

Name of Project/Program: Greece Summer 2025 Study Abroad Date: 5/30/24

Applicant's Name: Eleni Tsaggouri and Robyn Fishman

GCC Position: Faculty Department: History

E-mail: rfishman@glendale.edu Phone 5490

Please check which category best describes your project:

- Arts & Culture       Athletics & Fitness       Career & Work Training       College Operations & Facilities
- Humanities/Social Sciences       Science & Technology       Other

Amount requested: \$ 10,000

Please attach a one- to two-page typed request that provides a comprehensive summary of your project/program and establishes the need. Please include the following:

- What do you propose to do?
- Who will be involved in the project/program?
- What are the benefits of this project/program to the students, college, and the community?
- How does this project/program support the College's Institutional Strategic Plan?
- Timeline for the project/program.
- How do you propose to use the funds requested? Please include specific budget information.
- Please list any other sources of funding you have applied for and include dollar amounts if already awarded.
- How will the Foundation's support be recognized?
- How do you plan to evaluate this project's success?
- If your project/program is successful, how will it inform your practice moving forward?

Please email this completed and signed form along with your proposal to [ziacobs@glendale.edu](mailto:ziacobs@glendale.edu)

**Submission Deadline – Thursday, May 30, 2024 by 5:00 PM PST**

Your signature indicates approval of this request to the Glendale College Foundation

*Robyn Fishman*  
Applicant's signature

*Elizabeth Krontz*  
Chair or Department Head Signature

Print name of Chair or Department Head  
ELIZABETH KRONTRICK

Grant Review Committee comments and/or recommendations:

This grant was denied/approved on \_\_\_\_\_ The amount awarded is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Greece Summer 2025 Study Abroad Program Foundation Grant Request:**  
Director, Robyn Fishman; Faculty, Eleni Tsaggouri

**1. What do you propose to do?**

We would like to provide an equitable opportunity for students to participate in the Greece Summer Study Abroad program (2025). Studying abroad is a unique opportunity, especially for community college students. We would like to create small scholarships to assist students with offsetting some of their travel expenses. Greece is a popular destination in student requests for Study Abroad, but it is also one of the more expensive destinations. We hope offsetting expenses will allow more students to be able to imagine themselves capable of taking advantage of Study Abroad opportunities. While we cannot give full financial support to students, we hope these small stipends will encourage all students to apply, and make the trip more manageable for our students' budgets.

**2. Who will be involved in the project/program?**

The Greece Summer Study Abroad Program (2025) will involve the faculty teaching the course (Eleni Tsaggouri), the on-site director (Robyn Fishman), GCC's Study Abroad Co-Directors (Darren Leaver and Kevin Mack), and all the students who sign up to participate and enroll in the class (HIST 48).

**3. What are the benefits of this project to the students, college and the community?**

A Study Abroad trip to Greece will benefit students by giving them the opportunity to expand their horizons and expose students to a different way of looking at the world. Study Abroad gives students important skills such as planning. Students experience personal growth, an increase in their self-confidence, and gain real-world skills (planning, time management, and interpersonal skills). This program benefits the college by creating new connections in Greece and expanding our offerings for Study Abroad for the campus. We hope to nurture and develop the relationships we create this year so that we can send students to Greece again.

**4. How does this request support the mission of the College?**

The Study Abroad trip to Greece in 2025 aligns with Glendale Community College's "Mission, Vision, Values, and Learning Outcomes" because our goal is to help students meet their personal and academic goals. Taking students to Greece to study History 140 and History 048 allows us to bring the curriculum to life and allow students to learn experientially. Not only does Study Abroad enhance the educational experience, but students will gain important career skills and

knowledge of the world [M-7]. We are interested in the holistic development of our students and hope that exposure to an international environment where they can see the impact of history, socio-economic policies, and culture will help them become better citizens, here in the U.S. and give them a global perspective. Glendale Community College wants its students to focus on **Global Awareness and Appreciation**; what better way to achieve this than to show them the way olives are pressed, walk through the center of Athens to see the first democracy, and see cultures interact through time in Crete?

Our students will enhance their sense of **Personal Responsibility** through managing their travel, teamwork and participation in a shared community abroad. Most importantly, Study Abroad allows students to learn respect for different cultures and how to function in sacred spaces (mosques, churches, synagogues, or ancient temples). They will also learn how to respect new spaces and develop professional skills by attending concerts, plays, and visiting museums.

Our program offers a unique opportunity for students. Eleni Tsaggouri is from Greece, and she will be sharing her culture, her favorite spots, and her family with us. This is truly a unique opportunity for students. Our sites, museum visits, the play we watch, and other local opportunities will have an extra sense of community because Eleni Tsaggouri is showing us her home. That is an opportunity very few people ever get.

We have planned a jam-packed schedule to ensure students are exposed to a variety of cultures and can make the connections between what we are learning in class to how it plays out in real life.

#### **5. Timeline for the project.**

We will advertise scholarships as we promote the trip in the Fall semester of 2024. Scholarships will be awarded after the applications are approved and before departure to Greece in 2025 (June and July).

#### **6. How do you propose to use the funds requested? Include specific budget information.**

The cost to students is approximately \$3700 for the program plus \$1300 airfare (a total cost of approximately \$5000 per student).

We anticipate 25 students, including faculty and staff, who might be interested in this four-week program. Scholarships will be reserved for regularly enrolled GCC students in good academic standing.

We are requesting **\$10,000** to help reduce travel costs for all regularly enrolled GCC students in good academic standing. This would provide students with significant financial support and help attract financially impacted students to the program. We imagine 20 scholarships of \$500.00 for each regularly enrolled GCC student who applies who is in good academic standing. These 20 scholarships equal \$10,000. The Study Abroad Chairs, Darren Leaver and Kevin Mack, suggest that if the anticipated number of faculty/staff enrolled as students in the program is higher, then the average scholarship for regularly enrolled students should be higher. For example, if half the participants are faculty and staff, then student scholarship recipients will receive  $\$800 \times 12$  scholarships = \$10,000.

**7. Please list any other sources of funding you applied for and include dollar amounts if already awarded.**

N/A

The Foundation grant awarded to previous study abroad program programs (\$10,000) helped to provide scholarships to students who wouldn't have otherwise been able to participate. We hope to be among the study abroad programs who are awarded monies to enable us to help students benefit from the study abroad experience. Your help will enable us to help students who, without scholarships provided by the Foundation, would not be able to have these life-changing experiences.

**8. How will the Foundation's award be recognized?**

We will name the scholarships GCC FOUNDATION Scholarships. This way the Foundation's generous support will be acknowledged not only within the Study Abroad office, but the Foundation's contribution will be established within the group of students who earn these scholarships. We promise, like other Study Abroad programs in the past, to mention and acknowledge the Foundation's support in all other appropriate constituent groups and/or program-related entities where recognizing this contribution is appropriate (e.g., study abroad presentations in classrooms, Board of Trustees meetings).

**9. How do you plan to evaluate this project's success?**

We hope to attract students who would otherwise not be able to financially afford it. Initial success can be measured by the number of students who apply to the program knowing financial support is provided by the Foundation grant. The International Field Studies course will include assessment and survey tools, and the study abroad program includes evaluation forms administered at the end.

**10. If your project/program is successful, how will it inform your practice moving forward?**

The success of the Greece 2025 program will be largely due to the Foundation's grant. We hope this trip to Greece will be one of many to come in the following years, and we hope this trip and your support will inform us on how to conduct future study abroad programs. It matters that students have access to Study Abroad programs, their voices in the classroom, their feedback to our course work, and their experiences abroad will impact our pedagogical practices in our classrooms in the Fall, not just in future Study Abroad trips. We believe finding out what turns students onto the learning process through events, historical sites, and learning about important cultural practices in Greece will enable us to bring back photos, new stories, and new information for our classes stateside. Our students in Greece and their experiences will help drive the teaching of future History 140 discussions and presentations, as well as, help the History Department further develop History 048 for curriculum development and teaching. A successful program that includes a wide array of students might enable Glendale Community College to institutionalize a regular (perhaps every three years) to Greece.