

Orientation

Q: Will there be an orientation in Greece?

A: Yes. During the first few days of the program, participants will attend an orientation in Greece. The purpose of this orientation is to familiarize participants with the cultural norms of Thessaloniki, meet key staff members from ACT, and to receive important information about Thessaloniki.

Academics

Q: What courses will participants take in N.U.in Greece?

A: All participants will take the Global Experience course (in conjunction with service learning) to help participants reflect on the local culture and their experience abroad. Participants from colleges with more flexible curricula will have some choice in their selections. Participants from colleges with more rigid curricula will have limited choices in their curriculum. This is done to ensure that participants take courses that meet their degree requirements. To view sample N.U.in Greece course listings, please click [here](#).

Q: What support is available for participants with learning disabilities?

A: To receive disability-related academic accommodations, participants are required to provide documents that establish the special accommodations made for them at their home institution. This information is kept at ACT with the Administration and Academic Services Manager.

All participants who would like to request support services or special accommodations must disclose their needs to **both** ACT and Northeastern (in the spring) individually.

Q: When do participants register for classes?

A: Participants will receive an email from N.U.in when their myNEU admitted student portal is open for course registration. To view a sample schedule for N.U.in Greece, please click [here](#). Participants will receive their finalized course schedules once they arrive on-site in August.

Q: Do participants need to bring a laptop?

A: ACT is equipped with a library and several computer labs that N.U.in participants may use while in Greece. Participants may also bring a laptop if they wish.

Q: Do participants need to buy textbooks?

A: Yes. There are several required books and articles that participants will need to purchase. Participants will receive a list of required textbook materials when they receive their course schedule during the on-site orientation in Greece. All books will be available at the ACT bookstore. Participants should budget approximately \$280-350 USD for their textbooks.

Service-Learning

Q: What is service-learning like in Greece?

A: Generally, N.U.in Greece participants will participate in weekly volunteer programs or events, together with other N.U.in participants. Service-learning opportunities in the past have included: organizing Special Olympic events with nearby high schools, tutoring and teaching foreign refugees and participating in the annual Thessaloniki Film Festival. Service-learning opportunities will vary depending on availability.

Travel & Visas

Q: Will participants need a passport?

A: Participants must renew their passport as soon as possible if it is due to expire before April 2012. For information about how to apply for or renew a passport, please visit the Department of State's [website](#).

Q: Will participants need a visa for Greece?

A: No. Due to the length of the program, participants will not have to apply for a Greek visa. If participants plan to be in Europe longer than the length of the program, they will need a visa and should contact their local Greek Consulate for further information.

All N.U.in participants will be required to complete a number of administrative forms that both Northeastern and ACT will use to enroll participants in ACT or generate optional visa documents. We will notify participants when these forms are ready to be downloaded and completed. All N.U.in forms must be returned to the N.U.in office by **May 27, 2011**.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to legal restrictions, N.U.in cannot provide advice on how to fill out visa paperwork. Please contact your local Greek Consulate directly if there are further questions

Q: Will N.U.in participants have excursions to places outside of Greece?

A: Yes! Participants will participate in N.U.in -sponsored excursions with other N.U.in Greece participants. The cost of these excursions is included in the N.U.in program fees. In the past, N.U.in Greece participants have traveled to other regions of Greece such as Athens and Vergina.

Q: Is there a guide available for travel in and around Greece?

A: Yes! Download the study-abroad travel guide for in and around Greece from ACT at: www.act.edu/index.jsp?CMCCode=10040310&extLang=LG

Q: Who should participants contact for questions regarding the group flight?

A: For questions about travel arrangements, please contact Advantage Travel directly by phone at 315-471-2222 or 1-800-788-1980 (toll free). You may also contact Advantage Travel via their website www.advantagecny.com.

Additional Activities

Q: Can N.U.in Greece participants join campus clubs at ACT?

A: There are numerous organizations to join during your time abroad. Through ACT many sports and clubs are available. Some of these include: fencing, soccer, basketball, student government and acting. [ACT athletics](#)

Q: What kinds of programs and activities will be arranged by N.U.in Greece staff?

A: The International Student Advisors, in conjunction with ACT staff, will plan weekly free or low-cost activities that appeal to a variety of interests. When participants arrive on-site in Greece, they will receive an activities calendar from the N.U.in Greece Site Director so that they can be informed about what is going on around Thessaloniki. In addition, participants will receive periodic newsletters from ACT that announce upcoming events and activities related to student life.

Amenities & Accommodations

Q: How far is the academic facility from student housing?

A: All N.U.in Greece housing will be a short bus ride away from ACT. ACT provides free bus transportation twice daily to and from campus.

Q: When do participants find out about roommates and housing assignments?

A: Participants will receive their building assignment. Participants will receive their room number and roommate assignment on-site in early September.

Q: How are roommates selected?

A: Participants will fill out a roommate compatibility questionnaire prior to departure. N.U.in staff will then use this questionnaire to assign roommates.

Q: Can participants choose their own roommates?

A: No. N.U.in uses a roommate compatibility tool to assign roommates, but will not grant requests to live with specific individuals. We encourage participants to socialize and work with individuals who are different from themselves, and in some cases, this may also include a roommate. We encourage participants to communicate with their roommates about potential differences.

Q: What do participants need to pack for Greece?

A: N.U.in has created a [packing list](#) to aid student as they are preparing for departure.

Q: What are the accommodations like in Greece?

A: Participants will be placed in dorm-style housing at the [Metropolitan Hotel](#). Participants will also have a partial meal plan that provides breakfast and dinner seven days a week. Housing is located within walking distance from downtown where there is an array of places to shop, visit and enjoy! Closer to student housing there is a boardwalk with a view of the water and the city, churches, cafes, pool and many Greek shops.

Q: Will N.U.in Greece participants need electrical adaptors to use US appliances?

A: Yes, Participants should purchase their own converters beforehand for convenience. Greece uses C, D, E, and F style plugs and outlets. Universal adaptors are recommended and can be purchased at any electronics store, such as Best Buy or Radio Shack

Q: Can participants receive mail at their residences?

A: No. Participants can receive mail on the ACT campus only. Following is the mailing address:

Student Name
c/o Efi Antonakopoulou
International Programs Office
P.O. Box 21021
Pylea, 555 10
Thessaloniki, GREECE

Participants receiving packages may be charged additional fees by ACT for delivery of packages from the local post office. Please also note that some packages will be reviewed by customs authorities in Greece. It is not uncommon for gifts, large amounts of food, electronics, or other items to be taxed before delivery.

Q: Will participants have access to Internet, telephones and other amenities in their housing?

A: Internet will be provided on the ACT campus, as well as in the student housing. Participants should be aware that internet service in Greece is not the same quality as US internet service and expect a much slower or intermittent connection. There are no dryers available in the building. Greeks usually air-dry their laundry. Participants may also opt to have their clothes laundered inexpensively at local business.

Q: Will participants have access to telephones to call home?

A: Prepaid cell phones can be purchased at nearby mobile stores. Many participants use Skype to make phone calls or have international cell phone plans while abroad.

Finance

Q: How much should participants budget for expenses throughout the semester?

A: A: Participants should expect additional expenses for course textbooks, food and recreational activities such as going to the movies or museums. Most participants in Greece budget about \$100-200 per week for any additional expenses. Student expenditures will vary depending on shopping patterns and personal travel. Participants should discuss budgeting and limitations with their families prior to departure.

Q: What kinds of banking are available to N.U.in Greece participants?

A: Participants will not be able to open a Greek bank account and should use their ATM cards to withdraw money. Prior to departure, participants should check with their bank for international ATM fees.

Communication

Q: Do participants need a cell phone in Greece?

A: All participants are required to have a cell phone while abroad with N.U.in. Participants may choose to have their American cell phones unlocked for use abroad. Please check with your cell phone provider about extra costs associated with international use. Local cell phone plans tend to be significantly cheaper than international plans from US providers. Participants without international phone plans will be able to purchase pre-paid phones once they arrive in Thessaloniki.

Health Services & Safety While Abroad

Q: What types of health services are available to N.U.in Greece participants?

A: Participants will have access to the resident nurse or doctor at ACT as well as a private hospital about 10 minutes away from the ACT campus. Participants will also have access to ACT professional staff counseling and referral services.

Q: What kind of health insurance coverage will participants have in Greece?

A: Participants will need to secure their own international health insurance before they arrive in Thessaloniki. Participants are responsible for covering their own medical expenses, and collecting any supporting documentations required for reimbursements through their home country insurance upon their return.

Q: What safety measures does N.U.in Greece have in place for student travelers?

A: Participants who travel independently must submit a "Travel Deviation Form" to the N.U.in Greece Site Director. This ensures that the Site Director can readily contact participants in case of emergency and maintain an accurate roster of participants' travel arrangements.

Northeastern maintains a student travel registry that includes student's location abroad and the participants contact info. In the event of an emergency, Northeastern can communicate with participants and provide immediate service to them. N.U.in staff will upload the student's information from their common applications into the NU travel registry. The Northeastern travel registry can be found through the self-service section of their myNEU portal.

In addition, N.U.in recommends that participants register their travel plans with the [State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#).