

SUMMER 2024

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Join us for an Odyssey and spend four weeks traveling in Greece studying the vibrant culture of the cornerstone of Western civilization! The Odyssey program is an LMU faculty led program that begins in Athens where students visit the magnificent Acropolis and various museums and art spaces around the city. A walking tour of the city and its street art provides students with a feel for Athens as a modern European metropolis. The group continues their exploration with a week-long trip all around Greece for visits to significant sites: Olympia, Delphi, Mycenae, Nafplio, Sparta, Mystras, and Meteora are some of the places we visit. For the remaining three weeks the academic program resides in the scenic island of Spetses, famous for its history, distinctive architecture, stately mansions, and beautiful beaches. Students will have an opportunity to immerse themselves into Greek life and culture while exploring Spetses and the nearby island of Hydra.

## ANCIENT LANDSCAPES | MODERN VOICES: MODERN GREEK HISTORY, SOCIETY & CULTURE

From the modern metropolis of Athens to the ancient paths of Delphi and Olympia and the island of Spetses, the mythical landscapes that visitors call in on their trips to Greece become our classroom. The relationship between myth and history, the reconciliation of conflicting cultural identities, war and foreign occupation, civil strife, contemporary politics, the peaceful invasion of tourism, globalization, the changing geopolitical map of Europe, and the present challenges Greece and the European Union face are some of the topics we study.

## GREEK PHILOSOPHY: THE GOOD LIFE

For ancient Greek philosophers, philosophy was more than the attempt to rationally apprehend reality. It was also an inquiry into how to live well, a basis for understanding the good life for human beings, and the practice of living wisely. Through lectures, discussions, engaged learning activities, and visits to historically significant sites, students will encounter key elements of Greek moral philosophy and be guided to form their own reflective views of the good life.