**FALL 2025**

**COURSE TITLE: Greek Stories: Storytelling and Identity**

**COURSE NUMBER: FFYS 1000.01**

**SECTION TIMES/DAYS: M/W 11:50am-1:30 pm**

**INSTRUCTOR: Christina Bogdanou**

Office: UH 3908

Phone: (310) 338 4463 Email: [christina.bogdanou@lmu.edu](mailto:christina.bogdanou@lmu.edu)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**:

Like most cultures, the Greeks have used storytelling to make sense of the world around them and reflect about where they came from, who they were, and how they came to live their lives in war and peace. The course explores the connection between storytelling and the formation of a cohesive national identity in the context of a long and complex history with a sharper focus on the last 250 years, from the nation’s independence and formation as a modern European state (early 19th c.) to the present as a charter member of the European Union and player in a rapidly changing geopolitical map. The relationship between myth and history, the reconciliation of conflicting cultural identities, war and foreign occupation, urbanization and modernization, globalization and rising nationalism are some of the topics we will explore in our discussions.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Students will:

* be introduced to Greek history and culture through selected literary/cultural texts, and will make critical connections between past and present, Greece and the rest of the world
* understand how storytelling contributes to the formation of cultural and national identity especially in times of globalized identities
* read and analyze carefully and critically the primary and secondary sources discussed and understand the time periods and societies that produced them
* engage critically and reflectively in rigorous scholarly discourse, research, and writing Students will refine their research and writing skills by working closely with library and writing specialists
* exercise critical thinking in class discussions and presentations

**PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:** None

**COURSE WORK / EXPECTATIONS:**

* attendance/class participation **(15%)**
* reading quizzes **(10%)**
* standardized library tutorials (**10%)**
* a 10-minute presentation **(15%)**
* Writing Portfolio **(50%)**
  + 10 Discussion Boards Posts (250-300 words each) **(10%)**
  + midterm paper (4-5 pages) **(15%)**
  + final research paper (8-10 pages) **(25%)**