

Hellenic Studies Program

Spring 2018

CLGM GU4150

C.P. Cavafy and the poetics of desire

4pts

Nikolas 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?

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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 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 know *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

Directed Readings

GRKM UN3998 Senior Research Seminar

1-4 pts

Nikolas 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 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.