993.

Radford, Adam, and George Clark. "Cyclades: a study in vernacular architecture." In *Shelter in Greece*, edited by Orestis B. Doumanis and Paul Oliver. Athens: Architecture in Greece, 1974.

Bent, James Theodore. *The Cyclades, or Life among the Insular Greeks*. Edited by Al. N. Oikonomides. Chicago: Argonaut, 1965.

## Course schedule

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	Day/Date	Topic / Readings / Assignments Due
1	Mon Jun 21	<p><b>Arrival on Naxos</b> (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)</p> <p><b>Orientation -Introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Methodology (liminality, metaphor and place)</li> <li>-Introductory seminar on the history of the Cycladic islands and the Aegean.</li> <li>- Analysis of the assignments</li> </ul>
2	Tue June 22	<p><b>Naxos Field Trip 1: Historical landscape</b> (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)</p> <p><b>Seminar:</b> the origins and historical continuity of the island</p> <p><b>Visit:</b> Archaeological Museum, Venetian castle, Dellaroka Museum, Great Door of Naxos/ Portara</p> <p><b>Required reading for all the students and discussion on:</b> (there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)</p> <p>Lekakis and Dragouni 2020, 84-92.</p> <p>Zacopoulou 2005, 23-37.</p> <p><b>-Instructions for group work Assignment A</b></p>

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- 3      Wed June 23      **Naxos Field Trip 2: Ancient landscapes** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)
- Seminar:** the origins and the connection of the island with the Aegean Sea
- Visit:** Artemide's temple in Sangri and Bazeos Tower, Melanes and the ancient queries
- Required reading for all the students and discussion on:** (there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)
- Tambakopoulos and Maniatis 2007, 468-82.
- Vlachopoulos 2016, 116-35.
- Questions/ answers for group work Assignment A**
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- 4      Thu June 24      **Naxos Field Trip 3: Village architecture** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)
- Seminar:** the village architecture and the meaning of public, private and communal space
- Visit:** village of Damaronas, village of Filoti and the great church of Panagia as also other byzantine churches. Village of Apiranthos, the monastery of Fotodotis and the *Smiridas* queries.
- Required reading for all the students and discussion on:** (there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)
- Kenna 2001.
- Certeau 1988, 115-22.
- Bakken 2013, 87-117.
- Work in progress - group work Assignment A**
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5 Fr June 25 **Naxos Field Trip 4: Naxos antiquities, tradition and contemporary life** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

**Seminar:** Naxos' cultural identity

**Visit:** Keramoti village, Koronida village (Mycenaean tombs), Apollonio village (Dionysus Kouros), Beautiful beach nearby

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**  
(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Pérez-Gómez 1994, 1-34.

Caraveli 1985, 259-86.

- **Student presentation of group work - Assignment A** (time and place will be assigned)

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6 Sat June 26 **Transfer to Amorgos: free day**  
(an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

- **Orientation**

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7 Sun June 27 **Free Day in Amorgos**

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8 Mon June 28 **Amorgos Field Trip 1: Architectural complexity.** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

**Seminar:** The meaning of boundaries

**Visit:** Chora, wind mills, Tholaria village and Lagatha village and oil distillery

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**  
(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Michaelides 1974, 53-63.

Mackenzie 2006.

Georgalli 1996.

-**Introduction for group work Assignment B**

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9 Tue June 29

**Amorgos Field Trip 2: Rural landscapes and religious architecture** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

**Seminar:** The meaning of religion in small rural communities

**Visit/ old path:** Chora, Chzoviotissa Monastery, Asfontilitis village (water monuments)

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**

(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Oliver 1974, 8-15.

Georgalli 1991, 49-63.

Michaelides 2003.

-**Work in progress - group work Assignment B**

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10 Wed June 30

**Amorgos Field Trip 3: Ancient landscapes/ important walkscapes** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

**Seminar:** Religion and identity in small rural communities

**Visit/ old path:** Katapola, St George Valsamitis and the watermill, Ancient Arkesini and the Holy Trinity Tower, Minoa and the Minoan Acropolis

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**

(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Galanakis 2013, 181-205.

Angliker and Tully 2018.

- **Student presentation of group work - Assignment B** (time and place will be assigned)

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11 Thu July 1

**Transfer to Santorini: free day**

(an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

- **Orientation**

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12 Fri July 2 **Santorini Field Trip 1: Landscape, space and tourism** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)  
**Seminar:** Landscape and architecture  
**Visit/ old path:** Fira, Firostefani, Oia

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**  
(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Krell and Krell 2011, 199-208.

Malpas 1999.

**-Introduction for group work Assignment C**

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13 Sat July 3 **Santorini Field Trip 2: Environment and architecture** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)  
**Seminar:** How environment forms architecture, culture and perception  
**Visit/ by boat:** Nea Kammeni/ Volcano trip/ hot springs and / or Therasia

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**  
(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Ingold 2000.

Kenna 1976, 21-34.

**-Questions/ Answers for group work Assignment C**

**- Student presentation**

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14 Sun July 4 **Santorini Field Trip 3: Akrotiri - a unique settlement** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)  
**Seminar:** Akrotiri archaeological site  
**Visit:** Akrotiri archaeological site, Akrotiri village, beach

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**  
(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Martin 2018, 27-42.

Sarpaki 2019, 72-87.

**-Work in progress - group work Assignment C**

15 Mon July 5

**Santorini Field Trip 4: Farming tradition and identity** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

**Seminar:** How environment and farming tradition form the cultural identity of the island.

**Visit: Pyrgos village, Emporio village, a Winery/ Wine museum, the Tomato Museum**

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**  
(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Casey 2011, 384-98.

Leonard 2020, 65-72.

Frampton 1983, 147-62.

- **Student presentation of group work - Assignment C**

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16 Tue July 6

**Transfer to Tinos: free day**

(an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

- **Orientation**

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17 Wed July 7

**Tinos Field Trip 1: Understanding topography and history** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

**Seminar:** How topography and history contribute in a cultural context.

**Visit/ old path:** Tripotamos village, archaeological site *Thesmophorio* at the west slope of the Exombourgon rock, Venetian castle, top of the Exombourgon rock

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**  
(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Dubisch 1995, 120-33.

Robinson 2019, 231-38.

-**Introduction for group work Assignment D**

- **Additional Instructions/ guidance for the Assignment of Fictional Narrative**



18 Thu July 8

**Tinos Field Trip 2: Understanding the structure of a traditional village in Mesa Meri (Inner Lands)** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

**Seminar:** Understanding the traditional house, the church and the communal spaces in the village structure.

**Visit:** Taramposos village (pigeon houses, traditional houses, church, outlying chapel)

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**

(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Mathéy 1994, 343-53.

Ardener 1993.

Dubisch 1986.

**-Work in progress - group work Assignment D**

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19 Fr July 9

**Tinos Field Trip 3: A sustainable community life** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

**Seminar:** The sustainable life of a village.

**Visit:** Kamposos village, Smardakito village, Arnados village

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**

(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**

(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Du Boulay 1974.

Thomas 1974.

Illich 1985.

**-Work in progress - group work Assignment D**

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20 Sat July 10

**Tinos Free Day**

**or**

**Day trip to Delos**

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- 21 Sun July 11 **Tinos Free Day**  
**Suggested reading**  
Ricoeur 1986, 121-32.
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- 22 Mon July 12 **Tinos Field Trip 4: Geology and art forming the cultural identity of Exo Meria (Out Land)** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)  
**Seminar:** Marble in the culture of the island.  
**Visit:** Pyrgos village, the cemetery of the village, the marble museum, the house of sculpture Chalepas, the school of Fine Arts and a local sculptor's workshop.  
**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**  
(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)  
Berg 2012, 71-87.  
Barrett 2011.  
Loizos and Papataxiarchis 1991.  
**-Work in progress - group work Assignment D**
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- 23 Tue July 13 **Tinos Field Trip 5: Religion forming the cultural identity of the island I** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)  
**Seminar:** The big pilgrimage church and the religious past of the island since antiquity  
**Visit/ old path:** The Annunciation pilgrimage church, the art galleries and the archaeological museum.  
**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**  
(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)  
Dubisch 1995.  
Eliade 1958.  
**-Work in progress - group work Assignment D**
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23 Wed July 14

**Tinos Field Trip 6: Religious architecture and traditional rituals** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

**Seminar:** The outlying chapels and their connection to community

**Visit/ old path:** St Anastasia outlying chapel in Kalloni village, St Sofia at Agapi village and Loutra village and Oursoulines school.

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**

(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Leatherbarrow 2004.

Crossley 2001, 120-40.

**-Work in progress - group work Assignment D**

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24 Thu July 15

**Tinos Field Trip 7: A crafted island** (an analytical daily time schedule will follow)

**Seminar:** The identity of making

**Visit/ old path:** Textile school, Volax village and the local (basketweaving) crafts, Falatados and old path to Livada beach.

**Required reading for all the students and discussion on:**

(there will be additional bibliography and possible changes)

Fustel de Coulanges 1927.

Malpas 1999.

Malpas 2011.

Sennett 2008.

**- Submission of sketchbooks and fictional narrative/ final paper**

25 Fr July 16

**Tinos Exhibition & Forum:**

(an analytical program of the day will follow)

- **Presentations** of group work Assignment 8
- **Exhibition** with selected sketchbook work, assignments 5, 6, 7, 8, also photographs taken by the students during the field trip
- A long discussion/ **forum** where students will present and discuss about: How they see the future of these islands
- **Local guests** (artists, architects, ethnologists, people from the authorities of the island) and international visitors of the island will visit the exhibition and join the presentations and conversation of the students.

*\*\* 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.*

**Class Schedule -Brief**

Date	Task	Location
Mon June 21	<b>Orientation - Course introduction</b>	<b>Arrival on Naxos</b>
Tue June 22	<b>Historical landscapes</b>	<b>Naxos Field Trip 1</b>
Wed June 23	<b>Ancient landscapes</b>	<b>Naxos Field Trip 2</b>
Thu June 24	<b>Village architecture</b>	<b>Naxos Field Trip 3</b>
Fri June 25	<b>Naxos antiquities, tradition and contemporary life</b>	<b>Naxos Field Trip 4</b>
Sat June 26	<b>Orientation</b>	<b>Arrival on Amorgos</b>
Sun June 27	<b>Free Day</b>	<b>Amorgos</b>
Mon June 28	<b>Architectural complexity.</b>	<b>Amorgos Field Trip 1</b>

Date	Task	Location

Tue June 29	<b>Rural landscapes and religious architecture</b>	<b>Amorgos Field Trip 2</b>
Wed June 30	<b>Ancient landscapes/ important walkscapes</b>	<b>Amorgos Field Trip 3</b>
Thu July 1	<b>Orientation</b>	<b>Arrival on Santorini</b>
Fr July 2	<b>Landscape, space and tourism</b>	<b>Santorini Field Trip 1</b>
Sat July 3	<b>Environment and architecture</b>	<b>Santorini Field Trip 2</b>
Sun July 4	<b>Akrotiri- a unique settlement</b>	<b>Santorini Field Trip 3</b>
Mon July 5	<b>Farming tradition and identity</b>	<b>Santorini Field Trip 4</b>

Tue July 6	<b>Orientation</b>	<b>Arrival on Tinos</b>
Wed July 7	<b>Understanding topography and history</b>	<b>Tinos Field Trip 1</b>
Thu July 8	<b>Understanding the structure of a traditional village in Mesa Meri</b>	<b>Tinos Field Trip 2</b>
Fr July 9	<b>A sustainable community life</b>	<b>Tinos Field Trip 3</b>
Sat July 10	<b>Free Day or Field Trip to Delos</b>	<b>Tinos or Field Trip to Delos</b>
Sun July 11	<b>Free Day</b>	<b>Tinos Field Trip 4</b>

Mon July 12	<b>Geology and art forming the cultural identity of a Exo Meria (Out Land)</b>	<b>Tinos Field Trip 5</b>
Tue July 13	<b>Religion forming the cultural identity of the island I</b>	<b>Tinos Field Trip 6</b>
Wed July 14	<b>Religious architecture and traditional rituals</b>	<b>Tinos Field Trip 7</b>
Thu July 15	<b>A crafted island</b>	<b>Tinos Field Trip 8</b>
Fr July 16	<b>Presentations-Submissions-Exhibition</b>	<b>Tinos Forum</b>

## Course bibliography

Angliker, Erica, and John Tully, eds. *Cycladic Archaeology and Research: New Approaches and Discoveries*. London: Archaeopress, 2018.

Ardener, Shirley, ed. *Women and Space: Ground Rules and Social Maps*. Oxford: Berg, 1993.

Bachelard, Gaston. *The Poetics of Space*. Translated by Maria Jolas. New York: Penguin Books, 2014.

Bakken, Christopher, and Christopher Bakken. "Cheese: The Stinky Cheeses of Naxos." In *Honey, Olives, Octopus: Adventures at the Greek Table*, 87-117. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2013.

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Casey, Edward. *Getting Back into Place: Toward a Renewed Understanding of the Place-world*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1993.

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- Dubisch, Jill. *In a Different Place: Pilgrimage, Gender, and Politics at a Greek Island Shrine*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995.
- Dubisch, Jill, ed. *Gender & Power in Rural Greece*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1986.
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- Frampton, Kenneth. "Prospects for a Critical Regionalism." *Perspecta* 20 (1983): 147-62.
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- Georgalli, Maria-Christina. "The Morphology of Traditional Dwellings Within an Insular Context: Amorgos, Greece." *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review* 2, no. 2 (1991): 49-63.
- Illich, Ivan. *H2O and the Waters of Forgetfulness: Reflections on the Historicity of "stuff"*. Dallas: Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture, 1985.
- Ingold, Tim. *The Perception of the Environment: Essays on Livelihood, Dwelling and Skill*. London: Routledge, 2000.
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- Leatherbarrow, David. *Topographical Stories: Studies in Landscape and Architecture*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004.

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Leonard, Albert. *Mediterranean Wines of Place: A Celebration of Heritage Grapes*. Lockwood Press, 2020.

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Pérez-Gómez, Alberto. "Chora: The Space of Architectural Representation." In *Chora 1: Intervals in the Philosophy of Architecture*, edited by Pérez-Gómez Alberto and Parcell Stephen, 1-34. McGill-Queen's University Press, 1994.

Radford, Adam, and George Clark. "Cyclades: a Study in Vernacular Architecture." In *Shelter in Greece*, edited by Orestis B. Doumanis and Paul Oliver. Athens: Architecture in Greece, 1974.

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