

COURSE TITLE: Greece and the Modern World: From Revolution to Refugee Crisis

COURSE NUMBER: MDGK 4452

SECTION DAYS/TIMES: TR 1-2:40 pm

INSTRUCTOR: Kalliopi Kefalas

CORE AREA: Interdisciplinary Connections

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the history of Greece in the context of the late Ottoman Empire and the emergence of modern Europe. Chronologically, it begins in the late 18th century, the beginning of the “long 19th century,” and ends in the 2010s. Thematically and methodologically, it is broad and examines political ideology, diplomacy, economics, social relations, and religion. The main question the course will continue to address is why Greece and the different regional frameworks it has been placed in such as “the Balkans” and “the Mediterranean” have been considered exceptional in modern European history. To that end, we will be reading a variety of secondary and primary sources that address Greece’s place vis-à-vis the “West” and the “East,” contesting these categories themselves as we progress through the class.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this class, you will:

- Understand historical actors’ decision-making
- Gain research skills by learning how to use primary sources as evidence to trace change over time
- Be able to read scholarly work efficiently – for main arguments, interventions, methodology, and sources – and use other scholars’ work in your own writing
- Learn how to effectively argue a central point using primary and secondary sources
- Have knowledge of major processes in modern Greek history and be able to give a description of a modern Greek historical narrative
- Identify major debates in modern Greek historiography regarding the aforementioned narrative

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:

No prerequisites; students should only have an interest in Greek society, economics, culture, and politics.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

There is no textbook for this class. Assigned readings (both primary and secondary sources) will be posted on Brightspace.

COURSE WORK AND EXPECTATIONS:

Students are expected to attend class regularly and participate in discussions on the assigned readings. They also will complete a research project on a topic of their choice related to modern Greece and present their findings in class.

Grade Breakdown:

Participation via class discussions and research workshops: 10%

Quizzes (3): 15%

Primary source reflections (3): 15%

Research (including proposal, annotated bibliography, outline, draft, final paper, and presentation): 60%