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### Study Abroad Office

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# Greece Study Abroad

## λόγος (Logos): Understanding the Foundations of Dialogue in Greek Culture

### Program Description

Logos (λόγος; in the Greek alphabet) is a foundational idea in ancient Greek philosophy that, even thousands of years and several outsider invasions later, continues to impact identity and culture in modern Greece. As with other ancient Greek words and concepts, the definition spans different meanings and connotations. For logos this includes speech, story, word, reason, logic, thought, and principle, covering the spectrum from human thought to universal intelligence.

Logos is the root word of dialogos, or dialogue, which is a central value in Greek culture. Stories, reasoning and logic, and principle form the essence of Greek communication and relationship building, particularly through rigorous and intentional dialogue. Understanding how logos and dialogos impact communication, relationships, government, business, and character is integral to cultural learning and understanding the complexities of modern Greek life.

The overarching theme for the program is: λόγος (Logos): Understanding the Foundations of Dialogue in Greek Culture. We will explore why logos, as an ideal in ancient Greek thought, emerged in Greece and how it is still at work today, especially in the way modern Greeks view and communicate their past, identity, and the future.

The big-picture outcomes of this program are to provide a comprehensive understanding of ancient Greek philosophy and its influence on modern Greek culture; to develop intercultural competence skills and cultural sensitivity through understanding the values, beliefs, and communication styles of Greeks; and to facilitate the application of philosophical concepts and intercultural communication skills through activities and experiences in Greece.

*This program is open to all students and all majors.*



### Applications

*(see Application Instructions on page 4 for more information)*

Applications can be found on the Study Abroad website: [Application Process](#), or directly from this link: [bit.ly/study-abroad-app-F24](http://bit.ly/study-abroad-app-F24)

Completed applications must be submitted to the Principia Study Abroad Office no later than **5:00 pm** on **Wednesday of Week 4, September 18, 2024**.

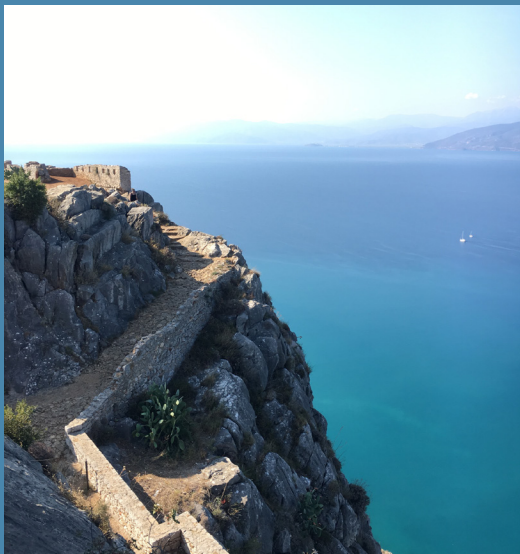
***No late or incomplete applications will be accepted.***

## Program Staff

**Chris Young** trekked in Nepal in 1999, studying Tibetan Buddhism, and fell in love with the country and its people. During his graduate work, he studied the Rig Veda and the Upanishads and their relation to Pre-Socratic philosophers. He has been teaching philosophy for more than 18 years at Principia College and has led 3 study abroad trips to Nepal and India, and has supported two study abroad trips to Greece, Italy, and Turkey, and in 2021 he co-led the first Principia abroad to Ecuador. In 2019 & 2022 Chris lectured on a Principia Lifelong Learning trip to the Galapagos and is now obsessed with Darwin's role in the Philosophy of Science.

**Allison Terry** is visiting faculty in the Digital Media & Journalism department. She received her master's degree in international communication from American University in Washington, DC. She also received a certification in Facilitating Intercultural Learning from True North International in spring 2020. She has extensive international travel, facilitation, and student support experience from her time in the U.S. Peace Corps, DiscoveryBound's National Leadership Council, and her current role as study abroad program manager. Allison has served as a study abroad RC for the Fall 2018 Greece & Italy semester program and Summer 2023 Malawi Study Abroad.

A program resident counselor will be named at a later date.



## Academics

*A total of 8 semester hours of credit will be earned with this program: 3 SH during Spring 2025, 4 SH during Summer 2025, and 1 SH during Fall 2025. Final grades for all courses will be determined by the program faculty.*

### SPRING SEMESTER 2025

*PHIL 260: Introduction to Ancient Philosophy*

SH: 3      Attribute: GEH

An introduction to the history of philosophy focusing on ancient Greek thought. Students will read a selection of Pre-Socratic thinkers, several Platonic dialogues, and selections from Aristotle.

### SUMMER BREAK 2025

*SPST 285: Country Studies: Intercultural Communication in Greece*

SH: 4      Attribute: None

Offered only in association with Principia abroad programs, this course provides an interdisciplinary survey of contemporary issues in the destination country or countries. These issues may include geography, cultural history, politics, economics, religion, foreign relations, environment, the arts, etc. The primary focus of our country studies course will be on intercultural communication in Greece. Intercultural communication is essentially how people create shared meaning across differences. It involves the interdisciplinary study of communication theory and practice, cultural studies, and contemporary issues. The secondary focus of this course is to connect the ideas about logos from the philosophy course during the spring semester with a look at how logos and dialogos are relevant today or how they have impacted modern Greek life and contemporary issues including politics, economics, security, immigration, media and communication, and cultural expression.

### FALL SEMESTER 2025

*SPST 281: Reentry Seminar: Greece*

SH: 1      Attribute: None

The reentry seminar is an opportunity for students to articulate the personal and academic learning gained from their study abroad program experience. Students will share their growth and experiences through reflection and writing assignments, directly linked to the Study Abroad Office learning outcomes, of intercultural competence and multicultural professional development, and create a community presentation.

## Preliminary Program Itinerary

*The program will run from approximately May 20 to June 17, 2025.*

**Part 1: Athens.** Arrival and orientation to city. Language lessons with Lexi Logos and afternoon cultural excursions. Connect ancient philosophical teachers to contemporary issues in Greece.

**Part 2: Nafplio & Peloponnese Peninsula.** Visit ancient sites, local markets, and olive oil exporting business.

**Part 3: Samos & Ephesus.** An island in eastern Greece with ties to ancient and modern cultural experiences with a few day side-trip to Ephesus in Turkey, the birthplace of Heraclitus, if possible.

**Part 4: Crete.** Home to the ancient Minoan culture, we will explore how modern cultural identity withstood the invasion of Venetians, the Ottoman Empire, and the Germans during World War II. We will conclude the program with two days in Athens for final reflections and wrap-up activities.

## Selection

Selection will take place during fall semester, 2024. Each applicant will be interviewed by the program faculty and RC. Equal consideration will be given to all applications submitted by the application due date. See the [Study Abroad Student Selection & Eligibility Criteria](#) for additional student eligibility criteria.

The Principia Abroad Office will notify each applicant at the end of Week 8, fall semester 2024, regarding the decision on his/her application. Those eligible but not accepted in the initial selection process may be placed on a waiting list.

Participation in this program could be denied any accepted student whose grades put her or him on academic warning or academic probation. Students may also be removed from the program if not in good standing with regard to the *Principia Conduct Standards* or the [Study Abroad Student Code of Conduct](#).

## Cost

The cost of this abroad program will be the same as tuition for 4 semester hours, \$300 a week for room and board (\$1,200 for this break program), airfare up to \$1,500, and a \$150 study abroad fee.

The following expenses will be **INCLUDED** in the program: all accommodations and meals (room and board) and transportation; academic instruction and lectures; admission to scheduled sites, museums, and cultural activities planned as part of the program; student travel insurance; and administrative fees.

Costs **NOT INCLUDED**: Domestic US and international airfares up to \$1,500; \$150 fee; personal expenses; optional activities not planned as part of the program; and any other expense not specifically noted as included in the program cost.

Please see the “Financial Aid and Responsibility” section to the right to see what is included in your PrinBill, how financial aid is applied, and when payment is due.

## Study Abroad Grant

Students who receive **only Principia need-based aid** are eligible for an additional Study Abroad Grant to help with expenses not covered by financial aid and scholarships. (Merit scholarships do not count as need-based aid.) These costs may include flights, room and board, administrative fee, and opportunity costs. Preference is given to students who demonstrate financial need, are first-time study abroad participants, and have a minimum 3.0 GPA.

## Vaccination & Health Information

Uncertainties with international travel include the possibility of airlines, the U.S. government, foreign governments, and/or in-country partner program providers requiring COVID-19 or other vaccinations. Information or evidence about participants’ status with regard to vaccinations may be required by these entities. Program participants may be subject to these requirements, and need to be aware of them. Failure to comply with these requirements may mean inability to travel or participate in the study abroad program.

In order to manage the uncertainties of international travel safely and effectively, the Study Abroad Office will collect required vaccination and other relevant health information from all participating program faculty, staff, and students. At this time, people entering Nepal must show proof of COVID vaccination or a negative test. (See [Greece Entry Requirements](#).)

For more information regarding health and safety for Principia Study Abroad programs, visit our website: [Health & Safety Resources](#)

## Eligibility and Prerequisites

The program directors seek students who have a sincere interest in issues related to culture and philosophy and are self-motivated learners who can adapt successfully to different learning environments. As there will be a lot of walking, students should be willing to spend a lot of time on their feet, walking through the city on uneven surfaces, and climbing steep stairs.

Preference will also be given to students with a 2.0 GPA or higher. This program is open to all enrolled students in good academic and social standing. Applications are welcomed from students majoring in any discipline.

Students must meet the [Study Abroad Student Selection & Eligibility Criteria](#) to apply for and remain on this program.

## Financial Aid & Responsibility

Students who will be eligible to receive financial aid for the 2024-2025 academic year will have their loans, scholarships, and grants automatically applied toward **tuition only** (4SH). Your PrinBill will also include room and board (\$1,200) and the Study Abroad fee (\$150), but **no financial aid will be applied toward these costs**.

Payments for past and current tuition, room, and board must be up-to-date, or a satisfactory payment schedule must be arranged with the Student Billing Representative, in order for a student to be allowed to participate in this program.

If accepted, students will be required to sign a financial commitment agreement stating that if they withdraw from this program, either voluntarily or involuntarily, after **Wednesday, November 20, 2024**, they agree to pay to Principia a penalty fee of the amount equal to the non-recoverable expenses incurred by their withdrawal plus Principia Abroad administrative fees. Even if all prepaid expenses are recovered, a minimum \$500 fee may be levied.

The program cost, less any applicable financial aid, will be billed to each participant’s Principia account, and payment will be due by **April 15, 2025**.



# Study Abroad Application Instructions

- Applications can be found on the Study Abroad website: [Application Process](#), or directly from this link: [bit.ly/study-abroad-app-F24](http://bit.ly/study-abroad-app-F24)
- To authenticate the Google Form application submission, you **must use your Principia email address**.
- **DUE DATE:** Your study abroad application, as well as the online signature forms from your resident counselor and academic advisor, **MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 5:00 pm on Wednesday, September 18 (Week 4)**.  
*No late applications will be accepted!*
- The application has **9 sections**, and you must complete each section before moving to the next.
  1. **Personal Information:** The first section includes basic **personal information** including PO1 number, date of birth, citizenship, email, phone number, address, emergency contact(s), declared/expected major and minor, and expected graduation date.
  2. **References:** The second section includes **listing two references**, their emails and phone numbers. One is your personal/character reference and the other is for group learning.
  3. **Academic Advisor Meeting:** The third section confirms that you **met with your academic advisor** to discuss this study abroad program and that it does not conflict with any graduation requirements. You will send your academic advisor this signature page to confirm the meeting: [bit.ly/studyabroad-advisor-signature](http://bit.ly/studyabroad-advisor-signature)
  4. **Resident Counselor Meeting:** The next section confirms that you **met with your resident counselor** to discuss your ability to demonstrate emotional maturity, personal responsibility, and commitment to adapt to different living and learning conditions. You will send your RC the signature form to confirm this meeting: [bit.ly/studyabroad-rc-signature](http://bit.ly/studyabroad-rc-signature)
  5. **Additional Questions:** The next section includes **additional questions** including previous international travel and previous abroads for which you have applied and been accepted or not accepted.
  6. **Essay Questions:**
    - a) Why are you interested in participating in this particular program?
    - b) Describe your spiritual practice, in specific regard to how you envision it being relevant to participating in this study abroad program.
    - c) Describe an experience where you needed to work to accomplish something with a group and incorporate your preferred role(s) as a leader and/or follower within a group, and what qualities you believe are most essential to effective group functioning.
    - d) Describe your willingness to be responsible for your own learning as well as your willingness to be flexible and adventurous in your learning. Provide examples illustrating your ability to be a self-motivated, curious, professional, and adaptable learner.
    - e) Describe a time when you were placed in a situation that was outside of your comfort zone and elaborate on how you navigated that challenging situation.

*The last three sections include signing off on your understanding of the following topics:*

7. **Financial Responsibility** – including commitment and withdrawal deadlines. *\*If applying for Study Abroad Grant, additional questions will be asked in this section to explain specific funding need.*
  8. **Academic & Social Responsibility** – including that you have read the [Study Abroad Student Code of Conduct](#) and the [Study Abroad Student Selection & Eligibility Criteria](#).
  9. **Statement of Expectations** – including abiding by the standards set forth in the previous documents, Principia's standards, additional standards stipulated by the program faculty or international laws and custom, and expectation that you will fully participate in all aspects of the program.
- Again, the application and two online signature forms must be received by **5:00 pm on Wednesday, Sept. 18 (Week 4)**. Please be in touch with Study Abroad Program Manager Mary Jane Hoff with any questions – [maryjane.hoff@principia.edu](mailto:maryjane.hoff@principia.edu) or 618-374-5214 – or stop by School of Government, Suite 160 (SOG 160).