

MODERN GREEK PROGRAM

University of Michigan - Fall 2022



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Looking back, looking forward

Note from the Director, Artemis Leontis

The excitement of the new academic year is here. Students have returned, new students arrived, classes have started. The excitement is all the greater after two years of isolation since the arrival of the Covid19 pandemic in March 2020.

Looking back, I am amazed at how much we accomplished in the Modern Greek Program since then. Learning in this newsletter about what has been happening in 2020-2022:

- ◆ The University hired [Will Stroebel](#) as Assistant Professor of Modern Greek and Comparative Literature in September 2020. (See his self-introduction, pp. 3-4).
- ◆ Students kept on learning Greek, winning awards, studying in Greece, and graduating with majors and minors. (See Students, pp.7-10).
- ◆ Faculty were remarkably productive. (pp. 5-6).
- ◆ The Program initiated the video series [“Generation G”](#) with three interviews featuring creative people who self-identify as Greek and who are working to make a difference in the world.
- ◆ We published [“Εξέγερση / Revolt.”](#) a series of 50 essays in Greek by poets writing in the first two decades of the 21st century curated by Vassilis Lambropoulos.
- ◆ We held the [“Conversation on the Bicentennial Celebrations of the Greek Revolution of 1821.”](#)
- ◆ Zach Quint, librarian for Modern Greek, mentored undergraduate students who produced two online exhibits: Quinn Byington and William McClelland’s [“That Greece Might Still Be Free’: Commemorating the Bicentennial of the Greek War of Independence from an International Perspective”](#) (1821), and Elaina Raina and Bennett Lowe’s [“Nation Building and the Lives It Changed Forever: A Reflection on the 100th Anniversary of the Greco-Turkish War”](#) (1919-1922).
- ◆ We inaugurated the [Vakalo Family Visiting Artist and Scholar Series](#) with a visit by Phoebe Giannisi, poet and Professor of Architecture at the University of Thessaly. Her [“Chimeras” in the Michigan League on April 14](#) was the Modern Greek Program’s first public event on campus after 2 years. Part lecture, part reading and performance, Giannisi took the audience on an extraordinary journey to experience the wonder of human and animal interactions through her poetic eyes, ears, and voice.
- ◆ We gave the first [AHEPA \(American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association\) Automotive District 10 Student Support Fund](#) grant to a student. The Fund was created in 2021 to promote the development of the students of Modern Greek language, history, and culture at U-M through study, travel, research, internships, reading and translation. (See Students, pp. 7-10)
- ◆ The [Foundation for Modern Greek Studies](#) continued to offer annual support, used for the Gen G series, student research, and curricular development. (See Students, pp. 7-10)

Looking forward, I am anticipating a wonderful academic year. Students, classes, advising, public events—it’s all exciting.

I am especially invested in a public engagement project that the Modern Greek Program is planning for the next three years to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the Treaty of Lausanne and Convention on the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Population of 1923, an event with devastating long-term effects that expelled almost 2,000,000 people from their homes.

The Exchange was the diplomatic response to the Greco-Turkish War, which ended in September 1922 with the killing of tens of thousands of civilians and burning of Smyrna, and sent approximately one million Orthodox Christian citizens of the former Ottoman Empire in a desperate flight to Greece's shores. With the signing of the Lausanne Treaty, these refugees lost the right of return, as did the others who were soon to be uprooted in the following months and years.

The Lausanne Treaty and Convention recognized the state of modern Turkey and formalized Greece and Turkey's borders. According to the Treaty, nearly 1.3 million Ottoman nationals of the Greek Orthodox religion were officially expelled from the newly-formed Republic of Turkey, while nearly 500,000 Greek nationals of the Muslim religion were forced to leave Greece. The expulsion aimed to make each country ethnically and religiously homogeneous, and it served as a test case for the League of Nations and a model for several international population transfers and partitions in the coming decades. Never before had so many people been forcibly removed from their homes so the world could build a new international order. It was "a thoroughly bad and vicious solution," according to British Foreign Minister Lord Curzon, who supported the Exchange.

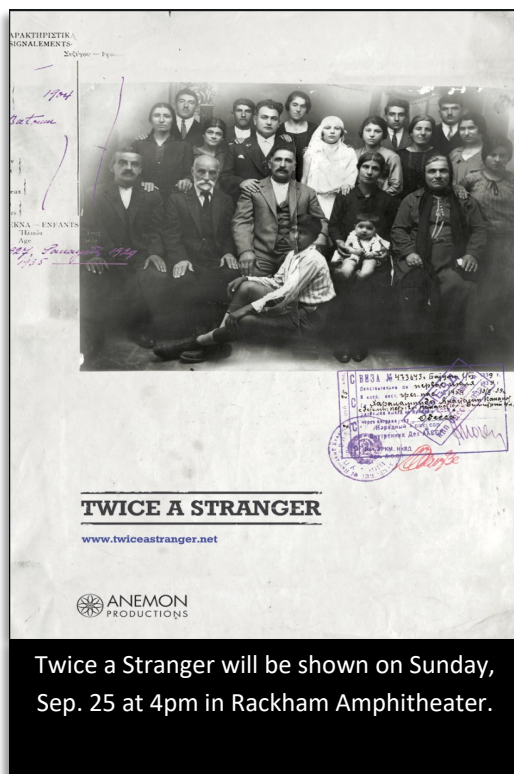
To memorialize this most significant instance of internationally sanctioned ethnic cleansing in the 20th century, the Modern Greek Program will explore the legacies and consequences of the Greek and Turkish Population Exchange. What were the terms of the Convention and what legal precedents did it set? What were the human costs? Who became a refugee, where did they go, what did they carry, how did they express the human loss and longing? What did their experience bequeath to their descendants?

We are especially interested to learn about refugees who came from the former Ottoman Empire to our region in the United States. We wish to honor their memories and recognize their descendants. We wish to learn your family stories.

We also intend to delve into the Exchange's legacies and present-day implications in legal and geopolitical terms. How did the Treaty of Lausanne shape the present world?

The first Modern Greek public event, on **Sunday, September 25, 2022, 4pm**, is the viewing of the documentary film ["Twice a Stranger"](#) in the **Rackham Amphitheatre 4th floor**, 915 E. Washington Street. The event is free. [Parking is available at the Thayer and Fletcher lots](#). The film is about the nearly 2 million people uprooted from their homes on both sides of the Greek and Turkish border and their common experience of being "Twice a Stranger." Still part of the multi-ethnic Ottoman Empire in the early twentieth century, by 1924 their world was violently torn asunder. The story unfolds through rare archive footage, interviews with historians and testimonies from both Turkish and Greek refugees.

I hope to see many of you at this event and in the coming months. I hope to see many of you in the coming months. Stay tuned for information about future events: a community talk by Prof. Stroebel next semester on "Ann Arbor's First Greek-Orthodox Priest and the Legacies of Turcophone Greek Orthodoxy in America" and a visit next fall by Konstantinos Tsitselikis, Professor of International Human Rights Law at the University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece, who will give a public lecture on the legal grounding and significance of the Treaty of Lausanne signed in 1923.



Καλώς σας Βρήκα! New Faculty Member Will Stroebel Introduces Himself

In January 2020, just as the Coronavirus was making its first rounds across an unsuspecting globe, I signed on the dotted line and officially joined the Modern Greek team here at the University of Michigan. In reality, though, I didn't actually reach Michigan until later. I slipped into town under the radar that summer, when you and I and all of us were pulling ourselves out of the first devastating wave of the pandemic and struggling to find justice amidst the George Floyd protests. It was not an easy time to pick up your family and move, but if there was anywhere worth embarking on a cross-country Odyssey during those difficult days, it was here, to the University of Michigan, a world-class public university with a world-class Modern Greek Program, built with care by a grass-roots community unlike any other. Now, two years later, with what I hope is the worst of the pandemic behind us, I want to take a few lines in this newsletter to introduce myself to all of you in the wider community.



In a very real sense, my move to Michigan in 2020 was a homecoming. A decade earlier, in the summer of 2010, I first moved to Ann Arbor with my wife Giota Tachtara to pursue my PhD in the Comparative Literature Department, where I worked closely under the mentorship of Artemis Leontis, Vassilis Lambropoulos, and Despina Margomenou in the Modern Greek Program. I studied here, I matured here. Giota gave birth to our two boys here, who took their first steps here, spoke their first words here. It was not easy to say goodbye to Michigan when I finished the PhD and we packed our lives into a few suitcases in 2017. Looking out the window of our hotel the night before our flight, I combed my eyes over downtown Ann Arbor and had no sense that I would ever return here again, except perhaps as a visitor if I was lucky. It was a profoundly sad goodbye I said that night. Never have I been more glad to be wrong.

My Greek odyssey did not begin in Ann Arbor, though; it started even earlier, nearly twenty years ago, when I finished my first degree in Classics and English and promptly moved to Thessaloniki. It was here, in the immediate afterglow of the 2004 Olympics, where I immersed myself in Greek. I had no family connection to Greece and had grown up a monolingual American boy, the third or fourth generation of German and Irish immigrants. I had never set foot out of the United States until I moved to Greece. My first foothold there was a job tutoring English at Anatolia College; after work each day I would take a bus downtown to Aristotle University, where I had enrolled in intensive Modern Greek language courses. This was my routine for a year, during which I took my first baby steps as a Greek speaker and soaked up as much as I could from the music, the nightlife, and the thriving culture of Thessaloniki, a true *φοιτητούπολη* if ever there was one. Within a year I felt confident enough in my Greek to make a move: I left my job to begin a master's program at the university, where I studied comparative literature for the next two and a half years. Yet while most of my classes focused on the European tradition, I couldn't help but notice the rich and heavy traces of eastern cultures in my daily lived experience. Renting a small room in the old Turkish neighborhood of the *ano poli*, passing by the traces of the city's Sephardim on my way to the university, studying my homework in the shadow of the city's last remaining minaret, I felt that there was so much more to Greece than a Eurocentric frame could show me. Thus it was that when I finished my masters degree two years later and moved to Athens, I threw myself into learning Turkish.

The geopolitical relationships between Greece and Turkey are fraught to say the least, but despite a century or more of disputes, ethnic cleansing, mass deportations and population transfers, their cultures retain shared threads of a larger, richer tapestry. Curling around the Aegean Sea and facing one another, like the thumb and forefinger of your hand, the lands of Greece and Turkey form a single, extended unit. The ancestors of the peoples whom we now call Greeks and Turks have each called both sides of the sea their home. As the poet Nazım Hikmet once wrote, “This land speaks neither Greek nor Turkish: it speaks the language of the dirt” (Human Landscapes from My Homeland). It’s this shared culture that has bound the fate of Greeks and Turks together. As we approach the hundred year anniversary of the Treaty of Lausanne and the Population Exchange, which have scarred the Eastern Mediterranean with ethnic partition, it seems to me especially important to search out the human landscapes that have been blocked out by national walls and compartmentalization.

Much of my own research is focused on this. Trained in literature, I try to provide a platform for the literary productions of unsung refugees, emigres and exiles—oftentimes in languages and alphabets that have themselves become refugee literatures. Think, for example, of the Greek-speaking Muslims driven out of Greece over the past two hundred years. Their Greek-language poems and songs, written in the Arabic alphabet (i.e., the alphabet of their holy book: the Quran), have been displaced from both Greek and Turkish literary history. If I showed these books to you, bedecked in their elaborate Arabic script, you might pass them by as entirely foreign, yet if I were to read them aloud you would at once recognize these Muslims as fellow Greek-speakers and kindred spirits. Or think of the obverse case: Turkish-speaking Greek Orthodox Christians driven out of Turkey a century ago because of their religion, deported en masse to Greece. They wrote their Turkish poems and songs in the Greek alphabet (again, the alphabet of their holy book: the Greek Bible), yet they too were shunned from both Greek and Turkish literary histories.

Arabic-script Greek, Greek-script Turkish: these are but two examples of the many refugee literatures that were left adrift between nation-states; a hundred years on, they are still searching for asylum. And yet these refugee literatures have many rich gems to offer Modern Greek literature. No matter the tongue we speak or the faith we profess, we all gain when we usher these displaced stories back into the fold of Greek, because they emphasize for us again the spectacular and truly global breadth of the Greek tradition. What has the Greek language and/or culture meant to all these different peoples in their different times and places? How do their stories brush up against ours? Like the colorful threads in a shared tapestry, how do our sometimes subtly and sometimes wildly different uses of Greek intersect with one another? How can the study of Greek in its broadest and most universal instantiations help us navigate and share with one another the world today?

It is with a profound sense of gratitude, service, and humility that I take up these questions at the University of Michigan with my colleagues, my students, and, I hope, with the wider community through public lectures, discussions, and informal gatherings over the coming months and years. I am forever struck by the many human riches that Michigan offers us both within the campus and beyond it, amidst all of you who support our work with your time, your treasures, and your interest, your attendance and your questions and your input. I look forward to meeting many of you in person soon.

FACULTY NEWS

[Tatjana Aleksic](#), Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and Slavic Languages and Literatures, traveled to the Nicosia Press and Information Office to collect an archive of Cyprus newspaper reporting on the period of postcolonial struggle and the subsequent political events leading to the Turkish invasion of the island. Of particular interest in her research is Cyprus's membership and participation in the Non-Aligned Movement, which lasted from 1961 until Cyprus's joining the EU in 2004.

[Jim Cogswell](#), Arthur F. Thurnau Professor at the Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design installed his artwork, “Vinyl Euripides,” at the Michael Cacoyannis Foundation in Athens in April 2022. “Vinyl Euripides” is Professor Cogswell's visual response to Michael Cacoyannis' cinematic retelling of the Euripides trilogy—*Electra* (1962), *The Trojan Women* (1971), and *Iphigenia* (1977)—using adhesive vinyl adhered to windows and glass balustrades. The piece took three years of planning, research, fundraising, and design, and was supported by the Modern Greek Program financially and in spirit. See it in Athens at Pireos Street 206 in Tavros, [and read more and find pictures of “Vinyl Euripides” here.](#)



Jim Cogswell installing “Vinyl Euripides” on windows of the Michael Cacoyannis Foundation building in Athens, April 5, 2022. Photo by Patrinatorama.

[Johannes Foufopoulos](#), Associate Professor of Ecosystem Science and Management, Conservation and Restoration, published *Infectious Disease Ecology and Conservation* (Oxford University Press, 2022), coauthored with Gary A. Wobeser and Hamish McCallum. With [Sheila Schueller](#), Lecturer & Academic Program Specialist also in Ecosystem Science and Management Conservation and Restoration, he led a group of graduate students doing MS thesis research on Naxos. The students are working on exciting topics like understanding the ecological significance of traditional terrace agriculture in the Aegean, as well as on reviving an ancient network of Naxos stone paths for sustainable ecotourism use.

[Vassilis Lambropoulos](#), C.P. Cavafy Emeritus Professor Emeritus, co-authored, with Jennifer Wallace (Cambridge), a comprehensive review essay, "Hellenism, Philhellenism and Classical Reception: Commemorating the 1821 revolution," in *Classical Receptions Journal* 13:4, (October 2021). Between September 2021-August 2022, he wrote a monthly column, “In the Constellation of Left Melancholy,” on 21st century Greek poetry, in the Greek electronic literary magazine [O Hartis](#). He completed a five-year term on the board of the Classical and Modern Forum of the MLA. He accepted an invitation to join the international advisory board of a new scholarly initiative, Decolonize Hellas (2021), which explores the ambivalent and reciprocal relations between the Greek nation-state and Europe’s colonial genealogies.

FACULTY NEWS

[Artemis Leontis, C.P. Cavafy Professor of Modern Greek and Comparative Literature](#), published [Εύα Πάλμερ Σικελιανού, υφαίνοντας τον μύθο μιας ζωής \(Pataki Publishing, 2022\)](#), the Greek translation by Katerina Schina of *Eva Palmer Sikelianos: A Life in Ruins* in English (Princeton University Press 2019). She was interviewed this past summer in the major newspapers of Athens: *Kathimerini, Ta Nea, To Vima, EfSyn, To Pontiki*, and for a *Lifo Podcast with Nikos Bakounakis* ([available here](#)). The book was selected by Greek News Agenda as “Book of the Month” from July to August 2022. She organized, cataloged, and digitized the Eva Sikelianos Papers in the Center for Asia Minor Studies and opened the collection for research this summer. She is currently Vice President of the Modern Greek Studies Association (2020-2023).

[Despina Margomenou, Lecturer IV in Modern Greek](#), was a Summer/Fall 2021 fellow for the Michigan State University Online Teaching Initiative & the Less Commonly Taught and Indigenous Languages Partnership and completed 3 certificate programs in PostPandemic Language Teaching, Oral Communicative Pedagogies, and Development of Engaging Materials for Online Language Teaching. A summary of her work [can be found here](#). She presented a paper at the International Symposium on Theoretical and Applied Linguistics (ISTAL 25), May 13-15, 2022, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.

[Will Stroebel, Assistant Professor of Modern Greek and Comparative Literature](#), transcribed, analyzed, and published for the first time a handwritten refugee ballad in Karamanli Turkish (i.e., Turkish written in the Greek alphabet): “Longhand Lines of Flight: Cataloging Displacement in a Karamanli Refugee's Commonplace Book,” in the *Publications of the Modern Language Association*, March 2021 (an open-access version [can be read here](#)). The article received the William Riley Parker Prize. He also completed his book manuscript this past spring and is preparing it for submission to a publisher. Finally, a special issue of the *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, dedicated to a hundred years of refugeehood and border making since 1922 and edited by Kristina Gedgaudaitė and Will Stroebel, is coming out in October of this year.

[Zach Quint, Librarian for Classical Studies and Modern Greek](#), continues to curate the Greek collection in the Hatcher Library on the Ann Arbor campus. In addition to acquiring new books and other library materials, he finds opportunities for students to learn more about Greek history and librarianship. As part of the Michigan Library Scholars program he collaborated with and mentored undergraduate students on two Greek exhibits. He also hired a graduate student to catalog a donation of Greek materials. Zach is also involved with the [Greek Digital Journal Archive](#) and will present the latest developments at the MGSA symposium in Toronto. Let Zach know if you have any questions or need assistance navigating the Greek collection.

STUDENT AWARDS, DEGREES, GRANTS, AND NEWS

AWARDS

Calliopi Papala Politou Senior Prize in Modern Greek

This prize is awarded each year to an exceptional graduating senior who excels in the study of Modern Greek. It is the gift of Angeliki Evangelinos, Professor Emerita of Business at Monroe Community College, in memory of her mother, Calliopi Evagelinos, an immigrant from Chios.

Christina Missler, 2021 BS Biology and Modern Greek Language and Culture, received the Calliopi Papala Politou Prize in 2021. She also won an Advanced Intermediate Modern Greek translation prize in 2021. She majored in Greek in order to learn about her heritage and culture and to communicate better with her mother's family in Cyprus. Christina was precise and very committed to her work. She was an eager translator of news and scientific articles and wanted to help bring Greek perspectives into English. She also enjoyed translating songs based on Greek poetry for her father, who does not speak Greek but has a deep appreciation of Greek music, because she wanted to help him understand the music. Christina is currently a Research Technician at the Van Andel Institute. She plans to pursue graduate studies in behavioral and evolutionary biology.



Margarita Pipinos, 2022 BS in Neuroscience, Minor in Modern Greek, received the Calliopi Papala Politou Senior Prize in Modern Greek in 2022. A heritage learner, Margarita pushed herself hard all four years of her studies at UM to reach a superior proficiency level and study Greek culture. In her words addressed to Professors Margomenou and Leontis, “Examining every facet of what it means to identify with a culture in our Modern Greek classes has been transformational. I could not think of two more open-minded and compassionate people to have these important conversations with.” She won both the advanced intermediate Modern Greek translation

prize and the Contexts for Classics literary translation prize in 2020 for her translation of Andreas Frangias's Λοιμός / Plague, found [here](#). She published her translation, “Wounding the ‘Butterflies’” by Jenny Tsiropoulou and Thanos Kamilalis in [the online newspaper Press Project](#). Margarita was involved in the Prison Birth Project, and was a crisis counselor through Crisis Text Line and a clinical research assistant at the Michigan Medicine Maternal-Fetal Medicine Pre-Conception Clinic. She is attending Medical School at the University of Nebraska this fall.

STUDENT AWARDS, DEGREES, GRANTS, AND NEWS

Translation Awards

Ciara Barrick, PhD student in Comparative Literature, Contexts for Classics Translations Prize for “In Karpasia, 15th August 2009” by Niki Marangou (2022).

Evangelia Kahremanis, Sophomore (Modern Greek major), Modern Greek Translation Prize, Intermediate Level (2022).

Brisilda Nilaj, Junior (Modern Greek major), Modern Greek Translation Prize, Advanced Intermediate Level (2022).

Margarita Pipinos, Junior (Neuroscience major / Modern Greek minor), Modern Greek Translation Prize, Advanced Intermediate Level (2021).

Conor Smith, Senior (History major), Modern Greek Translation Prize, Intermediate Level (2021).

Melina Varlamos, Junior (Biopsychology, Cognition, and Neuroscience / Modern Greek), Contexts for Classics Translation Prize for “Refugees tell their stories. Will you listen to them?” by Kostis Christodoulou (2022).

GRADUATING PHD STUDENT

2022

Peter Vorissis, PhD, Comparative Literature. Dissertation: “Tableau Vivant and the Aesthetics of Modernity,” supervised by Michele Hanoosh, with Vincenzo Binetti, Daniel Herwitz, and Artemis Leontis on his committee (and Vassilis Lambropoulos prior to his retirement).

GRADUATING SENIORS

2021

Alethia Blough, BS, Biopsychology, Cognition and Neuroscience; Minor, Modern Greek Language and Culture.

Peter Georginis, BBA, Business Administration; Minors, Modern Greek Language and Culture, International Studies.

Vasili Ioannidis, BA, Economics; Minor, Modern Greek Language and Culture.

Maria Jonna, BA, Communication and Media; Minor; Modern Greek Language and Culture.

Christina Missler, BS, Biology, Modern Greek Language and Culture.

Elyssa Moody, BA, Political Science; Minor, Modern Greek Language and Culture.

2022

Margarita Pipinos, BS, Neuroscience; Minor, Modern Greek Language and Culture.

STUDENT FUNDING AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Undergraduate Students

Anastasia Papageorgiou (Arts and Ideas and Modern Greek Language and Culture; Minor, Computer Science) received support from the Carrie Arbor Fund and from the Residential College for study abroad in Athens, College Year in Athens (CYA) (summer 2022).

Zoe Logas (Ford School of Public Policy, Modern Greek minor) received support from the Foundation for Modern Greek Studies to attend the American Hellenic Institute Foundation (AHIF) Foreign Policy trip (summer 2022).

Natasia Raptis (Major, Political Science and International Relations; Minor, Modern Greek Language and Culture) received the AHEPA Automotive District 10 Student Support Fund grant and Foundation for Modern Greek Studies funding to attend the American Hellenic Institute Foundation (AHIF) Foreign Policy trip (summer 2022). She was a research assistant for curricular development in the Modern Greek program, specifically identifying and exploring sources of recent Greek American history, fiction, and media, with support from the Foundation for Modern Greek Studies.

Kelley Skoulikaris (School of Public Policy major, Modern Greek minor) was a research assistant for curricular development in the Modern Greek language program, with support from the Foundation for Modern Greek Studies (summer 2022). Kelly is a member of the University of Michigan Debate team, which won second place in the National Debate Tournament for the second year in a row.

Melina Varlamos (Modern Greek and Biopsychology Major) was awarded the Kalliopi Kontou-Filis and Kenneth P. Mathews grant for study abroad in Athens, CYA (Foundation for Modern Greek Studies fund) (summer 2022).

Graduate Students

The Modern Greek Program supports graduate students in several departments who are pursuing research in Greece and Cyprus. Support is in the form of mentoring research and teaching, instructing, advising, and supporting their research and travel.

Ciara Barrick, PhD student in Comparative Literature, entered U-M in 2021. She studies 19th and 20th century Anglo-American literature, Modern Greek and Cypriot literature and specifically Modernisms from perspectives that include classical reception, gender & sexuality, body & performance studies and the subjects of nationalism, borders & boundaries, and landscapes. She presented “Eva Palmer-Sikelianos’s Craftwork Economy: Weaving the Queer, the Classical, and Modern Greece” at the U-M Classical Reception Studies Colloquium in April 2022. As noted above, she received a Contexts for Classics Translations Contest prize for her translation of “In Karpasia, 15th August 2009” by Niki Marangou in 2022.

Angelina Kossoff, Master’s of Science student in the School for the Environment and Sustainability received Constantine A. Tsangadas funding for summer research on the island of Naxos entitled “Management and Assessment of the Invasive European Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) on Island Plant Endemics in the Mediterranean.” The driving question was what impacts the introduction of European rabbit populations had on island plant communities, with a special emphasis on endangered island endemic plants.

STUDENT FUNDING AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Amanda Kubic, PhD Candidate in Comparative Literature, studies receptions of ancient Greek sources and materials in Greek, English, and American modernism in the arts of writing and dance. She taught Beginning Modern Greek 101 in Fall 2021 and won a 2022 Rackham Graduate School Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award for her teaching. She also received the Rackham Susan Lipschutz Award, which recognizes promising women scholars. Research she conducted in Athens in Winter 2022 as Associate Student Member at the American School of Classical Studies was supported by Constantine A. Tsangadas Trust funding. She presented the paper “Translating the Silence of Lipiu: The World-Making Power of Katerina Anghelaki-Rooke’s Poetry” at the 2021 American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) conference and will present “Choreographing the Modern Χορός: Intersecting Discourses of Nationalism and Hellenism in the ‘Greek Dance’ of Koula Pratsika and Martha Graham” at the [MGSA Symposium 2022](#).

Hannah R. Nossan, Masters in Science student in the School for the Environment and Sustainability, received Constantine A. Tsangadas Trust funding for summer research on the island of Naxos. Her research is centered on the effects of agricultural terrace abandonment, comparing biodiversity surrounding abandoned dry stone wall terraces, to terraces which are still actively used.

Ian Slack, Masters in Science student in the School for the Environment and Sustainability, received Constantine A. Tsangadas Trust funding for summer research on the island of Naxos. The project is entitled “Human Habituation’s Effect on Wall Lizard’s Anti-Predator Behavior.” Animals have been hypothesized to change their behavior with differing levels of human presence. The driving question is how habituation can change a prey species reaction to a predator and the potential downsides this can have to island species around the world, especially in places that are becoming increasingly touristed.

Peter Vorissis, PhD, Comparative Literature, successfully defended his dissertation “Tableau Vivant and the Aesthetics of Modernity” and received his Ph/D in Summer 2022. He earned his BA in Comparative Literature and French at U-California, Berkeley and MA in French Literary Translation at New York University. He works primarily on 19th-20th-century French and Italian literature and film, with solid knowledge of Greek. He excelled as a teacher, writer, researcher, and editor. Currently he is working as a freelance writer, translator, and editor. Good luck, Peter! We will miss you.

STUDENT EXHIBITS

As a part of the [Michigan Library Scholars](#) program, Zach Quint, the Librarian for Classics and Modern Greek, mentored students who researched and created the following online exhibits.

[“That Greece Might Still Be Free”: Commemorating the Bicentennial of the Greek War of Independence from an International Perspective](#) (2021): **Quinn Byington** (History major, Museum Studies Minor) and **William McClelland** (Classical Civilization Major, History minor) created this online exhibit about the Greek revolution of 1821. Their aim was to compile a resource examining the war from an international perspective. The exhibit contains sections detailing the reactions of countries such as the United States, Great Britain, the Russian Empire, the Austrian Empire, and of course, the Ottoman Empire, as well as groups such as the Greek diaspora and the philhellenes.

[Nation Building and the Lives it Changed Forever: A Reflection on the 100th Anniversary of the Greco-Turkish War](#) (2022): **Elaina Ryan** (History and Classical Archaeology major) and **Bennett Lowe** (History and Political Science major) created this online exhibit about the Greco-Turkish War (1919-1922). Their aim was to compile an introductory resource that focuses on nation building and the population exchange. The exhibit provides contextual information, an overview of the war, and descriptions of the population exchange.

STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHS



Anastasia Papageorgiou near Byzantine Castle of Platamon with Mt. Olympus in the background.

Zoe Logas and **Natasia Raptis** at the Embassy of Greece in Nicosia, Cyprus, attending a dinner with the Ambassador of Greece, Ioannis Papameletiou.



Angelina Kossoff, **Hannah Nossan**, and **Ian Slack**, three Masters students from the School for Environment and Sustainability, are conducting environmental conservation research on invasive species on the island of Gramvoussa near Amorgos (Cyclades, Greece), Summer 2022.



STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHS



Melina Varlamos at the rooftop restaurant in Athens “Attic Urban Rooftop” during one of her first nights in Athens.



Amanda Kubic in January snow in Athens, Winter 2022.

Κ. Π. ΚΑΒΑΦΗ
PROFESSORSHIP IN MODERN GREEK
ENDOWED BY THE FOUNDATION FOR MODERN GREEK STUDIES



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C.P. Cavafy Professor of
Modern Greek and Comparative
Literature

Despina Margomenou
Lecturer IV in Modern Greek

Zachary Quint,
Librarian for Classical Studies

Will Stroebel
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<https://lsa.umich.edu/modgreek>

Regents of the University

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