



IAP in ANCIENT GREECE

JANUARY 2021



Building on the success of fourteen prior seasons of the IAP in Ancient Italy/Greece program, the MIT History Faculty and MIT Concourse will again offer to between 10 and 20 MIT undergraduates a first-hand experience of Greek art and archaeology – city design, temples, theaters, monuments public and private, art of every kind and every material – in the settings where they can best be explored: in the magnificent heart of bustling Athens, and across the breathtaking landscape of central Greece (Delphi, Olympia, Epidauros, Mycenae, Corinth).

Program Overview

No one doubts that the Greeks “invented” Western Civilization, if any people did. Their legacy is immense, richly on display in the sleek lines & colossal scale of their temples; in their exquisitely lifelike sculptures and delicate vase painting and luxurious jewelry; in the personalities and spellbinding tales of their gods and heroes; in the sophistication of their philosophy, scientific observation, political craft -- including the invention of democracy -- and military genius; in the subtlety of their commercial enterprise (including the earliest widespread coinage); and in the gut-wrenching impact of their tragic dramas, and the scatological outrageousness of their comic plays.

Yet alongside their clear delight in the gifts of human reason the Greeks can astound by their apparent irrationality as well: their ferocious brutality in battle, the barbarous treatment of silver mine slaves and war captives, a taste for murderous civil unrest; an extreme competitive urge that played out on the battlefield, but also in the numerous pan-Hellenic athletic games, and through the one-upmanship of Athenian political life, architectural display, and theater contests; the search for spiritual meaning, material gain, and physical comfort through the most bizarre of religious avenues (oracular



fortune-telling at Delphi, incubation healing at Epidauros; the never revealed “Mysteries” of the underworld gods; the orgiastic devotion of the cult of Dionysus) – all these testify to a strong Greek attraction to the irrational, along with their attachment to the power of reason.

Where better to discover the excitement of the Greek heritage than in the land that gave it birth? Our itinerary takes us from the glories of the Athenian Acropolis and its world-famous new gem of a Museum; to the stunning natural setting of Apollo’s Oracle at Delphi; on to the home of the more than 1000-years-old Games at Olympia; then to the best preserved of all Greek theaters and top ancient healing center (of Asclepius) at Epidauros; the mighty Bronze Age citadel of Mycenae (home to Agamemnon, commander-in-chief of the Greeks in the Trojan War); the pioneering commercial city that was wealthy Corinth; and at last, a return to Athens for a final day’s visit to the artistic treasures of its great National Museum, and an afternoon to savor Greece’s capital city at leisure.



Provisional Itinerary

Estimated Costs

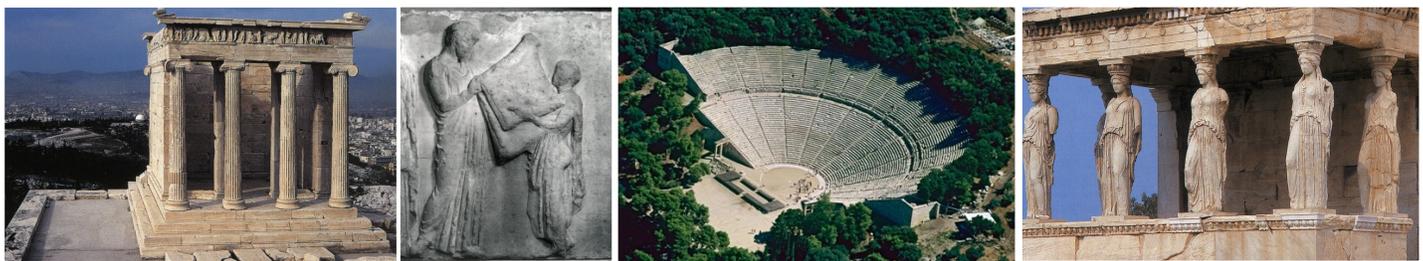
(Based on IAP 2019)

Day 1:	Arrive Athens Welcome dinner		
		<u>Program Expenses</u> (payable to MIT)	
Day 2:	Athens: Acropolis Acropolis Museum	Tuition	\$ 0
		Hotels, sites/museums, travel in Greece	\$ 1,239
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		Program Subtotal	\$ 1,239
Day 3:	Athens: Agora Agora Museum		
		<u>Personal Expenses</u>	
Day 4:	Delphi: Sanctuary of Apollo Delphi Museum	Boston-Athens return airfare	\$ 1,000
		Meals in Greece	\$ 300
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		Personal Subtotal	\$ 1,300
Day 5:	Olympia: Sanctuary of Zeus Olympia Museum		
		TOTAL	\$ 2,539
Day 6:	Epidaurus: Sanctuary of Asclepius		
Day 7:	Mycenae Corinth		
Day 8:	Athens: National Museum Farewell dinner		
Day 9:	Depart Athens		

Participants will purchase their airfare to Athens and most meals (lunch and dinner) individually. Hotels, site and museum fees, three group dinners, and group travel within Greece will be paid for collectively out of funds paid by participants into the group account prior to the start of the program. Students will be accommodated in double rooms with private baths. Breakfast is included.

Financial Assistance:

Participants in previous years have successfully applied for financial assistance from the Kelly-Douglas Travel Fellowship Program through SHASS, the Li and Fung Scholarship Program through the Global Education Office, and the IAP Greece/Italy Fund through the History Faculty and Concourse Program.



Application deadline: Monday, October 5

For further information, and for a copy of the application form, please contact one of the directors:

Prof. Will Broadhead: williamb@mit.edu

Prof. Linda Rabieh: lrabieh@mit.edu

Eligibility:

All registered MIT students are eligible. In the case that more than 20 applications are received, priority for participation will be offered first to Ancient and Medieval Studies or History majors/minors/concentrators and to Concourse students and then to current students and successful veterans (Seniors first) of MIT AMS, History, and Concourse subjects. For a complete list of eligible subjects, see the AMS website: ams.mit.edu