

AHEPA Canada and Simon Fraser University team up to offer free on line Greek lessons

Odysseas Online Greek Language Tutor now open for fall session registration

July 16, 2007 – Have you always wanted to learn Greek, but didn't have the time or know where to start? AHEPA Canada has teamed up the Hellenic Studies Media Group of Simon Fraser University (SFU) to offer free lessons through the Odysseas Online Greek Language Tutor.

The Odysseas Language Project is an interactive learning program designed to teach the Greek language and culture on the Internet using electronic learning principles and advanced user interface technology.

The Fall session of this free online course will begin in October and allows participants to learn with the help of an online tutor at their own pace in their own home. The first course offered will be Modern Greek for Beginners I. This introductory course for Modern Greek is designed for learners without any prior knowledge of the language. All you need is a computer with microphone, speakers, an Internet connection and the latest version of Macromedia Flash Player.

This course will give the student an introduction to the language and will help develop survival skills in the most frequently encountered communicative situations. Although teaching will concentrate on practical language skills, with special emphasis on listening and speaking, the student will also develop a basic level of competence in reading and writing. An online tutor will serve as a companion to online work.

The tutor is designed to emulate how an actual personal tutor would instruct a student. It provides several examples and no-risk quizzes so that students are familiar with the exam format ahead of time. After each exam the student receives customized feedback based on his/her performance. Odysseas also tracks the progress of students through several exams to ensure that they are making steady progress.

The program was developed by the Hellenic Studies Media Group of SFU in British Columbia, with funding through the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation. For more information about the course, please visit <http://www.odysseasproject.com/infokit/>.

Register now for Fall 2007 at www.ahepacanada.org.

About Hellenic Studies at SFU

The Hellenic Studies Program is an interdisciplinary program at Simon Fraser University that seeks to promote knowledge and interest regarding Hellenism, its history, its language, and literature both in Greece and in the Diaspora. To learn more about Hellenic Studies at SFU, please visit <http://www.sfu.ca/hellenic-studies/>.

About AHEPA Canada

The American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) is one of the largest Hellenic heritage groups in the world and is a major community service organization in North America. Included in the AHEPA Family is the women's group, Daughters of Penelope; the Sons of Pericles (the junior order of AHEPA); and the Maids of Athena (the junior order of the Daughters of Penelope). While founded in the United States in 1922, the AHEPA organization has branched out to include chapters throughout Canada, Greece, Cyprus, New Zealand and Australia.

###