


Syllabus Winter/Spring 2024
Department of Political Science
Faculty of Arts and Science
University of Toronto, St. George campus

Course: POL385H1-S “Issues in Contemporary Greece”
Instructor: Themistoklis Aravossitas, Ph.D.
Email: themis.aravossitas@utoronto.ca
Lectures: Thursday 18:00-20:00
Office hours: Friday 11:00-14:00 by email appointment (online via Zoom)
Office: 1 Devonshire Place, Room 111N, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

 **Course description**

Strategically located at the crossroads of three continents, Greece has often become the epicenter of various political and cultural developments with significant international implications. In 2021, Greece celebrated the anniversary of 200 years since the beginning of the 1821 revolution against the Ottoman Empire and the long war of independence which led to the establishment of the Modern Greek State, known today as the Hellenic Republic.

This course follows the journey of the Greek people, their leaders, their triumphs, their challenges, and traumas over the course of the last two centuries. Personalities and events that shaped the nation’s trajectory will be studied and critically examined to offer a clear understanding of Greece’s main social, cultural, and political characteristics. Through lectures, selected readings, films & documentaries, class discussions and guest speakers, students will have the opportunity to familiarise with the “National Greek Issues”, will discover some “Great Greeks” and their contribution in shaping and modernizing Greek society, and will learn about the “Greek Diaspora” and its role in strengthening and promoting Hellenism both domestically and internationally.

Upon completion of this half year course, participants are expected to be familiarized with the political history of modern Greece and be able to critically explore and, analyze contemporary Greek politics within a European or Mediterranean context. Furthermore, students will be able to make connections between major international, and local challenges and their implications on Greek society as well as to recognize the political, social, and cultural influences of exceptional personalities and events to what Greece is today.

 **Textbooks**

1. Clogg, R. 2014. *A Concise History of Greece* (3rd Edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Available at the U of T Bookstore as a paperback or e-copy, this book provides a good background of Modern Greek history that is necessary for our course.

Link to access an e-copy: <https://uoftbookstore.vitalsource.com/products/a-concise-history-of-greece-richard-clogg-v9781108957311?term=9781108957311>

2. Kalyvas, S. N. 2015. *Modern Greece: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

 **Assessment**

Students will be evaluated on the basis of the following measures:

Midterm Test (20%) (outline of the test will be posted a week before the test date)

Date: The test will be synchronous and will take place on February 29, 2024

Content: Questions on topics covered in lessons 1-6 (lectures & readings).

Format: Multiple choice and short answers.

Research/Position Paper (30 %)

On this assignment you can work with a partner (both will receive the same mark)

Due date: March 20, 2024 (Late submission penalty: 5% per late day)

Length: 2500 words+ abstract (100-200 words)+bibliography (minimum of 10 sources)

Reference style: APA (American Psychological Association)

Success Criteria: Content, Originality, Punctuality, Structure, Research, References

Topic/Scenario: “You work as an analyst for the federal government of Canada, and you are asked to submit to the Prime minister’s office a report (brief) about Greece, providing information such as points of interest for Canada, recommendations for Greece, etc., on one of the following areas:

Economy/Trade/Tourism/Education/Defense/Justice/Housing/Health/Migration/Culture/ Arts/Agriculture/ /Employment/ Natural Resources/ Science/ Industry/ Energy Emergency preparedness. (More assessment details will be posted on Quercus)

Homework/ Participation (10%)

Ten percent of the grade is based on the synthesis of:

-10 lesson quizzes on Quercus (due a week after each lecture)

-10 lesson notes, 1-2 pages long per lesson, on Quercus, (due a week after each lecture)

-Active participation during lectures, guest speakers’ presentations, and in-class discussions is also taken into consideration for this mark.

Final Assessment (40%)

Date: TBA

Content: Questions on topics covered in lessons 1-12 (lectures & readings).

Format: Multiple choice and short answers.

Please be advised to keep rough and draft work and hard copies of essays and assignments before handing in to the instructor. Students should keep All essays/assignments until the marked essays/assignments have been returned and the grades are posted on ACORN.

 **Academic Integrity**

In all their work students must avoid plagiarism or academic dishonesty including copying or paraphrasing extensive passages from other sources without acknowledgement; submitting a paper or assignment written in whole or in part by someone else; copying the answers of another student in any quiz, test or examination. In any of these cases appropriate penalties will be applied following procedures outlined in the Code of Behavior on Academic Matters. For further

clarification and information on plagiarism please see Writing at the University of Toronto <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources>".

Missed assignments

Students who miss any major assignment need to notify the course instructor as soon as possible and provide a doctor's note. Make-up tests or assignments are normally scheduled within one week from the original date. For penalties for late submissions, please see the assessment section

Resources

Each of the colleges on the St. George campus of the University of Toronto operates a Writing Centre, offering a range of services, including workshops, seminars and individual consultations to help you identify and develop the skills you need for success in your studies. For further information on how to use your college's Writing Centre, visit: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/>

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all lectures. Missing classes and repeated late arrivals as well as disruption of lectures could affect the participation mark.

Accessibility Services

Students who need any kind of accommodation for a disability/health condition should feel comfortable to share their concerns with the instructor. For detailed information on what type of support and accommodation is available, please visit <http://accessibility.utoronto.ca/>.

Email policy

Please send emails only from your university "UToronto" account and put the course code POL385 in the subject line to ensure receipt of messages. All emails will be responded within 48 hours excluding weekends.

Portal (Quercus)

All course related announcements including homework and test/assignment preparation materials are posted on Quercus. Students need to check the course site regularly for updates.

Classroom courtesy rules

Please try to arrive in class or join the online meeting promptly and give your full attention to lectures. Laptops, tablets or phones should be used only for taking notes. Please refrain from reading extraneous materials during class. All electronic devices must be silenced in class.

COURSE CALENDAR & READINGS

Lectures take place on Thursday between 6:00-8:00 PM. (Room BL 325)

Lesson 1: January 11, 2024

Topics

Introductions, Syllabus, Important Days, Assessment, Guest Speakers
Textbook 1: Ottoman rule and the emergence of the Greek state
People: Introduction to Great Greeks (politicians, artists, authors, scientists, benefactors)
Events : Introduction to Triumphs and Traumas of Modern Greece.

Readings:

- -Clogg, R. (2013). Introduction. In *A Concise History of Greece* (Cambridge Concise Histories, pp. 1-6). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- -Clogg, R. (2013). Ottoman rule and the emergence of the Greek state 1770–1831. In *A Concise History of Greece* (Cambridge Concise Histories, pp. 7-45). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kalyvas, S (2015). What is Greece. In *Modern Greece: What Everyone Needs to Know*, pp 1-13. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- -Kalyvas, S (2015). Emergence. In *Modern Greece: What Everyone Needs to Know*, pp 15-35. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Optional/ Recommended:

- -Balogiannis, G., Gekas, S. (Hosts). (2020, December 24). The Origins of the Revolution. (1). [Audio podcast episode]. In *The Idea of Greece*. Hellenic Heritage Foundation. <https://feeds.buzzsprout.com/1552246.rss>.
- -Balogiannis, G., Gekas, S. (Hosts). (2021, January 17). Not One War. (2). [Audio podcast episode]. In *The Idea of Greece*. Hellenic Heritage Foundation. <https://feeds.buzzsprout.com/1552246.rss>.

Lesson 2: January 18, 2024

Topics

Textbook 1: Nation building, the ‘Great Idea’ and National Schism
Great Greeks, p.2: Ioannis Kapodistrias, Georgios Seferis
Triumphs and Traumas, p.2: Athens-Greece 2004.

Readings:

- -Clogg, R. (2013). Nation building, the ‘Great Idea’ and National Schism 1831–1922. In *A Concise History of Greece* (Cambridge Concise Histories, pp. 46-97). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kalyvas, S (2015). Building. In *Modern Greece: What Everyone Needs to Know*, pp 37-67. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Optional/ Recommended:

- -Giorgos Seferis – Biographical. NobelPrize.org. Nobel Prize Outreach AB 2022. Tue. 4 Jan 2022. <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/literature/1963/seferis/biographical/>
- -Balogiannis, G., Gekas, S. (Hosts). (2021, March 25). *The Founding of a Nation*. (7). [Audio podcast episode]. In *The Idea of Greece*. Hellenic Heritage Foundation. <https://feeds.buzzsprout.com/1552246.rss>.
- -Liakos, A. (2007), Historical Time and National Space in modern Greece, in T. Hayashi and F. Hiroshi, editors *Regions in Central and Eastern Europe: Past and Present*, Sapporo: Slavic Eurasian Studies, pp. 205-227.

Lesson 3: January 25, 2024

Topics

Textbook: The Asia Minor Disaster; Greece in WWII
 Great Greeks, p.3: Eleftherios Venizelos, Vasilis Tsitsanis, Manolis Glezos
 Triumphs and Traumas, p.3: Rebetiko (music genre)
 Guest Speaker (TBA.)

Readings:

- -Clogg, R. (2013). Catastrophe and occupation and their consequences 1923–49. In *A Concise History of Greece* (Cambridge Concise Histories, pp. 98-141). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- -Kalyvas, S (2015). Turmoil. In *Modern Greece: What Everyone Needs to Know*, pp 69-97. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Optional/ Recommended:

- -Eleftherios Venizelos Foundation (2021). Biography. Available at: <https://www.venizelos-foundation.gr/en/eleftherios-venizelos/biography/>
- -Iliou, M. (2013). Smyrna: The Destruction of a Cosmopolitan City (documentary, 87 min). Available at: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=765213150903301>
- -Sclavunos, J. (2004). So good, they made it illegal. Retrieved December 7, 2021, from <https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2004/apr/19/guesteditors3>
- -Triadafilopoulos, T. (2003). The Political Consequences of Forced Population Transfers: Refugee Incorporation in Greece and West Germany. In Ohliger, R., Schonwalder, S., and Triadafilopoulos, T. (eds.), *European Encounters: Migrants, Migration and European Societies since 1945*. London: Ashgate, 99-122.
- -Kaloyanides, M. G. (1989). [Review of Rebetiko, by C. Ferris, S. Xarchakos, & N. Gatsos]. *Ethnomusicology*, 33(2), 367–369. <https://doi.org/10.2307/924420>
- -Michael, D. (1996). “Tsitsanis and the Birth of the New Laiko Tragoudi”. *Modern Greek Studies*, 4, 55-96. Retrieved from: <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/4ae7/ec7e78f41a10bafc630f968d8106c37f29d2.pdf>

Lesson 4: February 1, 2024

Topics

Greece during the “Cold War” era. From Civil War to Dictatorship
Great Greeks, p.4 Mikis Theodorakis, Manos Hatzidakis
Triumphs and Traumas, p.4: The Greek Civil War
Guest speaker: TBA

Readings

- -Clogg, R. (2013). The legacy of the civil war 1950–74. In *A Concise History of Greece* (Cambridge Concise Histories, pp. 142-165). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- -Kalyvas, S (2015). Take off. In *Modern Greece: What Everyone Needs to Know*, pp 101-147. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- -Vulliamy E., Smith, H. (2014). Athens 1944: Britain’s dirty secret. *The Guardian* (online). Retrieved on December 12, 2023, from:<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/nov/30/athens-1944-britains-dirty-secret>

Optional/ Recommended:

- -Barrett, M. (2021). The Rise of the Junta in Greece. Available at: <https://www.ahistoryofgreece.com/junta.htm>
- -Barrett, M. (2021). November 17th, Cyprus and the Fall of the Junta. Available at: <https://www.ahistoryofgreece.com/november17.htm>
 - Cold War Documentary (2019, December 21). *Greek Civil War 1946-1949* [Video, 17'49]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MExBH25xf5o>
- -Greek military junta of 1967–74. Available at: https://military.wikia.org/wiki/Greek_military_junta_of_1967%E2%80%9374
- -Papandreou N. (2012). Mikis and Manos: A Tale of Two Composers. e-book. Available at: Mikis and Manos: A Tale of Two Composers
- -Economides, Spyros 2000 The Greek and Spanish Civil Wars: a Comparison. *Civil Wars*, 3 2, 89-105.
- -Kalyvas, S. N. 2008. How Not To Compare Civil Wars: Greece and Spain. In Martin Baumeister & Stefanie Schüler-Springorum (eds.), "If You Tolerate This..." The Spanish Civil War in the Age of Total War. Frankfurt and New York: Campus Verlag, 247-263
- -Tsoukalas C. (1981). The Ideological Impact of the Civil War, in J.O. Iatrides (ed.) *Greece in the 1940s. A Nation in Crisis*. Hannover: University Press of New England.

Lesson 5: February 8, 2024

Topics

Transition to and establishment of democracy
Great Greeks, p.5: Papandreou & Karamanlis
Triumphs and Traumas, p.5, The Athens Polytechnic Uprising

Readings

- -Clogg, R. (2013). The consolidation of democracy and the populist decade 1974–90. In *A Concise History of Greece* (Cambridge Concise Histories, pp. 166-200). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- -Clogg, R. (2013). Balkan turmoil and political modernization: Greece in the 1990s. In *A Concise History of Greece* (Cambridge Concise Histories, pp. 201-238). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- -Kalyvas, S (2015). The Great Crisis. In *Modern Greece: What Everyone Needs to Know*, pp 153-191. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Optional

HHF Podcast Series: *EDO POLYTECNIO* . The story of the 1973 student protest which took on the Greek military dictatorship.

- Episode One: Introduction. Hosts Bill Molos and Sandra Gionas start the 50th anniversary retrospective journey into the events at the Athens Polytechnio in November 1973.
Listen here - <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1552246/13736437>
- Episode Two: The Road to 1967. To understand the student occupation of the Athens Polytechnio, you have to understand Greece in the Post-WWII years.
Listen here - <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1552246/13736441>
- Episode Three: The Military Seizes Power Greeks awake on Friday, April 21, 1967 to a new reality.
Listen here - <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1552246/13790757>
- Episode Four: Protest and Resistance. Trying to protest the new military dictatorship was a dangerous thing to do. How the Colonels silenced their opponents...
Listen here - <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1552246/13824984>
- Episode Five: Resistance in the Diaspora. As many Greeks flee the military dictatorship, places like Toronto take on an important role in the resistance.
Listen here - <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1552246/13876420>
- Episode Six: The Culture of Resistance. How people in the arts reacted to the military dictatorship and how counterculture tried to drown out that resistance.
Listen here - <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1552246/13917910>
- Episode Seven: The Student Occupation. On November 14, 1973, students barricade themselves inside the Athens Polytechnio. In the end, there would be bloodshed, but history was made.
Listen here - <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1552246/13952200>
- Episode Eight: The Metapolitefsi. The aftermath of the Athens Polytechnic student uprising and the return to democracy.
Listen here - <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1552246/14006642>
- -Diamandouros, P. N. (1995). Greek Politics & Society in the 1990s, in Allison, G. T. and Nicolaidis, K. (eds.), *The Greek Paradox: Promise vs. Performance*, (Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press), 23-39.

- -Konstantinos Karamanlis Foundation (2021). Biography and Political Career. Available at: <https://ikk.gr/en/>
- -George A. Papandreou. (2021). Biography. Available at: <https://papandreou.gr/en/biography/>
- -Wilson Centre (2012). Andreas Papandreou: The Making of a Greek Democrat and Political Maverick. Available at: <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/event/andreas-papandreou-the-making-greek-democrat-and-political-maverick>

Lesson 6: February 15, 2024

Topics

Greece in the 21st century. From affluency to austerity. (Economic and refugee crises)
 Great Greeks, p.6 : Maria Callas, Aristotle Onassis
 Triumphs and Traumas, p.6. From affluency to austerity.

Readings

- -Clogg, R. (2013). Greece in the new Millennium: From affluence to austerity. In *A Concise History of Greece* (Cambridge Concise Histories, pp. 239-263). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- -Kalyvas, S (2015). Future. In *Modern Greece: What Everyone Needs to Know*, pp 195-203. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Optional/Recommended

- -Council on Foreign Relations (2021). Greece's Debt 1974-2018: A Timeline. Available at: <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/greeces-debt-crisis-timeline>
- -Ladi, S., Angelou, A.,Panagiotatou, D. (2021) Regaining Trust: Evidence-Informed Policymaking during the First Phase of the Covid-19 Crisis in Greece, *South European Society and Politics*, DOI: 10.1080/13608746.2021.1983932

Additional readings TBA (Check lesson's module on Quercus)

Lesson 7: February 29, 2024, *Test: In class or online during regular class time (20%)*

Lesson 8: March 7, 2024

Topics:

Hellenic Diaspora, p.1
 Great Greeks, p.7: Maria Callas, Aristotle Onassis
 Triumphs and Traumas, p.7: Emigration

Readings

- -Chimbos, P. (1999). The Greeks in Canada: An Historical and Sociological Perspective. In Clogg, R. (ed.), *The Greek Diaspora in the Twentieth Century*, (pp.87–102). New York: St. Martin's Press, Inc

- -Georgakas, D. (2004). The Now and Future Greek America: Strategies for Survival. *The Journal of Modern Hellenism*, 21, 1-15.
- -Greek Canadian History Project (2021). Available at: <https://archives.library.yorku.ca/gchp/>

Optional/ Recommended

- -Iliou Maria (ed.), (2009). *The journey. The Greek American dream, 1890- 1980*. [Documentary 84.36} Texts: Maria Iliou, Alexander Kitroeff, George Tselios, Nikos Bakounakis. Athens, Greece: Benaki Museum – Proteus
- -Kaloudis, George. (2006). Greeks of the Diaspora: Modernizers or an Obstacle to Progress? *International Journal on World Peace*. 23. 49-70. 10.2307/20752734
- -Stalikas, A., & Gavaki, E. (1995). The Importance of Ethnic Identity: Self-Esteem and Academic Achievement of Second-Generation Greeks in Secondary School. *Canadian Journal of School Psychology*, 11(1), 1–9. <https://doi.org/10.1177/082957359501100102>

Further reading

- -Aravossitas T (2016) *The hidden schools: mapping Greek heritage language education in Canada* [Doctoral Dissertation], Graduate Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, University of Toronto.
- -Aravossitas, T. Sugiman, M. (2019). From Brain Drain to Brain Gain: New Greek Migration to Canada and Implications for the Community. In J. Panagiotopoulou, L. Rosen, C. Kirsch, A. Chatzidaki (eds.), *'New' Migration of Families from Greece to Europe and Canada* (pp.33-56). Wiesbaden, Germany: Springer Fachmedien Wiesbaden

Lesson 9: March 14, 2024

Topics

Hellenic Diaspora, p.2
 Great Greeks, p.8. Constantine Cavafy, Theo Angelopoulos
 Triumphs and Traumas, p.8: The Anti Greek Riots in Toronto
 Guest Speaker (TBA.)

Readings

- -**Burry, J., & Burgeoning Communications Inc.** (2009). *Violent August: The 1918 anti-Greek riots in Toronto* [Documentary, 46' 16) . Toronto: Burgeoning Communications, Inc.
- -**Diamanti-Karanou, P.** (2015). *The Relationship Between Homeland and Diaspora: The Case of Greece and the Greek American Community*. [Doctoral Dissertation]. Department of Political Science, Northeastern University. Available at: <https://repository.library.northeastern.edu/files/neu:379149/fulltext.pdf>
- -**Damanakis, M.** (2010). Identities in the Greek Diaspora. In Osborne, M.J. (Ed.) *PHILATHENAIOS*, (pp. 281-297). Athens: Greek Epigraphic Society.
- -**Georgakas, D.** (2016). Greek America: The Next Fifty Years.” *The AHIF Policy Journal* (Spring 2016): 1–12. <http://ahifworld.serverbox.net/AHIFpolicyjournal/pdfs/Volume7Spring/06georgakas.pdf>

- -**Kanarakis, G** (2004). The Greek diaspora in a globalized world. *Modern Greek Studies* (Australia and New Zealand). Available at: file:///C:/Users/Themis/Downloads/11455-30512-1-SM.pdf

 **Lesson 10: March 21, 2024** *Research/position paper due (20%)*

Topics:

National Greek Issues
 Great Greeks, P.9: Nikos Kazantzakis, Melina Merkouri
 Triumphs and Traumas, p.9. Wildfires and other national disasters
 Guest Speaker (TBA)

Readings


- -Connelly, A. (2020). Europe's Failed Migration Policy Caused Greece's Latest Refugee Crisis. Available at: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/09/20/europes-failed-migration-policy-caused-greeces-latest-refugee-crisis/>
- -Danforth, L. M. (1995). *The Macedonian Conflict: Ethnic Nationalism in a Transnational World*, (Princeton: Princeton University Press), 56-78.
- -Ker-Lindsay, J. (2011). *The Cyprus Problem: What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford: Oxford University Press), 47-77, 95-114.
- -Merryman, J. (1985). Thinking about the Elgin Marbles. *Michigan Law Review*, 83(8), 1881-1923. doi:10.2307/1288954
- -Nikolaidis, K. (1997). Greeks and the 'Macedonian Question': Lessons for a Better Future, in Psaltzgraff, R. and Keridis, D. (eds.). *Southeast European Security and the Greek-US Relations*. New York: Brassey's.
- -Skoulariki, A. (2021): Political Polarisation in Greece: The Prespa Agreement, Left/Right Antagonism and the Nationalism/Populism Nexus. In *South European Society and Politics*.
- -Vasilopoulou, S. (2018). The Party Politics of Euroscepticism in Times of Crisis: The Case of Greece. *Politics* 38, 3, 311 – 326.
- -Hellenic Republic (2021). Issues of Greek - Turkish Relations. Available at: <https://www.mfa.gr/en/issues-of-greek-turkish-relations/>

 **Lesson 11: March 28, 2024**

Topics:

The Hellenic Heritage Foundation and Greek Vitality in Canada (Presentation)
 Great Greeks, p.10: From Spiros Louis to Nikos Galis & Giannis Antetokounmpo
 Triumphs and Traumas, p.10. "Greek hoops"

Readings: See lesson's module on Quercus)

 **Lesson 12: April 4, 2024**

Course evaluation; Course Highlights; Final exam outline