Combining Mathematics History with a Greece Tour. Preliminary report.

A three-credit junior level mathematics history course was combined with a twelve day tour of Greece. The course began during the spring semester in January 2009 and concluded in the first summer session in June 2009. Two-thirds of the course was taught during the spring semester on campus. The campus portion included Egyptian, Greek, Chinese, Indian, Islamic, and European mathematics up to the beginnings of calculus. Emphasis was on the areas of geometry, algebra, and calculus. The campus portion involved readings, discussions, lectures, student presentations, and some activities. The final third took place during the Greece tour. The class of eight students traveled with groups from four other universities during the tour. The course portion during the tour emphasized the work of Greek mathematicians and their influence in ancient and modern times. This portion was heavily dependent on student interaction, including presentations, discussions, activities, and included some lectures. This presentation will include the development of the course and tour, enrichment through travel, and anecdotal evidence of renewed student excitement about mathematics. Preliminary report. (Received September 13, 2009)