# Odysseys: travel, transformation, transcendence

**4th edition of "Mobilities: spaces, times, representations"**
**ARTEMIS Blended Intensive Programme – BIP**
**3 ECTS**

University of Ioannina – Institute of Humanities and Social Studies
University of Clermont-Auvergne
Ovidius University of Constanta
University of Perugia
[with the generous support of the Ionian University (Corfou),
the Center of Odyssean Studies (Ithaca) and the Municipality of Ithaca]

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**Online sessions: 9, 16 and 30 June 2027**
**On site: 22-26 June 2027**

This Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) explores the movement of people, goods, and ideas across different cultures and historical periods. It introduces students to diverse interpretations of mobility within the fields of the Humanities, provides them with relevant theoretical and methodological tools, and encourages them to engage critically with the programme's central theme.

The 2027 edition focuses on the concept of "Odysseys" and the multiple narratives associated with the island of Ithaca, whether in a literal or metaphorical sense.

The programme comprises 24 hours of lectures (8 delivered online and 16 in situ) and 16 hours of hands-on workshops, including guided and commented sightseeing tours, hiking, and cultural immersion activities.

**Save the date:**

The online sessions (**9 & 16 June**) serve as an introduction to the topic, present key methodologies, and provide essential bibliography and further reading suggestions. The last online meeting (**30 June**) is the occasion for a concluding online session, dedicated to synthesis and evaluation.

The physical component of the BIP will commence at 09:00 on **22 June 2027** at the Ionian University in Corfu.

On the following day (**23 June**), participants will embark on a sea journey from Corfu to Ithaca aboard the *Lefkada Palace*, following its scheduled route via Paxos, Lefkada, and Meganisi. Rather than serving merely as a means of transportation, this journey will be transformed into a mobile classroom, featuring lectures, presentations, and group activities delivered on board. As the vessel travels through the Ionian Islands, participants will explore the concept of "Odysseys" through the geographical, historical, cultural, and symbolic dimensions of the places they encounter. The journey itself will thus become an integral part of the learning experience, fostering connections between movement, place, knowledge, and individual and collective narratives.

Over the following two days (**24–25 June**), researchers from the four participating HEIs will present their perspectives on selected case studies. Alongside these academic presentations, specialized instructors will lead workshops involving mixed groups of students. Through visits to Ithaca, traditionally associated with the island of Odysseus, participants will engage directly with the island's cultural and historical landscape, linking experiential learning with academic inquiry.

On **26 June**, the return sea journey from Ithaca to Corfu will provide a further opportunity to engage with the mobile classroom concept. Building on the knowledge and experiences gained throughout the programme, participants will continue their reflections and learning activities on board, bringing together the geographical, historical, cultural, and personal dimensions of their Ionian journey.

**Eclass platform - Student's assessments:**

Each student maintains a Critical Carnet from the first online session onward. This digital, individual learning and reflection journal encourages students to actively engage with each lecture and workshop, connect theory with practice, and develop a critical, reflective, and comparative perspective throughout the BIP. The Carnet consists of a series of online assignments completed over the duration of the programme.

A dedicated learning platform, specifically designed using the eClass Open application, serves as the central hub for all stages of the BIP. It functions as an integrated digital learning environment that supports teleconferencing (using Big Blue Button), facilitates continuous dialogue and collaboration among participants, and provides structured access to course materials, including a curated virtual library.

The platform is pedagogically designed to enhance both synchronous and asynchronous learning, enabling students to engage with lectures, participate in discussions, and complete assignments in a coherent and interactive framework. It also supports the submission and monitoring of coursework, including the Critical Carnet, and enables ongoing formative and summative evaluation.

By ensuring continuity between the online and in situ components of the programme, the platform fosters an inclusive and collaborative learning community, encourages active participation, and supports the development of critical, reflective, and research-oriented skills.

**Practicalities:**

The suggested arrival and departure dates to and from Corfu are 21 and 27 June 2027, respectively.

Participants are responsible for booking their own flights to and from Corfu, as well as arranging their accommodation in Corfu town. Special accommodation arrangements have been made for the stay on Ithaca.

The University of Ioannina will make every effort to cover local transportation and meal expenses incurred during the programme.

And, of course, don't forget to bring your swimsuit and sunscreen.