**Course Syllabus**

**UEPP 437P: GREECE: APPLIED STUDIES IN MEDITERRANEAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**SUMMER 2022**

**6 credits**

Department of Urban and Environmental Planning and Policy

College of the Environment, Western Washington University

**Tentative dates:**

**Phase 1: Pre-departure course preparation phase. TBA. Logistics and Canvas readings**

**Phase 2: June 24 - July 11, 2022 (Travel and Field Research Phase)**

**Phase 3: Due August 22, 2022 (Final Assignments Submitted)**

# **COURSE SYLLABUS**

**UEPP 437P GREECE: APPLIED STUDIES IN MEDITERRANEAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (6 credits)**

**Instructor** Nicholas C. Zaferatos, Ph.D., AICP

Professor, Urban and Environmental Planning and Policy, Western Washington University

**Overview** The program involves analysis of urban spaces in Athens neighborhoods and in traditional medieval villages (Horas) of Aegean and Ionian Island communities. The course emphasizes studies in sustainable development in both urban and traditional Mediterranean Island communities. The course entails field investigations emphasizing sustainable community development principles, the study of sustainable village form and heritage design, as well as current political, socioeconomic, and cultural issues facing Greece. Students will have an opportunity to explore transitional neighborhoods as well as ancient sites in Athens and will undertake a series of applied studies, including comparative assessment of village form as forms of traditional development using sustainability metrics; urban renewal policies; and the architecture of urban spaces. Our residency stay in Ithaca’s Kioni Village focuses on developing sustainable design alternatives as part of our ongoing research of sustainable development practices for the island community.

**Course Highlights:** Explore Mediterranean architecture, urban planning, historic development, and culture while performing fieldwork in urban and village community settings. The international program involves 3 distinct parts: Part 1: Our exploration begins and ends exploring urban Athens, emphasizing urban design, the city’s historic development, plans to pedestrianize the central city, and exploring the current impacts of mass migration in Athens. Part 2: involves island hopping across the Aegean islands for comparative studies of traditional settlement villages in the Cycladic chain of Islands. Part 3 includes a residency study in the island of Ithaca. In addition to Ithaca Island, other Islands we anticipate visiting may include a combination of the following: Corfu (Ionian), Syros, Folengandros, Serifos, Sifnos (Cycladic), Aegina and Hydra (Saronic Islands).

**Readings** (Tentative. Selective Readings will be posted on Canvas)

* Mediterranean strategy for sustainable development, UNEP/MAP
* Traditional Mediterranean Architecture, MEDA, EUROMED HERITAGE
  + - The Living Community Challenge
    - Blueprint for a Living Village, Kioni, Ithaca. Western Washington University
    - Sustainable Tourism Development in the Greek Islands and the Role of Tourism research and Education, *G. Zaharatos, P. Tsartas*
    - *The Complete Greek Temples. Tony Spawforth (2006). London: Thames and Hudson.*
    - *Greek Architecture (ancient temples). R.A. Tomlinson (1989). London: Bristol Classical Press.*
    - Social and Spatial Impact of the Crisis in Athens: From Clientelist Regulation to Sovereign Dept Crisis. Thomas Maloutas

**2022 Project Emphasis**

StudyProjects undertaken in the 2022 Program emphasize sustainable community development, urban morphology studies of medieval towns, urban pedestrian planning (Athens), heritage town design and other sustainable design topics.

**Study Focus:**

* Comparative assessment of town morphology as traditional sustainable development.
* Village redevelopment, design and function of community marketplaces, pedestrian urbanization, and civil expressions to economic austerity.

**Final Projects** Students will develop illustrated site drawings depicting elements of village sustainability; a photo journal, a journal of impressions experienced; and sustainable design concept solutions for an assigned problem facing an Island village community.

**Schedule** The summer course involves pre-departure preparation, field investigation in Greece, and a final project. The typical field day consists of combined lecture, fieldwork, and seminar discussions. Each morning we convene for daily instruction regarding research objectives, methods, design objectives, team assignments and to coordinate field logistic. Students work in teams to conduct research tasks. Evening sessions consists of reflection, discussion, and critiques (and several program dinners).

**Credit Hours** Pre departure meetings, research, and assignment of readings (.5 credits)

International travel: 2.5-week onsite research (5 credits)

Research compilation, analysis, final report (.5 credits)

**Methodology** Study teams will visit the village sites daily to identify village form characteristics and relationship between social space and physical design. Students learn how to apply metrics to evaluate sustainability of space. Digital photography, field sketches, and field notes of observations are emphasized.

**Evaluation** Final grades will be based on the following: 1) pre-departure readings reflection paper (10 points); 2) illustrative interpretation of village urban design (20 points); 3) daily journal of observations and reflections (20 points); 4) Photo survey (20 points), and 5) team design solution to an assigned sustainable development problem (30 points).

**500 Level**: Students enrolled in graduate programs are required to conduct independent research related to the curriculum and subject to instructor approval, submit the research design for instructor approval, and formulate the research paper.