

Hellenic Studies Program

Spring 2018

CLGM GU4150

C.P. Cavafy and the poetics of desire

4pts

Nikolas P. Kakkoufa

This course takes C. P. Cavafy's oeuvre as a departure point in order to discuss desire and the ways it is tied with a variety of topics. We will employ a number of methodological tools to examine key topics in Cavafy's work such as eros, power, history, and gender. How can we define desire and how is desire staged, thematized, or transmitted through poetry? How does a gay poet write about desired bodies at the beginning of the previous century? What is Cavafy's contribution to the formation of gay identities in the twentieth century? How do we understand the poet's desire for an archive? How important is the city for activating desire? How do we trace a poet's afterlife and how does the desire poetry transmits to readers transform through time? How does literature of the past address present concerns? These are some of the questions that we will examine during this course.



CLGM UN3110

The Ottoman Past in the Greek Present

3 pts

Dimitrios Antoniou

Almost a century after the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, the Ottoman past lives on in contemporary Greece, often in unexpected sites. In the built environment it appears as mosques, baths, covered markets, and fountains adorned with Arabic inscriptions. It also manifests itself in music, food, and language. Yet Ottoman legacies also shape the European present in less obvious ways and generate vehement debates about identity, nation-building, human rights, and interstate relations. In this course, we will be drawing on history, politics, anthropology, and comparative literature as well as a broad range of primary materials to view the Ottoman past through the lens of the Greek present. What understandings of nation-building emerge as more Ottoman archives became accessible to scholars? How does Islamic Family Law—still in effect in Greece—confront the European legal system? How are Ottoman administrative structures re-assessed in the context of acute socio-economic crisis and migration? *This course fulfills the global core requirement.*

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CLIA GU4021

The Age of Romanticism Across the Adriatic

3 pts

Konstantia Zanou

This interdisciplinary seminar will study Romanticism as a literary trend, as much as a historical phenomenon and a life attitude. Romanticism is viewed here as the sum of the different answers to the sense of insecurity, social alienation and loneliness, provoked by the changing and frail world of the end of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth century. We will investigate the Romantic ideology in relation to the trans-Adriatic world of Italy and Greece, an area that entered modernity with the particular lure and burden of antiquity, as well as through revolutionary upheaval. Students will be invited to read authors like Vittorio Alfieri, Ugo Foscolo, Silvio Pellico, Giacomo Leopardi, Alessandro Manzoni, Massimo d'Azeglio, and to reflect on themes such as Nostalgia and Nationalism, the Discovery

of the Middle Ages, the Historical Novel, the Invention of Popular Tradition, the Fragmented Self, Autobiographical and Travel Writing, the Brigand Cult, Hellenism, Philhellenism, Orientalism and Balkanism, and others.



CLGM UN3920

The World Responds to the Greeks – Modernity, Postcoloniality, Globality

3 pts

Stathis Gourgouris

This course examines various literary, artistic, and cultural traditions worldwide that respond to some of the most recognizable Greek motifs in myth, theater, and politics. The aim is to understand both what these motifs might be offering specifically to these traditions in particular social-historical contexts and, at the same time, what these traditions in turn bring to our conventional understanding of these motifs, how they reconceptualize them and how they alter them.

The overall impetus is framed by a prismatic inquiry of how conditions of modernity, postcoloniality, and globality fashion themselves in engagement with certain persistent imaginaries of antiquity. *This course fulfills the global core requirement.*

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CSGM UN3567

Thessaloniki Down the Ages

3 pts

Paraskevi Martzavou

This course will explore the fascinatingly layered and multicultural history of Thessaloniki, the great city of Northern Greece and the Balkans. We will examine texts, archaeological evidence, literature, songs, and movies and in general the materialities of the city. We will examine this material from the 6th century BCE down to the 21st cent. CE. We will notably think about the problems of history, identity, and cultural interaction in reaction to recent work such as Mark Mazower's well known *Salonica, City of Ghosts* [2004].



CLGM UN3005

Dictatorships and their Afterlives

3 pts

Dimitrios Antoniou

What does the investigation of a dictatorship entail and what are the challenges in such an endeavor? Why (and when) do particular societies turn to an examination of their non-democratic pasts? What does it mean for those who never experienced an authoritarian regime first-hand to remember it through television footage, popular culture, and family stories? This seminar examines dictatorships and the ways in which they are remembered, discussed, examined, and give rise to conflicting narratives in post-dictatorial environments. It takes as its point of departure the Greek military regime of 1967-1974, which is considered in relation to other dictatorships in South America, Asia, Africa, and Europe. We will be drawing on primary materials including Amnesty International reports, film, performance art, and architectural drawings as well as the works of Hannah Arendt and Günter Grass to engage in an interdisciplinary examination of the ways in which military dictatorships live on as ghosts, traumatic memories, urban warfare, litigation, and debates on the politics of comparison and the ethics of contemporary art.

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Language Courses

GRKM UN1102

Elementary Modern Greek II

4 pts

Nikolas P. Kakkoufa

A continuation of UN1101 but new students may place into it, after special arrangement with the instructor. The students are expected to be able to read texts containing high frequency vocabulary and basic structures; understand basic conversations or understand the gist of more complex conversations on familiar topics; produce simple speech on familiar topics; communicate in simple tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters; write short texts or letters on familiar subjects. In parallel, the students continue to explore Modern Greece's cultural landscape and deepen their understanding of Greek culture.

Prerequisites: UN1101 or the equivalent.

GRKM UN2101

Intermediate Modern Greek II

4 pts

Nikolas P. Kakkoufa

A continuation of UN2101 but new students may place into it, after special arrangement with the instructor. Upon completion of the course, the students are able to read simple Greek newspaper articles, essays and short stories and to express their opinion on a number of familiar topics. In addition to these skills, students will be exposed to a number of authentic multimodal cultural material that will allow them to acquire knowledge and understanding of the vibrant cultural landscape of Greece today. Weekly assignments and an oral presentation on a topic of their choice at the end of the semester. *Prerequisites: UN2101 or the equivalent.*

Directed Readings

GRKM UN3998

Senior Research Seminar

1-4 pts

Nikolas P. Kakkoufa

This course is primarily designed for students writing a senior thesis or undertaking advanced research on modern Greece or Greek Diaspora topics in all disciplines. The course of study and reading material will be determined by the instructor or in consultation with the students; and it will be made relevant to the theoretical and practical requirements of their research topic.

GRKM UN3997

Directed Readings

1-4 pts

Paraskevi Martzavou

Designed for undergraduate and graduate students who want to do directed reading in a period or on a topic not covered in the curriculum.