

FROM HOMER TO ZORBA THE GREEK: Greek Culture, History and Cinema on a Journey

This traveling seminar is a special opportunity to take in the beauty, history, art and culture of over 5,000 years of Greece while also enjoying and learning more about contemporary Greece and its cinema. From Homer's wine dark sea on a Greek island to the beauty of the Acropolis and its new museum and on to the Minoan palaces and valleys of Crete and a mainland journey to Delphi, the "center of the universe," our odyssey will help us all to gain a wider and deeper view of the past and how it relates to the present. Participants also will learn about the languages of ancient and contemporary Greece, including a short daily Greek lesson! The seminar may be taken for University of Oklahoma academic credit by applying through Professor Horton for Film Studies credit and Richard Beck for Classics Department credit.

Horton will present a Greek film each evening for enjoyment and discussion, Greek filmmakers also will join us, and Richard Beck will offer a wealth of knowledge in morning presentations on Greek culture from Homer up through the Roman period. Both Horton and Beck also will touch on Byzantine, Turkish and modern Greek history and culture as well.



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From Homer to Zorba the Greek:

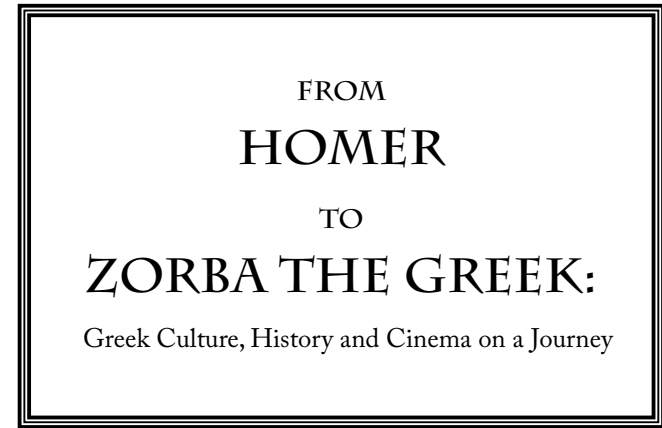
Greek Culture, History and Cinema on a Journey

June 8 - 22, 2011



The University of Oklahoma Film and Video Studies
640 Parrington Oval, Wallace Old Sci Hall #300
Norman, OK 73019-3050

2011 University of Oklahoma Film and Video Studies Program
and the Department of Classics and Letters



Athens, Greece

June 8 - 22, 2011

Directed by
Andrew Horton
and
Richard Beck



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FROM HOMER TO ZORBA THE GREEK

SCHEDULE

- JUNE 8** Fly to Greece with the airline of your choice
- JUNE 9** Athens arrival. Welcome to Greece! Make your own way by airport bus to the end of the line: Syntagma Square. (map with directions will be provided) then a short walk to our to hotel in Plaka: Hermes Hotel.
- 7 p.m. We will gather in the hotel lobby and go to a nearby taverna for an opening feast!
- JUNE 10** Morning guided tour of Classical Athens
- Highlights including the Acropolis and the New Acropolis Museum. Afternoon drive east to the port of Lavrion to board a ferry for Kea Island. On the island, we check into Karthea Hotel.
- JUNE 11** 9-11 a.m. Morning session on Early Greek culture before Homer and Intro to Island Culture Past and Present.
- 2 p.m. Walk to nearby Yialoskari Beach for swimmers.
- 6 p.m. Screening at the hotel of Michael Cacoyannis' *Iphigenia* (1977). Supper on our own at local tavernas at the waterfront.
- JUNE 13** 9-11 a.m. Presentation and discussion of the Comic Spirit in Greece with a focus on Aristophanes down to the present.
- 11:30 a.m. Bus to the Minoan period site at Aghia Eirene and then on to the beach and bay of Otzia for swimming and a picnic. Then by bus to the Kea Monastery for a visit and brief discussion on the Greek Orthodox Faith. Return by 5pm to the hotel.
- 6 p.m. Reception at the Hortons' home.
- 7 p.m. Screening of Thanasis Vengos' *What Did You Do In the War, Thanasis?* (1971)
- Final Kea Feast: we will go together to one of the harbor tavernas. Local Kea friends will join us.
- JUNE 14** Ferryboat to Lavrion port and visit the ancient Temple of Poseidon at Cape Sounion. Beck and Horton on "What the Ancient Mediterranean Heritage Has Given Us All." A drive along the beautiful "Riviera" of the seacoast with lunch at a seaside taverna.
- 7p.m. Boarding the ferryboat for Crete in Piraeus, the Port of Athens. Overnight on board with cabins assigned.

- JUNE 15** Crete Early-morning arrival Heraklion. We will visit the Minoan Palace of Knossos, and the Heraklion Archaeological Museum, Morosini Fountain and the Nikos Kazantzakis Memorial. We move westward through Crete to the town of Rethymnon, where we take a short walking tour and then continue along the coast to our seaside hotel near the old town of Chania.
- JUNE 16** Half-day guided tour of Chania: Archaeological and Maritime Museums. Discussion lecture early afternoon on Greece and the Byzantine Empire.
- 5 p.m. Screening Cacoyannis' *Zorba the Greek* (1964)
- JUNE 17** A hike through the Samaria Gorge, which includes the bus transfers, gorge guide and entrances, ferries from the gorge's southern end, and return to hotel.
- 6 p.m. Screening of Costa-Gavras' *Z* (1969), A Oscar-winning look at Greece under political traumas during the 1960s leading to the dictatorship of 1967-74.
- JUNE 18** 9 a.m. A celebration of foreigners living in and writing about Greece. Screening of Gerald Durrell's *My Family and Other Animals* (BBC 2005).
- Afternoon transfer to a ferry and overnight boat from Chania to Piraeus/Athens
- JUNE 19** Early-morning arrival in Piraeus. By bus with an official guide, we drive through the Greek countryside to mountainside Delphi. Discussion on the more than 400 years of Turkish Occupation of Greece. We will visit the archaeological site of the Delphic Oracle. Overnight in the Acropole Hotel.
- 6 p.m. Screening and reception: A contemporary Greek comic odyssey after death: Renos Haralambidis' *Four Dark Suits* (2010).
- JUNE 20** Leaving Delphi with our guide, we detour to visit the Golden Age medieval Byzantine Monastery of Ossiou Loukas. Continue to Athens.
- 7 p.m. Screening of Cacoyannis' *Electra* (1962).
- JUNE 21** 9:30-11 a.m. Final discussion: From Homer to Zorba and back again. Free day in Athens for shopping.
- 7 p.m. Final evening performances and stories from each participant followed by a banquet at an Athenian taverna.
- JUNE 22** One chartered bus transfer to Athens International Airport.

Andrew Horton is the Jeanne H. Smith Professor of Film and Video Studies at the University of Oklahoma and has been taking groups to Greece for more than 25 years. An award-winning screenwriter whose credits include Brad Pitt's first feature role, *Dark Side of the Sun*, he is also the author of 22 books on cinema, literature, and cultural and Greek studies, including *The Films of Theo Angelopoulos*, *Writing the Character Centered Screenplay* and *Laughing Out Loud: Writing the Comedy Centered Screenplay*.

Richard Beck has been introducing students at the University of Oklahoma to the delights of the ancient Greek language and its literature for over a decade. In 2007 he received a Student Association outstanding faculty award. His principle interests are the Greek language and its history, Greek linguistics, and Homer. He has often visited Greece and lived in Nafplion for a semester. He now lives in Norman, Okla., in a gastrocentric household with his wife, Helga Madland, a writer and scholar of 18th-century German literature, and their cats and dogs, in a house with many windows and a large library situated inside a small, but elaborate, walled garden.

COST FOR THE LAND PROGRAM PER PERSON

3 persons Sharing a triple room and bath	\$2,350
2 persons Sharing a double room and bath	\$2,530
1 person Single accommodation and bath	\$2,900

Samaria Gorge day in Crete: per person Euros 57.00

\$500 deposit due to Journey House Travel, Norman, Okla., by Jan 15, 2011

Full payment is due by March 25, 2011

Note that not included in the above land price are round-trip air tickets to and from Athens, Greece.

Partial OU scholarships are available from different sources (Horton and Beck can help with these). For further information in general, contact Andrew Horton at ahorton@ou.edu or (405)325-3020.

For specific travel information and booking flights, contact our travel agents at Journey House Travel in Norman, Cyndee Rodgers (dee@journeyhouse.com) or Darci Rimmer at (405) 366-8037 (darci@journeyhouse.com)