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Course Title:
HUM 180 (International Cultural Exploration): Greece
Module Title:
The European Union, Greece, and Greek Debt Crisis

Discipline: Humanities

Course/Module Narrative:

This module fits into a broader picture of the past, present, and future of Greece to prepare students for a study abroad trip in May 2020. The course consists of 5 weeks of pre-departure online courses, each week with a different theme regarding Greece. For this specific module, students will first be learning about the EU: how it works as a whole, the part that Greece plays within the EU, and finally the impact of the Greece Debt Crisis on both Greece's economy and the lives of the people living there.

Course Objectives:

Students will:

- Record their experiences in a journal throughout the trip.
- Complete activities about the country's history, culture, and ecology.
- Analyze the impact of culture shock on travelers.
- Present a project based on the students' experiences while abroad.
- Engage and participate in activities scheduled by EF Tours.
- Abide by NCC Abroad Behavioral Agreement.

Module Objectives/Learning Objectives:

Students will:

- Research the EU and the role of its government in Europe
- Analyze the way in which Greece plays its part within the EU
- Create a Google Sites website that provides a synthesis of research along with the incorporation of relevant images and webpage design.
- Read articles and watch videos regarding the Greece debt crisis including its causes, solutions, and impact on the people living there.
- Reflect on the debt crisis via a graphic organizer
- Create a pro/con list of Greece's involvement in the EU

Assigned Readings

- CFR: [How the EU Works](#)
- Video: [How the EU Works](#)
- CFR: [Greece Debt Timeline](#)
- Video: [How the euro caused the Greek crisis](#)
- Vox 2015: [Greece's debt crisis, explained in charts and maps](#)
- Vox 2015: [The Greek crisis: 9 questions you were too embarrassed to ask](#)
- Global Citizen 2018: [Poverty Still Crushes Greece as Financial Bailout Comes to Close](#)
- Forbes 2018: [The Terrible Human Cost Of Greece's Bailouts](#)

- Washington Post 2018: [Battered for a decade, Greece feels an unexpected whiff of revival as Europe gains strength](#)

Content & Delivery

Course Content

- Readings
- Videos
- Graphs/images

Instruction & Delivery (lecture, discussion, group work, etc.)

- Students will use the resources provided for the module to first research the EU and how it works through readings, graphs, and a video.
- Then, gathering the information they learned, students will create a Google Site that includes 7 different webpages, each pertaining to a different topic regarding the EU.
- After studying the EU, students will complete a graphic organizer regarding the Greece Debt Crisis that lasted from approximately 2008-2018.
- Last, students will respond to thought questions regarding their reaction to learning about the debt crisis along with creating a pro/con list about Greece's involvement in the Euro.

Assessment

- Google Sites Assignment Sheet
- Debt Crisis Graphic Organizer

Resources and Materials

- [Understanding the EU Website Assignment Sheet](#)
- [Greece Debt Crisis Graphic Organizer](#)

Greece Debt Crisis Graphic Organizer

For this assignment, you will be researching the debt crisis in Greece that lasted about 10 years and essentially decimated the economy. People lost their jobs, their retirements, savings, etc. With this project, you will research some key causes of the debt crisis, what the government and the EU did to solve the crisis, and what it was like for the people trying to live through it.

Directions: Complete the graphic organizer below by filling in the boxes with information that you learn from your research. After completing the first table, please respond to the reflection questions at the end of this document. **DO NOT COPY and PASTE** information. Your task is to *summarize and synthesize* what you learn about the debt crisis.

Topics that you're focusing on:

- Causes of the debt crisis
- Solutions to the debt crisis
- What it was like for regular people living in Greece

Hint:

Use the [Greece's Debt Timeline](#) as a starting point for your research, but you *must* use other sources!

Please use a different colored font (ie. not black) for your answers (it's easier for me to see!).

Questions	Your Responses	Source
Using the Euro: 1.) Describe when and how Greece got approved to use the Euro (ie. they did something they should not have...) 2.) How did Greece's spending change after adopting the Euro as their currency? 3.) How did the adoption of the Euro make it harder for Greece to resolve its debt crisis? What should Greece have done differently when they first adopted the Euro?	1.) 2.) 3.)	Source(s): (name of webpage and URL)
Global Financial Crisis 1.) What caused the <i>Global</i> financial crisis?	1.)	Source(s): (name of webpage and URL)

<p>GDP</p> <p>1.) What is a nation's GDP? Why is it important?</p> <p>2.) What happened to Greece's GDP around 2008-2010? What impact did this have on their ability to borrow money?</p> <p>3.) Reflect: the US almost defaulted on our debt a few years ago. This would have dropped our credit rating to garbage. Imagine: what would life have been if what happened in Greece happened here? (be aware: it totally could)</p>	<p>1.)</p> <p>2.)</p> <p>3.)</p>	<p>Source(s): (name of webpage and URL)</p>
<p>Bailouts</p> <p>1.) There were several bailouts for Greece. Describe the first one. What were the terms?</p> <p>2.) Describe the second bailout for Greece.</p> <p>3.) Describe what happened with the last, third bailout that Greece received. How did people feel about it?</p> <p>4.) In your opinion, do you think that these bailouts worked? How did they help the economy? How did they make things worse?</p>	<p>1.)</p> <p>2.)</p> <p>3.)</p>	<p>Source(s): (name of webpage and URL)</p>
<p>Life in Greece</p> <p>1.) How did life for average people change in Greece?</p> <p>2.) In your opinion, how would you have reacted if you or your family had literally lost all financial security - not because <i>you</i> necessarily did anything, but because of the government?</p>	<p>1.)</p> <p>2.)</p>	<p>Source(s): (name of webpage and URL)</p>
<p>Hope for the future</p>	<p>1.)</p>	<p>Source(s): (name of webpage and URL)</p>

<p>1.) Since 2018, how has life improved for both the government and for the people?</p> <p>2.) What actions is Greece taking to avoid another financial collapse?</p>	<p>2.)</p>	<p>URL)</p>
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Reflection:

Write 1-2 paragraphs (ie. 8+ sentences) responding to what you've learned about the Greece Debt Crisis. What stood out to you the most? What surprised or shocked you? Has learning this information changed how you think about Greece?

<p>Your response:</p>

Think about what you've learned about both the European Union and Greece's Debt Crisis. Create a bulleted list about the pros of Greece's involvement in the EU and a bulleted list of the cons that Greece experienced. Please briefly explain your responses, so I can understand your reasoning. List at least 2 things for *each* side (ie. 2 pros, 2 cons)

Pros	Cons

Understanding the EU Website

For this assignment, you will practice creating a Google Site (you'll be making one for your final project) based on what the EU is, how the government works, and how Greece fits into this massive organization.

To create a template Google Site:

Log into your Nash CC gmail account. Click on the icon of 9 small squares in the upper right-hand corner. Find the icon labeled "Sites" and click on it. Then, click on the box on the left-hand side of the screen labeled "Create." After you work on your site, remember that you *must* click on "Publish" for other people to be able to see it.

Directions:

Your website must have the following:

- Your website should have a minimum of 6 webpages *besides* the Home page. The more detailed you are, the better! When describing how the different branches of the EU work, elaborate on things like their role (do they propose legislation? With whom would the United States work with for a trade deal with Europe?). Get into details... but again... **DO NOT COPY/PASTE.**
- Titles for each page:
 - Homepage: What is the EU?
 - Write an overview of what the EU is (ie. A summary - almost like the introduction paragraph of an essay)
 - Current Issues in the EU
 - Focus on at least 3 big issues that the EU is dealing with
 - These issues can be agendas (ie. trade deals) or more political (rising nationalism vs. a unified European Union)
 - The EU Commission
 - Describe how the EU Commission works.
 - The EU Council
 - Describe how the Council works.
 - The EU Parliament
 - Describe how the Parliament works.
 - The EU Central Bank
 - Describe how the Central Bank works.
 - Greece's EU history
 - When did Greece first join the EU?
 - How did it benefit Greece?
 - When did Greece join the Euro?
- **Each webpage should contain:**
 - Each page must be 200-400 words in length and can be in paragraph or bulleted form.
 - **DO NOT COPY AND PASTE.**
 - Take the information, learn it, and then explain it to your classmates in your own words.
 - Include *at minimum* 2 more photos about your topic.

- At the bottom of each page, add a References section.
 - Add the resources that you used to gather your information.
 - Write the name of the website and create a hyperlink. DON'T just paste the URL.
- Feel free to play around with the design of your page! Be creative, if you want! But, please don't change the "Theme" as it'll change the theme for EVERYONE.
 - Optional: Change the primary background photo to match your topic.