

PALLAS LECTURES

2015 — Andrew R. Casper

Miami University
How Greek Was El Greco?

2014 — Neovi M. Karakatsanis

Indiana University South Bend
Fact or Fiction: What More Do We Know
About American Involvement in the 1967
Greek Military Coup?

2013 — Stathis Gourgouris

Columbia University
Cavafy's Debt

2012 — Alexander Kitroeff

Haverford College
Ethnicity Beyond the Ethnic Enclave:
Greek Americans in Brooklyn

2011 — Gregory Jusdanis

Ohio State University
On Greek Friendship

2010 — Karen Van Dyck

Columbia University
Translations, Anthologies, and Their Critical Excess

2009 — Fani-Maria Tsigakou

Benaki Museum, Athens
Reconstructing History:
Images of Romantic Hellenism

2008 — Andre Gerolymatos

Simon Fraser University
The Struggle for Greek Independence and the
International Diplomatic War in the 1820s

2007 — Maestro Constantine Kitsopoulos

Queens Symphony Orchestra,
Director/Chatham Opera, Founder and Director
Toward a Greek National Music

2006 — Helen C. Evans

The Metropolitan Museum of Art
Byzantium Revisited: The Mosaics of
Hagia Sophia in the Twentieth Century

2005 — Kevin Featherstone

London School of Economics and Political Science
Why Is Greece Becoming So Hard to Govern?

MODERN GREEK PROGRAM

The Modern Greek Program at the University of Michigan was established in 1990 and covers language, literature, and culture, in addition to offering an introduction to the Greek world of the last 10 centuries, focusing on its contemporary social reality and intellectual achievements. The program promotes contextual study—both local and global—of contemporary Greek culture, placing particular emphasis on literary studies, critical theory, cultural politics, ethnicity, and diaspora (especially the Greek-American diaspora).

MISSION

Teaching | A range of courses provides a broad, liberal arts education for undergraduates and research training for graduate students.

Research | Faculty and students pursue their own scholarly research, actively participate in conferences, serve as editors and on editorial boards of journals, and regularly publish their work.

Events | Each year, the program organizes or co-sponsors lectures, conferences, performances, film screenings, concerts, art exhibits, and readings of Greek literature in a variety of venues.

Collections | In cooperation with the University Library, the program acquires books, archives, and other materials in Greek and other languages to develop a collection of modern Greek sources and add to an already rich collection of English language books on Greek society, history, and the arts.

M | **LSA** CLASSICAL STUDIES
MODERN GREEK
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

2160 Angell Hall
435 S. State Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109
734.764.0360
lsa.umich.edu/modgreek

14TH ANNUAL DIMITRIS & IRMGARD
PALLAS MODERN GREEK LECTURE

LANGUAGE & POLITICS IN GREECE TODAY



THE NEW FACE OF AN OLD PROBLEM

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Marina Terkourafi

Associate Professor, Linguistics
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

THE SPEAKER

Marina Terkourafi is a linguist who specializes in pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and Greek linguistics. Her fieldwork site is Cyprus, where she has conducted extensive research on the use of politeness markers, the interplay between local and standard codes, and processes of language change since the Middle Ages. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the European Science Foundation, the British Academy, the Arts and Humanities Research Council of the U.K., and by intra-mural grants at the University of Illinois, where she is currently an associate professor of linguistics. Between 2008 and 2011, she directed the Modern Greek Studies Program at the University of Illinois, which she helped co-found. Prior to that, she was the first AG Leventis Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the British School at Athens. She has taught at the universities of Cyprus and Athens and has been invited to lecture in several countries in Europe, South America, and in the United States. Marina holds an A.B. in Greek philology from the University of Athens and a Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of Cambridge.

THE LECTURE

A disconcerting outcome of the last two parliamentary elections in Greece has been the rise of the far-right party Golden Dawn into third position and its entry into parliament. While this mirrors parallel developments in France, Austria, Belgium, the U.K., Hungary, and elsewhere, Golden Dawn is unique among European parties in its rejection of parliamentarianism, openly embracing violence as a means of realizing its political goals, and definition of the Greek nation on biological and racial grounds. Analysts have identified a range of endemic causes that underlie its recent electoral success: the economic crisis and record levels of unemployment; the clientelism of the Greek political system that could not be sustained once the economy collapsed; and the long historical roots of authoritarianism, patriarchy, and social conservatism among a segment of the population. In this talk, I explore some further potential explanations of this phenomenon. Drawing on the findings of the *Youth and History*

SUGGESTED READING

Special Issue: Youth and History

Journal of Modern Greek Studies 18.2
Dragonas, Thalia G. & Frangoudaki, Anna (2000, eds.).

The Rise of Golden Dawn: The New Face of the Far Right in Greece

South European Society and Politics 18(4), 543–565
Ellinas, Antonis (2013)

Neo-Nazism in an Established Democracy: The Persistence of Golden Dawn in Greece

South European Society and Politics 20(1), 1–20
Ellinas, Antonis (2015)

Nationalism and the Rise of the Far Right (Ο εθνικισμός και η άνοδος της ακροδεξιάς)

Athens: Alexandria
Frangoudaki, Anna (2013)

Political Crisis and the Rise of the Far Right in Greece: Racism, Nationalism, Authoritarianism, and Conservatism in the Discourse of Golden Dawn

Journal of Language Aggression and Conflict 3(1), 173–199
Sotiris, Panagiotis (2015)

Muslim Immigrants and the Greek Nation: The Emergence of Nationalist Intolerance

Ethnicities 13(6), 709–728
Triandafyllidou, Anna & Hara Kouki (2013)

project carried out in 27 European countries in the mid-1990s, I argue that the discourses of continuity, othering, and Western condescension seen in Greek high-school students' responses more than a decade before the crisis erupted reflect broader societal discourses also manifested in ideologies about language in Greece over the 19th and 20th centuries. While these discourses were a part of the nation-building process at the time, the lack of historical awareness and naïve ethnocentrism that accompanied them left Greek society vulnerable and ideologically "ready" to be swayed to political extremes when faced with extreme circumstances (the current economic crisis coupled with the influx of immigrants and refugees).

THE LECTURE SERIES

A gift agreement, negotiated between the Foundation for Modern Greek Studies and the Regents of the University of Michigan for the benefit of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, established the Dr. Dimitris and Irmgard Pallas Annual Lecture in Modern Greek Studies. Its purpose is to provide an annual lecture "to promote greater awareness of modern Greek history and its artistic, scientific, philosophical, ethical, political, and other contributions to civilization." Drawing on its ancient (classical) and Renaissance (Byzantine) traditions, Greek culture has continued to explore and disseminate the values of logos, cosmos, polis, episteme, techne, philia, phronesis, metron, and above all anthropos. These values are of central importance to the contemporary quest for a shared, meaningful world. The lecture will bring annually to Michigan an eminent speaker of international reputation who offers new views on significant phenomena by drawing on the Greek experience since the end of the Byzantine era.

THE DONORS

Dr. Dimitris Pallas, a native of Greece, studied at the University of Athens and did graduate work in the United States. He was senior staff cardiologist at the division of cardiology in the Henry Ford Health System at Fairlane. He is a founding member of the American Hellenic Congress and founder and president of the Foundation for Modern Greek Studies. Irmgard Baier Pallas is a native of Germany and fluent speaker of Greek. She has taught German language and literature at the Goethe Institute in Athens and at Wayne State University.