MEDITERRANEAN COLLEGE
Journey of Odysseus

June 8 to 19, 2011
I remember my classics course at Stanford quite vividly. Despite the early hour of the class, I attended every one because of the enthralling subject matter. The first time I read Homer’s *Odyssey* I was enchanted by the epic poem, filled with struggle, triumph and perhaps the most difficult journey home ever chronicled. As an undergrad, I envisioned a trip that would take me to the major sites on Odysseus’ route – a trip filled with windswept fields, azure waters and discoveries linking our modern world to antiquity. I’m thrilled to offer you just such a trip, one certain to satisfy the most ardent of Homerphiles. And there is no one better to guide you through the story of Odysseus than perennial Travel/Study favorite Marsh McCall. Join us on this epic journey!

**BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY**

**Highlights**

**GATHER** on the fields of Troy, famed site of the Trojan War and starting point of Odysseus’ journey

**WALK** the cobblestone streets of the Roman city of Pompeii, buried for nearly 1,600 years under layers of volcanic ash

**EXPLORE** the cultural influences on Malta, occupied by many civilizations, from the Phoenicians to the Byzantines

**CAPTURE** a glimpse of ancient Sicily at the incredibly well-preserved Doric temple of Segesta
Wednesday & Thursday, June 8 & 9
U.S. / ISTANBUL, TURKEY
Fly from the U.S. to Istanbul on overnight flights. Arrive in Istanbul on Thursday and embark our ship.
CORINTHIAN II (D)

Friday, June 10
CANAKKALE (TROY)
Explore the site of Odysseus’ embarkation from famed Troy, which consists of nine cities, superimposed in rings on a massive mound rising above the windswept Plain of Ilium. Legend has it that Paris abducted the beautiful Helen and carried her to one of these cities, igniting the Trojan War. Here, King Priam’s city finally fell to Odysseus’ clever ruse of the Trojan Horse.
CORINTHIAN II (B, L, D)

Saturday, June 11
NAFPLION, GREECE / MYCENAE / TIRYN / ARGOS
Arrive in Nafplion for an excursion inland. Stop at Mycenae, the home of Agamemnon, which Homer described as “rich in gold.” A tour of the citadel includes the royal beehive-shaped tombs and the dramatic Lion Gate, which leads to the acropolis and grand palace. Continue on to the city of Tiryns, situated on a rocky summit where imposing walls of red-and-gray limestone are still standing 3,400 years after their construction. Drive to Argos, an ancient city whose ruins include the Mycenaean necropolis, the Agora and the Sanctuary of Apollo and Athena.
CORINTHIAN II (B, L, D)

Sunday, June 12
PYLOS
As our ship enters spacious Navarino Bay, we pass the uninhabited isle of Sphakteria. Land at the picturesque village of Pylos, situated at the head of the bay, and drive to the Palace of Nestor, dating from the 13th century BC. Even as it sits in ruins, the structure gives a vivid picture of the grandeur of the Mycenaeans.
CORINTHIAN II (B, L, D)

Monday, June 13
At sea / VALLETTA, MALTA
Enjoy a relaxing day on the Ionian Sea before arriving later this evening in the Grand Harbor of Valletta, the fortified bastion of the Knights of Malta. The island of Malta was ruled successively by the Phoenicians, Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs and the Order of the Knights of Saint John of Jerusalem. Valletta’s hundreds of monuments are a visual testament to Malta’s being one of the most concentrated historic locales in the world.
CORINTHIAN II (B, L, D)

Tuesday, June 14
VALLETTA or GOZO
Today, choose between sightseeing in Valletta or visiting the nearby island of Gozo. In Valletta, explore the picturesque squares surrounded by medieval palaces. Visit the National Museum of Archaeology, the Grand Master’s Palace and stop for a glimpse of St. John’s Co-Cathedral. Also visit the Neolithic Tarxien Temples, which date back to 2800 BC, and the megalithic complex of Hagar Qim. Alternatively, on Gozo, stand on the cliffs overlooking Ramla Bay and retrace Odysseus’ footsteps to the smooth-walled cave where the nymph, Calypso, is said to have kept him for seven years.

From there, visit the underground Alabaster Caves in the tiny town of Xaghra and the spectacular Ggantija temple complex.
CORINTHIAN II (B, L, D)
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

TRAPANI, SICILY, ITALY / ERICE / SEGESTA

Trapani, on Sicily’s stunning west coast, is where the cannibal Laestrygonians may have attacked Odysseus and his companions. Drive to Segesta for a glimpse of its Doric temple, built in 420 BC. The temple ruins stand in majestic solitude atop a bucolic hill, and with virtually no modern-day structures marring the vista it’s easy to imagine the Sicily of antiquity. Travel the winding roads to the medieval town of Erice, situated on a high plateau overlooking the coast. The town was known for its temple to the fertility goddess, Astarte, who was later identified with Venus and worshipped by the Romans. Explore the magnificent 12th-century Venus Castle that was built upon the ruins of the ancient temple. Fringed by a lush park, the overlook offers breathtaking views from this medieval hilltop castle.

CORINTHIAN II (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

NAPLES / PHLEGREAN FIELDS or POMPEII

Dock in Naples and drive to the Phlegraean Fields where Odysseus and his men were said to have seen Polyphemus, the Cyclops. Drive by Lago d’Averno, the ancient Avernus Lake, a possible home of the Cimmerians in The Odyssey, and Lago di Fusaro, the ancient Archerusian Lake where Odysseus entered Hades. Continue to Monte di Cuma and the cave of the Sibyl of Cumae, who prophesied the future. Alternatively, visit the Roman settlement of Pompeii, the ancient city that was both destroyed and preserved by the volcanic eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. Later this afternoon, visit the Archaeological Museum in Naples.

CORINTHIAN II (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

MESSINA / TAORMINA

Cross the Strait of Messina, whose waters are the legendary home of Scylla, a terrifying six-headed monster, and Charybdis, a treacherous whirlpool. Odysseus and his ship were blown ashore in the Kingdom of Helios, today’s Taormina, where his companions slaughtered and ate Helios’ sacred oxen before setting sail again. To avenge the death of his beloved oxen, Helios sent a lightning bolt that destroyed their ship, drowning all aboard except Odysseus. Picturesque Taormina is situated on a mountainside affording magnificent views of Mount Etna. Here we visit the superbly situated Greek theater, built in the 3rd century BC.

CORINTHIAN II (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

ITHACA, GREECE

Ithaca, the home of Odysseus, is a stunning island of pristine beaches and verdant forest. Visit the bay of Dexia, Homer’s harbor of Phorkys, where the Phaeacians left Odysseus sleeping on the beach. Admire the Cyclopean Walls (Alalkomenai), a ruin site known locally as Odysseus’ Castle, and stand atop the Plateau of Marathia where Odysseus’ loyal servant, Eumaeus, kept his swine. Sail through the Corinth Canal as we make our way to Piraeus.

CORINTHIAN II (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

PIRAEUS / ATHENS / U.S.

Transfer to Athens where we connect to our return flights back to the U.S. (B)
Corinthian II

Originally built in 1992 and refurbished and redecorated in 2004 and early 2005, the 114-guest Corinthian II accommodates all guests in 57 outside suites, each affording sea views and elegantly furnished with a sitting area, TV, safe, mini-refrigerator and other amenities, as well as a marble-appointed bathroom. Several suites include private balconies accessed via sliding glass doors. Spacious and finely decorated public areas include a library, an elegant lounge and The Club bar. The restaurant, serving fine cuisine prepared by European chefs, accommodates all guests at a single seating. The ship also includes a gym, beauty salon, elevator serving all passenger decks, sun deck with Jacuzzi, and outdoor bar and café. Corinthian II is served by 70 experienced officers and crew.

Program Cost*

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<th>CATEGORY</th>
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<tr>
<td>E 225 sq. ft. with portholes</td>
<td>$7,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>D 225 sq. ft. with window</td>
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<tr>
<td>C 235 sq. ft. with portholes</td>
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<tr>
<td>B 235 sq. ft. with window</td>
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<tr>
<td>AA 285 sq. ft. with forward and side windows</td>
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<tr>
<td>VS 300 sq. ft. Verandah suite with private balcony</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 400 sq. ft. Penthouse suite with private balcony</td>
<td>$14,495</td>
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*Association nonmembers add $200 per person. **A limited number of cabins is available at these occupancy rates.

Flag: Malta / Length: 297 feet / Beam: 50 feet / Draft: 12 feet
Information

DATES
June 8 to 19, 2011 (12 days)

SIZE
Limited to a total of 100 participants, including travelers from Stanford, the California Alumni Association and the Harvard Alumni Association.

INCLUDED
10-night cruise aboard the Corinthian II  ▪ 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches and 10 dinners  ▪ Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions  ▪ Open bar throughout the cruise  ▪ Bottled water on excursions  ▪ Gratuities to porters, guides, drivers and ship crew for all group activities  ▪ All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary  ▪ Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days  ▪ Port fees and embarkation taxes  ▪ Visa for Turkey  ▪ Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance  ▪ Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information  ▪ Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
International and U.S. domestic airfare  ▪ Passport fees  ▪ Immunization costs  ▪ Meals and beverages other than those specified as included  ▪ Independent and private transfers  ▪ Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance  ▪ Excess-baggage charges  ▪ Personal items such as email, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on Lufthansa from San Francisco arriving in Istanbul and returning from Athens is approximately $1,350 as of July 2010 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent with confirmation materials.

FUEL COSTS
In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT
We consider this program to be mildly active. Most of our touring is done by motorcoach and boat. Daily excursions involve one to three miles of walking on city streets, which are, in some cases, uneven or cobblestone. Some walking takes place at ancient sites, where paths can be rocky and uneven. In some instances, such as museums, guided tours require climbing up and down several flights of stairs. Stairs may not have handrails, and elevators may be limited or unavailable. Travelers will have opportunities to take in the beautiful Mediterranean scenery from the comfort of our ship. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000 deposit is required to hold space for the Mediterranean College. Complete and return the attached reservation form or sign up online. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are fully refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply. We recommend trip-cancellation insurance; applications will be sent to you.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. We strongly recommend that you subscribe to optional baggage and trip-cancellation insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be mailed with your confirmation about one week after we receive your deposit. The product offered in this brochure includes a special Waiver of Pre-Existing Conditions and coverage for Financial Insolvency and Terrorist Acts if you postmark your insurance payment within 15 days of the date listed on the confirmation letter.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $200 more than the members’ price. Stanford alumni may become Annual ($75) or Life ($495). Members, Stanford parents, faculty, staff, interns, residents and fellows may become Installment Members ($90 down, $115/year for four years) or Life Members ($495). Nonalumni may become Life Affiliates (one-time fee, $650). Parents and their children under 21 may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit www.stanfordalumni.org/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Terms & Conditions

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50
Faculty Leader

MARSH McCALL, who has led over 35 Travel/Study trips, has enchanted many thousand travelers with his enthusiasm for the ancient world. A frequent traveler to this region, he is eternally ready to set sail on the sapphire waters of the Mediterranean to explore new sites and study recent historical discoveries. As Professor McCall says, “The ancient world has been my life for more than 50 years, and I’m always eager to talk about its endless fascination.”

- Stanford professor of classics since 1976
- At Stanford: former chair, classics department; associate dean, undergraduate studies; chair, Western culture program committee; dean, continuing studies
- Recipient of the Dinkelspiel Award for outstanding service to undergraduate education, the Lyman Award for faculty volunteer service and the Phi Beta Kappa Teacher of the Year award
- PhD, classics, Harvard

“Smooth seas, rocky climbs, wonder-filled museums of antiquities, plus the excitingly dramatic and incomparable Professor Marsh McCall.”

CAROL AND BRAD DEWEY, ’51
AEGEAN SEA COLLEGE, 2009

Reservation Form

Mediterranean College

June 8 to 19, 2011

I / We have read the Terms and Conditions for the program and agree to them.

SIGNATURE

________________________________________

If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:

☐ I wish to have single accommodations.

OR ☐ I plan to share accommodations with _________________________

OR ☐ I’d like to know about possible roommates.

Here is my deposit of $___________ ($1,000 per person) for _____ space(s).

CATEGORY PREFERENCE:

1st choice: ____________________________ ☐ Twin Beds ☐ Queen Bed

2nd choice: __________________________ __ ☐ Twin Beds ☐ Queen Bed

☐ Enclosed is my check (make payable to Stanford Alumni Association) OR

☐ Charge my deposit to my: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

CARD #: _____________________________ EXPIRES ___________

AUTHORIZED CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE ______________________ DATE ___________

Mail completed form to address on mail panel or fax to (650) 725-8675 or place your deposit online at www.stanfordalumni.org/trip?med2011. Please submit your reservation only once to avoid multiple charges to your account.

6353
“A superior trip on a great ship with good food and great companions!”

BEV AND BOB FELISIAN, ISLANDS OF THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN COLLEGE ABOARD CORINTHIAN II, 2008