



Agriculture · Environment · Life Sciences

# FACULTY-LED STUDY ABROAD

***FALL / SPRING / SUMMER 2013-14***

Perrotis College, the higher education division of the American Farm School in Thessaloniki, Greece, offers an ideal setting for faculty-led study abroad groups.

Our location, infrastructure and experience hosting groups enable us to provide faculty-leaders and students from a variety of disciplines with a wide array of services and options to shape programs around each group's particular interests and needs. The information below describes in detail what makes us a venue you might want to consider.

## **WHO WE ARE**

A private residential college—the only one in Greece—Perrotis offers English-language bachelor degrees to Greek and international students in three areas of study—Environmental Systems Management, Food Science & Technology and International Agribusiness. In addition to hosting faculty-led groups, the College offers summer, semester and yearlong study abroad and internship programs to undergraduates from US and international universities.

The American Farm School (AFS) was established in 1904 to educate the “heads, hands and hearts” of young men and women of high school age from Greece and the Balkans, a mission which, with the opening of Perrotis College in 1996, was extended to those seeking a university degree. Today AFS has become a unique institution offering pre-school, high school, college and adult education programs, all of which are serviced by the AFS farm. The 165-acre campus farm includes a herd of Holstein-Friesian dairy cows and a new educational dairy which produces various cheese and yogurt products as well as what is considered the best milk in Greece. The farm also has a poultry unit, greenhouses, field crops, olive orchards, vineyards and a winery.

## **WHAT WE OFFER**

As a study abroad venue, Perrotis College offers services, facilities and features that few other institutions can match.

### **Ideal Location:**

- ***The Campus:*** The 165-acre campus, located in a suburb just six miles east of downtown Thessaloniki, offers a quiet, green, safe environment. Since most of the students reside on the school grounds, as do a

number of staff and their families, the campus atmosphere resembles that of a small, rural community. Nevertheless, the school is a short 10-minute drive from Thessaloniki's international airport and 15 minutes from the city center. One of the largest shopping centers in Southeastern Europe is a 10-minute walk from campus. Health facilities are nearby, as are recreational and sports facilities. The Chalcidice peninsula—famous for its beaches, resorts and the medieval monasteries of Mt. Athos—begins a half-hour's drive south of the school. And an hour and a half to the west is Mt. Olympus, the mythical home of the Greek gods and a popular destination for hikers from around the world. Other sites of interest close by are Pella, the birthplace of Alexander the Great; Vergina, where the tomb of Alexander's father, Philip II, is located; and, at the foot of Mt. Olympus, the ancient city of Dion. Moreover, with easy access to air, rail and sea links, the campus serves as an ideal base for exploring mainland and island Greece.

- **The City:** Founded in 315 BC, Thessaloniki is a modern, bustling city, the second largest in Greece, and the major seaport for Southeastern Europe. The city, a former Culture Capital of Europe, has become famous for its cuisine, its open air markets, its Byzantine churches and its lively student population (Aristotle University, the country's largest, is located near the city center).

#### **Inclusive Infrastructure:**

- **Campus Residence Facilities:** As a residential school, Perrotis College hosts visitors year round in comfortable, convenient residence facilities, including the recently completed Aiki Perroti Student Residence Hall. Selected as a "representative sustainable building" for the 2011 EcoWeek International Conference on Urban Communities & Green Architecture, this facility uses environmentally friendly building materials, innovative design features and state of the art technology to create living spaces that facilitate both individual privacy and community interaction.
- **Office Space and ICT Access:** Wireless Internet access is available in the residence halls, as well as in all classrooms, offices and the Library. Visiting faculty are provided with office space, PC and other IT access, and audio visual equipment for teaching purposes. Video and skype conferencing facilities are also available.
- **Sports Facilities:** Visiting faculty and students also have access to an outdoor soccer field and tennis courts, as well as to the campus gymnasium, which houses a weight room and a newly refurbished basketball court.
- **Library:** The campus Library maintains a collection of over 8000 books, CD-ROMS and DVDs, and subscribes to 45 journals as well as to the *Emerald Management 95* and *Science Direct* databases. It

provides students and faculty with reference services, audio-visual and photocopying services; reading carrels, two computer labs, a conference room and an amphitheater. Access to the Library's collections is available through the *Online Public Access Catalogue*.

- **Teaching & Research Facilities:** In addition to classrooms, the College's teaching facilities include two conference rooms; an amphitheater and a multipurpose room; laboratories for chemistry, biology, horticulture, plant propagation, soil science and agronomy; and an outdoor AgroCenter. The newly completed Life Sciences Laboratory includes facilities for new product development in connection to our Food Science & Technology major, and the European Biological Control Laboratory, which is currently being used to conduct USDA research projects.
- **Educational Farm:** The Farm is divided into Dairy, Poultry and Horticulture departments. The Dairy unit's Holstein-Friesian herd has been the industry leader in productivity and quality of milk continuously since 1935, when the institution first introduced pasteurized milk to Greece. Our newly completed dairy produces what is considered the best milk in Greece, as well as cheese and yogurt. The Poultry unit uses the latest scientific methods to produce and market Omega-3 eggs, turkeys, broilers and day-old chicks. The Horticulture unit includes greenhouses and nurseries; a vineyard and winery; olive trees; and extensive experimental and other field crops, both on the campus farm and at a satellite farm, located 30 miles to the west of the school near the delta of the Axios River. This site also maintains instructional facilities and housing accommodations for students and teachers.

### **Experience in Hosting Groups:**

Our institution is a living laboratory where students undertake practical training in agricultural production, animal husbandry, agribusiness, food science and technology, and natural resource management. Each year thousands of farmers, schoolchildren, university students and other visitors enjoy the opportunity to observe, participate and learn. Among those visitors are many study abroad students and interns from US universities, as well as study abroad groups.

Because of this extensive experience, we know the importance of providing a stimulating, pleasant, safe living environment for visiting faculty and students. We work with each group to find the right balance between academic rigor, opportunities for experiential learning and chances to partake in the culture, natural beauty and historical significance of Greece. We assist faculty leaders and their institutions in arranging teaching programs, student orientation, excursions and recreational activities (including sailing trips to the islands and hiking trips up Mt. Olympus); and in setting up additional university-credit courses, homestays, service-learning projects, and research or work internships.

- **Support for Faculty-Leaders:** We also know the importance in providing logistical and other types of support for faculty-leaders. We can help lessen the teaching load for visiting instructors by providing assistance from the College's regular teaching staff, all of whom hold advanced degrees, most from American and British universities. For a nominal fee, individual faculty and staff are also available to accompany groups on trips and excursions. We also offer free lodging to faculty leaders who bring groups of 10 or more students. In addition, in special cases, a visiting faculty member can be invited to teach in our regular study abroad and academic programs. Faculty and their institutions should keep in mind that teaching opportunities are limited and must be planned well ahead of time.
- **Tailor-Made Programs:** Perrotis College staff work closely with universities in setting up the kind of program that suits the interests and needs of students, faculty and the Stateside institution. Once the home university identifies program length, time of year and courses, we will assist in arranging the most appropriate services and options. Because the College runs its own degree program for Greek and international students, as well as a lively, diverse study abroad and internship program, we can offer many options to visiting faculty and students. These include, as mentioned above, arranging for additional university-credit courses, homestays, service-learning projects, research and work internships, and a variety of excursions, tours and field trips.

### **Optional Activities:**

Another feature that visiting student-groups find appealing are the optional activities that we offer. These include homestays with local families on weekends or during Christmas and Easter breaks, a four-day excursion to Athens, a two-day trek up Mt. Olympus and two four-day sailing trip options—one to the Greek islands of Skiathos, Skopelos and Alonissos, the other along the coast of Chalkidiki sampling local cuisine.

We also assist groups in arranging tours of Thessaloniki and a wide range of excursions to various sites in Northern Greece. Participation in these activities is limited to groups staying on campus for two weeks or more. The homestays are dependent on availability and the sailing trip requires a minimum of five participants.

### **PROGRAM FEES**

The standard fees for students and faculty are quoted below. However, fees can be negotiated for smaller groups of students (less than 15), as well as for the length of the group's stay and the services provided.

### Student Fees:

The standard fees for students participating in faculty-led groups are as follows:

<b>Student Fees<sup>1</sup></b>	
Room & Board (Per Week)	\$330
Administrative Fee <sup>2</sup>	\$200
Orientation <sup>2</sup>	\$200
Health Insurance <sup>3</sup>	\$15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$745</b>

Place/Dorm Deposit: \$200 Refundable

<sup>1</sup>Costs and fees are paid in US dollars, and are subject to change. Also note that once fees have been paid there is a 10% surcharge for any cancellation of an optional activity or a room & board reservation.

<sup>2</sup>These fees remain the same regardless of how long a group visits.

<sup>3</sup>For visits of six weeks or more, this fee is increased to \$50 per student.

<b>ACTIVITY &amp; EXCURSION FEES<sup>4</sup></b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Lectures	\$200 per lecture (not per person)
On Campus Site Visits	No Fee
On Campus Cooking Sessions	\$20 per person (per hour)
Excursions (with escort; meals not included)	
• Day Trips	• \$150 per person
• Two-Day Trips	• \$250 per person
• Three-Day Trips	• \$400 per person
• Four-Day Trips	• \$600 per person
• Sailing Trips (meals included)	• \$900 per person
City Tours / Activities (with faculty/staff escort; meals not included)	\$150 per day (not per person)

<sup>4</sup>A complete list of optional activities (lectures, tours, excursions, etc.) for faculty-led groups is available on request.

Program fees and optional costs do not include:

- Transportation expenses to and from Thessaloniki, Greece.
- Trips and excursions.
- Meals and personal expenses while not on campus.
- Pocket money.

- Visa and residence permit fees (these are paid directly to the Greek authorities).

### Costs for Faculty:

The standard costs for faculty are as follows:

<b>Costs for Faculty</b>	
Room <sup>1</sup> (Per Week)	\$110
Board <sup>2</sup> (Per Week)	\$220
Health Insurance <sup>3</sup>	\$15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$345</b>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty who bring groups of 10 or more students have their room cost waived.

<sup>2</sup>The price for the meal package is fixed; no refunds are available for missed meals.

<sup>3</sup>For visits of six weeks or more, this fee is increased to \$50 per person.

All services and options not identified above are negotiable.

### WHEN YOU CAN COME

We can arrange to host groups on whatever dates suit the needs of the home institution and its study abroad group. However, the dates of our regular study abroad and academic programs are as follows:

- Fall 2013: September 28 – December 20
- Spring 2014: March 1 – May 29
- Summer 2014: June 15 - July 26

Deadlines for arranging visits by study abroad groups are as follows:

- Fall 2013: September 1, 2013
- Spring 2014: January 10, 2014
- Summer 2014: April 1, 2014

### QUESTIONS OR CLARIFICATIONS

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have. Send an e-mail to [studyabroad@afs.edu.gr](mailto:studyabroad@afs.edu.gr) or call us at 0030 2310 492 800. You can also visit our webpage at [www.afs.edu.gr/perrotiscollege](http://www.afs.edu.gr/perrotiscollege) and our [Facebook Study Abroad Page](#).