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# Merrimack in Greece

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## A Partnership with the American College of Thessaloniki

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[www.act.edu](http://www.act.edu)

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### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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For the student seeking a unique study abroad site in Greece, the American College of Thessaloniki is ideal. Thessaloniki is the 'road less taken', a culturally intact city, small, diverse, youthful, at the crossroads of east and west and the gateway to Southeastern Europe.

#### Greek Cultural Immersion

With a student body comprised of 50% Greeks and international students from approximately 30 countries as well as a plethora of community outreach opportunities, visiting students find a valuable cultural immersion experience at ACT.

#### U.S. Accredited

ACT is the only NEASC-accredited academic institution in Northern Greece.

### PROGRAM DATES

Fall 2013

September 16 (M)

New Student Orientation

September 16-17 (M-Tu)

Registration

September 19-20 (Th-F)

Study Abroad Orientation

September 23 (M)

First Day of Classes

September 24 (Tu)

Last Placement Evaluation

September 27 (F)	Last Day for Course Changes
October 25-28 (F-M)	Fall Break
November 15 (F)	Last Day to Drop a Course
December 20 (F)	Last Day of Classes Before Winter Break
January 8 (W)	Classes Resume
January 16 (Th)	Last Day of Classes
January 17 (F)	Reading Day
January 20-24 (M-F)	Final Examinations

(Note for prospective Fall 2013 Study Abroad students: \*As Fall U.S. Study Abroad students need to return to their home institutions for the Spring semester, they are not required to complete the Fall term following the Winter Break. The earliest departure date is December 17, by making arrangements with one's instructors for early final exams and submission of term papers and assignments. All course requirements must be fulfilled before a grade is submitted, including a maximum of ONE week of absences between Sept. 23 and one's last day of attending classes-- for example, if a Study Abroad student's last class is on Dec. 13, he/she will be allowed one week's excused absences during the period Sept. 23-Dec. 13. Any departure "before" December 17 for serious personal or family reasons must receive the prior official approval of the Provost's office and must be documented accordingly.

## APPLICATION

ACT has [collaborative agreements with a number of colleges and universities](#) across the U.S. In all cases we encourage you to contact ACT and discuss with your home institution's study abroad advisor as early as possible. If you have any questions please contact our U.S. enrollment office for advice on options regarding your application process:

American College of Thessaloniki (ACT)/ Anatolia College

18 Tremont Street Suite 704, Boston MA 02108

Email: [abroad@act.edu](mailto:abroad@act.edu), Tel: (617) 742-7992,, Fax: (617) 742-3215

## CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The following activities are organized with the participation of Chinese students at Peking University: The Great Wall; the Forbidden City; The Summer Palace; Marco Polo Bridge; Xiyu Village; and a 798 Art Village. (N.B. the cultural activities offered are subject to change.) The purpose is to increase interactions between American and Chinese College students.

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## ACADEMICS

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Students will take a total of **five 3-credit courses** on this program. For a list of course offerings, please visit: <http://www.act.edu/index.jsp?CMCCode=10040105&extLang=LG> Students must take Intro to Greek language.

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## HOUSING AND MEALS

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### HOUSING

You will live in ACT housing, close to the heart of the city center and a short ride away from the ZCT campus. The city of Thessaloniki is a port and university town, with a modern sea front, medieval walls and citadel. Here, one in every 10 inhabitants is a university student.

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## TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

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### PASSPORT

- You **MUST** have a valid passport in order to travel abroad
- You need to renew your passport if it will **EXPIRE IN LESS THAN A YEAR**
- For **FIRST TIME PASSPORT APPLICANTS**

[http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first\\_830.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_830.html)

The closest Acceptance Facility (where you will turn in your forms) to Merrimack College is  
Town of North Andover-Clerk

120 Main St North Andover, MA 01845

(978) 688-9502

- If you need to **RENEW** your passport  
[http://travel.state.gov/passport/renew/renew\\_833.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/renew/renew_833.html)
- **PASSPORT PHOTO REQUIREMENTS**  
**SCANS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.** Consulates increasing will not accept scanned, photocopied, or pixilated photos, despite what their websites say.

- **WHERE TO GET PASSPORT PHOTOS**

The closest places to Merrimack College are:

Walgreens

800 Waverly Rd

North Andover, MA 01845

(978) 681-1530

CVS

110 Turnpike Street

North Andover, MA

(978)686-6110

Rite Aid  
525 Turnpike Street  
North Andover, MA 01845  
(978) 794-8720

## VISA

**SMART TRAVELER ENROLLMENT PROGRAM (STEP) / EMBASSY LOCATION:** If you are going to live in or visit Greece, please take the time to tell our Embassy or Consulate about your trip. If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. Enrolling also will help your friends and family get in touch with you in an emergency. Here's the link to the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#).

Local embassy information is available below and at the [Department of State's list of embassies and consulates](#).

### [U. S. Embassy Athens](#)

91 Vasilissis Sophias Boulevard  
Telephone: (30) (210) 721-2951  
Emergency after-hours telephone: (30) (210)  
729-4444 or (30) (210) 729-4301  
Fax: (30) (210) 724-5313

### [U.S. Consulate General Thessaloniki](#)

Plateia Commercial Center  
43 Tsimiski Street, 7th floor  
Telephone: (30) (2310) 242-905  
Fax: (30) (2310) 242-927

**ENTRY / EXIT REQUIREMENTS FOR U.S. CITIZENS:** Greece is a party to the Schengen Agreement. As such, U.S. Citizens may enter Greece for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. Stiff fines may be imposed for overstaying the 90-day period. Your passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of your stay. You may also need to demonstrate at the port of entry (or during the visa interview if you are applying for a visa) that you have sufficient funds for your trip and that you have a return airline ticket. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen fact sheet](#) . For other entry requirements, travelers should contact the Embassy of Greece at 2221 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008, telephone (202) 939-1300, or the Greek Consulate in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Tampa, New York, or San Francisco. [Visit the Embassy of Greece](#) for the most current visa information. If you are a U.S. citizen born in the Republic of Macedonia, please note Greek Immigration Officers at all ports of entry (land, air and sea) will not place entry stamps in passports listing the traveler's place of birth as Macedonia or the Republic of Macedonia. These travelers are required to complete a short form on which the entry stamp will be placed and which the traveler should keep with their passport for the duration of their stay in Greece and present upon departure.

**Please note: If you are traveling with a U.S. official or diplomatic passport, you MUST obtain a visa prior to arrival. Travelers arriving with official or diplomatic passports**

without visas will not be allowed to enter the country.

## TRAVEL

- Students are responsible for **booking their own transportation** to and from the host country

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## TRAVEL PREPERATIONS

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Check out info about your **HOST COUNTRY**

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gr.html>

Check out the **POLITICAL CONDITIONS AND FOREIGN RELATIONS**

<http://www.state.gov/p/eur/ci/gr/>

Check out the **TIME ZONE**

<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/city.html?n=33>

Check out the **WEATHER**

<http://www.weather-forecast.com/locations/Thessalonika/forecasts/latest>

Check out **LOCAL NEWS** about your host country

<http://www.topix.com/gr/thessaloniki>

Check out the **LOCAL NEWSPAPER**

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/>

Check out **CULTURE AND CUSTOMS**

[http://www.virtualtourist.com/travel/Europe/Greece/Prefecture\\_of\\_Thessaloniki/Thessaloniki-416948/Local\\_Customs-Thessaloniki-TG-C-1.html](http://www.virtualtourist.com/travel/Europe/Greece/Prefecture_of_Thessaloniki/Thessaloniki-416948/Local_Customs-Thessaloniki-TG-C-1.html)

Check out info on **ELECTRICITY**

<http://electricaloutlet.org/>

Check out your host countries **HOLIDAYS**

<http://www.earthcalendar.net/php/CountrySearch.php>

Questions about **VOTING WHILE ABROAD**

[http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/living/overseas\\_voting/overseas\\_voting\\_4754.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/living/overseas_voting/overseas_voting_4754.html)

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## FINANCES

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As a reminder, students will **pay tuition, room, board, and an insurance fee to Merrimack College**, and students will be eligible to all financial aid.

### EXTRA COSTS THAT ARE NOT INCLUDED:

- Airfare
- Passport and visa
- Books and supplies
- Local Transportation
- Personal items
- Travel while abroad

Check out the **LOCAL CURRENCY** at <http://www.xe.com>.

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## HEALTH AND SAFETY

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How to call from Greece to the U.S. and vice versa:

<http://www.countrycallingcodes.com/>

Merrimack College Office of International Programs: (978) 837-5210

Merrimack College Police Department: (978) 837-5555

## MEDICAL INSURANCE

All students will be covered through **HTH WORLDWIDE**: <http://www.hthstudents.com>

## VACCINATIONS

Check out the Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule to make sure you have had all your

### ROUTINE VACCINATIONS

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm5901-Immunization.pdf>

Check out the health information for you host country to find **RECOMMENDED VACCINATIONS**

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/china.htm>

## **PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION**

- **If you take prescription medication, you must bring enough to last the duration of your program. It may be difficult and expensive, or impossible to fill prescriptions while abroad.** Students may not be able to find the exact equivalent of their medication. Medicines shipped abroad may be blocked by customs, making it impossible to retrieve them.
- All prescription medication and copies of the prescriptions **should be packed in your carry-on luggage**, in case your checked luggage is delayed. Prescription medication must always be carried in the original container so it can be clearly identified as belonging to you. Pharmacies abroad sell all over-the-counter medications, such as aspirin, cold medicine, antihistamine, Dramamine, etc. which students can purchase without a prescription. It is a common myth that pharmacies in other countries can administer prescription medication without a prescription (such as antibiotics); this is not true.