**DRAFT**

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

School of Modern Greek Language

**Professional Learning and Development Program**

**for Australian Language Teachers**

**21 September – 4 October 2015**

*Dear participants,*

***The School of Modern Greek Language welcomes you to the Professional Learning and Development Program for Australian Language Teachers (hereafter referred to as the Study Program)!***

The information below is aimed at providing useful information about the Study program and tips to help you maximise your language learning experience.

**About the Program**

* **Language component** (32 hours)

- Language instruction

The language-learning component of the Study Program aims to refresh, upgrade and/or improve proficiency in all the macro skills. The Study Program also offers opportunities for accumulation of appropriate resources to support language learning for participants and the students they teach.

Lectures/workshops on topics relevant to the teaching and learning of Greek and methodology (as indicated in the Study Program outline) are designed to complement language lessons.

Language lessons will be held in the School’s classrooms (old Philosophy building, main campus, Aristotle University) and at the French Institute classrooms from Monday to Friday, as per the Study Program schedule (a final draft of which you will be given upon arrival).

- Pronunciation classes

These lessons aim to provide strategies for the improvement of pronunciation through games, songs, videos, etc. They focus on the teaching of tone, intonation, rhythm, etc. The objective here is two-fold: apart from the teaching of correct pronunciation, we want to use this class to assist you to help your students learn the pronunciation of the Greek language.

- Language laboratory

At the language laboratory you will have the opportunity to practice your language skills through the use of computers and information technology with the assistance of an ICT expert teacher.

* **Cultural activities** (21 hours)

Guided tours included in the Study Program:

- City tour & White Tower

- Archaeological and Byzantine Museums of Thessaloniki

- The General State Archives (<http://www.gak.gr/frontoffice/portal.asp?cpage=NODE&cnode=1>)

- The Centre for Greek Language (<http://www.greeklanguage.gr>)

- The Institute of Modern Greek Studies (<http://ins.web.auth.gr>)

- “Ktima Gerovassiliou” vineyard and wine museum, Epanomi, Thessaloniki: <http://www.gerovassiliou.gr>

* **School visit**

A school visit has been organised where you will have the opportunity to interact, share ideas and discuss common concerns with Greek colleagues. You will also be able to observe classes in action.

* **Field Trips /Excursions** (3 days, included in the Study Program):

**- Excursion to the Museum of Royal Tombs of Vergina with guided tour**

Full day excursion to Vergina, the first capital of Macedonia where the tomb of King Phillip II, (the father of Alexander the Great) was discovered. The tombs were discovered during excavations in 1977-78. The findings are unique and offer valuable historical information and insights into ancient Macedonian life ([www.museumsofmacedonia.gr](http://www.museumsofmacedonia.gr)). After Vergina, the group will be transferred to the picturesque town of Edessa where they will have the opportunity to view the spectacular waterfalls, walk through the town, before returning to Thessaloniki for the evening meal at the hotel.

**- Excursion to Meteora with overnight stay at Metsovo with guided tours**

The group will depart for Metsovo where they will have the opportunity to spend time in this quaint little town which harmoniously combines the traditional past with the present. Participants will have free time to enjoy the cobbled streets of Metsovo before being provided with dinner at a local restaurant. Activities that will be undertaken at Metsovo include visit to the Evangelos Averof Gallery, which contains paintings and sculptures by famous Greek artists and the Michail Tositsa mansion, which houses the Museum of Popular Art.

The following day participants will depart for Meteora, a UNESCO world heritage site famous for the suspended monasteries built on natural sandstone pillars elevated 313 metres above sea level. Of the six monasteries, four are inhabited by men and the other two by women, with each monastery inhabited by has fewer than 10 people. Upon return to Thessaloniki, the group will be provided with dinner at the hotel (<http://www.meteora-greece.com/>)

University buses will be provided for all excursions and tours outside the city. Buses will depart from the entrance to the old Faculty of Philosophy building. In order to ensure that the program activities are on schedule, please ensure you are at the meeting point 10 minutes before the scheduled departure time.

*Please note that the School reserves the right to replace activities in the event of unforeseen circumstances (eg. inclement weather conditions).*

**About your Accommodation**

* **Accommodation**

The School **has reserved a single room at the ABC Hotel** ([www.hotelabc.gr/](http://www.hotelabc.gr/)) from 20 September – 4 October, 2015, f**or your stay in Thessaloniki for the duration of the Study Program. The hotel is within close proximity to the University and a short stroll to Plateia Aristotelous and the city centre.**

**A single room in the Aroma Dryos Eco and Design Hotel at Metsovo has also been reserved for your overnight excursion to Meteora.**

* **Meals**

Participants will be provided with 2 meals a day (breakfast and lunch) for the duration of the Study Program. During excursions, participants may be provided with dinner instead of lunch, to facilitate travel. Meals will be served in the Hotel’s dining rooms, unless otherwise specified. Please advise as soon as possible if you have any special dietary requirements.

* **Social Program**

A welcome/orientation/housekeeping session is provided upon commencement of the Study Program while a welcome dinner at a local restaurant (TBA) on the evening of the first Study Program day and a farewell dinner at a local restaurant (TBA) at the end of the Study Program are also included.

**Arrival and Departure**

* **Transfers**

The University acknowledges that not all participants will be travelling together and may be on different flights and arrive/depart at different times. The University will organize transfers to and from Makedonia Airport as follows:

A member of our staff will be at the airport to assist with transfers to your hotel on a day and time suitable to most participants. Likewise, the University bus will be booked for the airport on a day and time that suits most departure schedules. This will mean that some participants may have to make their own travel arrangements to/from the airport. The days and times of the University bus transfers will be determined in conjunction with participant travel schedules and advised at a later date. Participants are encouraged to work around the University bus schedule, if possible.

**Personal Considerations**

* **Insurance**

Travel insurance is an important part of ensuring your safety and security and minimising inconvenience in the unfortunate event that you are caught up in a situation that threatens your safety/security. The University does not provide medical insurance as part of the Study Program. Study Program participants are advised to have comprehensive travel and medical insurance for the duration of the Study Program, covering expenses that may arise in connection with injury or illness (including any pre-existing condition), emergency repatriation costs, personal liability, loss or damage to personal effects, cancellation, and additional expenses incurred that relate to any of the above risks.

* **Networking**

A range of networking opportunities will become available to you during the Study Program as you interact with University staff, teachers and people met during excursions and field trips. It is up to you to take advantage of these valuable resources to widen your network of contacts who may prove useful in your teaching career. Ensure that no opportunity is missed!

* **Resource Collection**

During all Study Program activities and free time, you will have many opportunities to collect resources and realia to support your teaching role and that of your colleagues. While it’s tempting to collect as much as possible, consider your luggage limitations and cost associated with shipping items back to Australia.

* **Conduct and behaviour**

You are expected to:

* Maintain a high level of professionalism in behaviour and attire, at all times
* Be punctual for all activities
* Accept that other participants will have different levels of language proficiency and different learning needs
* Be respectful at all times, to fellow participants and University staff
* Be a team player. Team cohesiveness is crucial to a positive and fulfilling experience
* Abide by all laws of the country and all rules and regulations of the University
* **Maximising your Learning**
* Speak just Greek at least for the duration of your Study Program
* Maintain a positive attitude and openness to learning
* Things may not always go to plan or turn out as expected - look for the learning opportunity and don’t dwell on the negative
* Recognise and embrace the difference. The teaching approaches may differ from what you are accustomed - look for the learning opportunity
* Set some goals and reflect on your own personal language proficiency, strengths, areas of improvement (including teaching resource requirements), prior to your arrival. Identify the knowledge that you wish to attain
* As teachers you are used to facilitating learning. During the Study Program you will need to shift your position to that of the learner
* Enjoy the experience and create happy memories!
* **Cost of living in Thessaloniki**

The following list includes the average prices of some basic goods and services that determine the cost of living:

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| --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Price in Euro** |
| Bus-ticket  | 1,00 € |
| Bottle of water (0,5 lt) | 0,50 € |
| Bottle of water (1,5 lt)  | 1,00 € |
| Milk (1 lt) | 1,00 – 1,50 € |
| Refreshments | 1,00 – 2,00 € |
| Coffee (at a cafeteria) | 3,00 – 5,00 € |
| Beer (at a bar) | 4,00 – 8,00 € |
| Cinema ticket | 7,00 – 10,00 € |
| Concert ticket | 20,00 € |

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON STUDY PROGRAM FEES**

**Cost of the Study Program**

* The total cost of the Study Program as outlined above is **1.450€ per person**
* Participants must pay a non-refundable amount of **700€** prior to **15 June, 2015** to secure their place in the Study Program
* The remainder of the Study Program fees must be paid in full upon arrival or by **21 September, 2015**
* All amounts must be deposited in the University’s bank account as follows:

**Name of Bank: Piraeus Bank**

**Bank account number: 5202-002079-976**

**Account Name: Research Committee of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**

**Code number: 81546**

**ΙΒΑΝ: GR 04 0172 2020 0052 0200 2079 976**

**SWIFT: PIRBGRAA**

* Payment in full is required In order to finalise your enrolment at the University for the Study Program.
* For University academic records, please provide upon arrival a copy of your passport (front photo page) and a small passport size photo of yourself.
* The Secretariat of the School will be at your disposal for any supplementary information concerning University Services such as access to the University’s Library, Social Policy Committee, University Sports Center, etc.
* The Secretariat of the School is open from Monday-Friday between 12:00 – 14:00 and can be contacted by tel: +30 2310 997571, 997576, fax: +30 2310 997573, or email: agiovani@smg.auth.gr, elen@smg.auth.gr).
* **About Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is a State University and the largest University in Greece. The University Campus covers some 23 hectares close to the centre of Thessaloniki.

It comprises 12 Faculties organized into 38 Schools, as well as 4 independent Schools (a total of 42 Schools). More than 72.000 undergraduate and postgraduate students study at Aristotle University, 62.000 in undergraduate programs and 10,000 in postgraduate programs.

For more information about Aristotle University of Thessaloniki see: [www.auth.gr](http://www.auth.gr).

* **About the School of Modern Greek Language**

The School of Modern Greek Language was founded at Aristotle University in 1970 and has been operating ever since under the supervision of the Faculty of Philosophy.

The School offers courses in Greek language and culture to foreign students and also to students of Greek origin, who intend to study in Greek Educational Institutions, or wish, through the Greek language, to familiarize themselves with Greece and its culture (ancient, byzantine and modern). Every year, a number of language courses, relative to the various needs of the students, are offered. For more information about the School of Modern Greek Language please see: [www.smg.auth.gr](http://www.smg.auth.gr) or Facebook (School of Modern Greek Language).

* **About Thessaloniki**

Thessaloniki is the second largest city of Greece with approximately 1 million inhabitants and the capital of Macedonia the largest region of Greece. Founded in 315 B.C. by King Kassander and named after his wife, who was Alexander the Great's half-sister, the city is today a major economic, political and cultural centre of Greece. Thessaloniki attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors every year since it is famous for its ancient Greek and Byzantine monuments, its commercial port, its Universities; the International Trade Fair held annually in September and the International Film Festival. Thessaloniki is also known for its hospitable people, tasteful cuisine and social life. Due to its unique location, Thessaloniki has always been of strategic importance throughout its long history and a meeting point of different people, languages and cultures of the East and the West. More information about Thessaloniki, can be found at the following websites: [www.thessalonikicity.gr](http://www.thessalonikicity.gr), [www.meteo.gr](http://www.meteo.gr), [www.gnto.gr](http://www.gnto.gr).

* **Getting to Thessaloniki**

“[Makedonia International Airport](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Makedonia_International_Airport)” ([www.thessalonikiairport.gr/](http://www.thessalonikiairport.gr/)), is Thessaloniki’s Airport (SKG), the second biggest airport in Greece, located 14 km east of the city center.

* **Queries**

Queries about the Study Program can in the first instance, be directed to Ms Vicky Marinelis by email: community.languages@edumail.vic.gov.au or tel: (03) 9349 2861/ 0419 126 160.

On behalf of the School of Modern Greek Language,

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Ms Elena Koutousi

Head Administrator/Study Program Coordinator