



KIIS Greece, Summer 2018

EXS 485: History of the Olympic Games

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Course Description

The purpose of this course is to examine the history of the Olympic Games from their 8th century BCE origins to the present. Throughout history, the Olympics have been a source of diplomacy, competition, and camaraderie of sport. This course will discuss not only the ancient games, but the modern games, the IOC, doping, the Paralympics and other modern issues surrounding international sport. On site visits to Olympic venues such as Ancient Olympia, the Acropolis, Parthenon, the Museum of the Olympics and others will be used as active learning experiences for students. Students will be expected to read historical texts, and research articles, as well as write and think critically.

Student Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to...

- Explain the origins of the Olympic games, including the ancient games of the Peloponnese, and the modern games starting in the late 19th century.
- Discuss the relationships between the games (both ancient and modern) and international diplomacy.
- Discuss the role of the games in ancient and modern society and their impact on culture.
- Explain the role of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as the governing body of the modern Olympics.
- Explain current doping policies and critically analyze the logic behind these policies, and their ramifications.
- Explain the history of the Paralympics and the rule modifications surrounding its sports.

KIIS Greece Program Student Learning Objectives

After completing the KIIS Greece trip, students will have...

- honed their knowledge of Greece and Greek society, from antiquity to the 21st century; · synthesized academic concepts with real world experiences;
- observed Mediterranean life in rural settings, in middle-sized towns, and on islands, as well as in the megalopolis of Athens; interacted with ordinary Greeks on a regular basis;
- exhibited confidence in their abilities to function competently in another culture; · articulated an understanding of what it means to be the stranger in another land;
- articulated the relationship between ideas and place (i.e., geography, landscape, buildings, monuments) as that relationship reflects the past, the present, and the

recreation of the past in the present; clarified their personal values, both as U. S. citizens and as individuals; deepened their appreciation for the values of others;

- improved their oral and written communication skills in English.

Course Goals

1. To utilize numerous pre-Olympic and ancient Olympic sites as a launching pad for discussions of Olympic history and culture.
2. To compare ancient Olympic sites with the Modern site in Athens, both aesthetically and culturally.
3. To discuss issues surrounding the modern games such as doping, regulation, and fair competition.

Required Text

Faulkner, N. (2012) *A Visitor's Guide to the Ancient Olympics*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

Evaluation

Weekly Journal entries	15%
Weekly discussion sessions	10%
Doping Essay	25%
Paralympics Essay	25%
Final paper	<u>25%</u>
Total:	100%

Class attendance & Participation

Students are expected to attend every class and to participate in out-of-class activities as directed by the instructor. KIIS requires that any unexcused absence result in grade reduction, and multiple unexcused absences may result in expulsion from the program.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes plagiarism (copying, paraphrasing, or otherwise stealing another's words, ideas, or idea process without proper citation) and cheating of any kind that attempts to pass off another's work as your own. Consequences for academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade for the assignment in question or the course.

Special Needs

Please mention any special needs on the first day of class. I am committed to helping each student achieve his or her best learning experience. Communication is key!

Course Outline

TBA