

# MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES

Educator's Pack: Grades 4-9

Pre-Museum Visit Information





# HELLO!

Thank you for choosing to include the Museum of Antiquities in your classroom this year! We have put together this module to provide information to you and your students before you visit the Museum.

In the following pages you will find some (hopefully) useful information, including:

- An overview of the lesson plan for delivery of the module and activities related to your upcoming visit to the Museum,
- Description of Nudity in the Gallery
- Gallery rules,
- Extra Resources
- Map and Guide for the University of Saskatchewan

Each module includes lessons, PowerPoints, activities and assessments for you to choose from with corresponding outcomes to the *Saskatchewan Curriculum Guide*. As the teacher you know your students best so choose whichever module, activity, and tour that best fits your classroom. We highly recommend booking a tour\* to supplement the module. We understand that there are many obstacles surrounding travel, busing, volunteers, administration approval etc., that go along with booking a field trip, please let our staff know if this is something you are interested in and we will do our best to support you. Our goal is to create content that is inclusive, accessible and equitable for all teachers. All of the lessons can be given without a tour and pieces from our collection can be viewed online.

The Museum of Antiquities is located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and so one of the main goals is to create content for students in and around Saskatoon that relates to our Collection while also teaching about Ancient history in a fun and engaging way. Within this goal we want to create content that students of all ages will find interesting, gain a better understanding of how ancient history has impacted the modern world, and become engaged citizens.

Lastly, we welcome any feedback that you may have about the contents of the modules, accessibility or any of the other educational programming offered by the Museum of Antiquities. As we continue to plan and develop classroom resources for the Museum we want to ensure that our content is meeting the needs of the educators for whom it is designed.

We look forward to seeing you in the gallery soon!

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\*The Museum of Antiquities is open to the public by donation. All tours given are free of charge.



# LESSON PLAN

## OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

This package is intended to inform teachers on what to expect in the modules and when coming to the Museum of Antiquities for a tour. Each module has specific information pertaining to a certain region or time period of Ancient and Medieval History. Each module has instructions and recommendations for how to deliver the information to your class, along with additional resources such as activities, stories, informational videos, worksheets and assessment strategies. If you choose to bring your class to the Museum, please use the **"Book a Tour"** function on the website so that we can be best prepared for when you come in.

## NUDITY IN THE GALLERY

It is important to be aware that there is nudity in the Museum of Antiquities (see some examples from our Collection on the right). Nudity in the ancient world was, at times, more acceptable than it is today. The Ancient Greeks, for example, admired the human form and beauty and believed that humans were modeled after the gods. Please be aware of this and let students, parents, and/or administration know at your discretion. Please prepare students for the nudity to the best of your ability. Museum staff are not responsible for supervising or entertaining students who cannot participate in a tour due to the nudity or any other circumstance. We recommend having extra volunteers to help supervise students elsewhere, or have another activity planned for students if they cannot participate in the tour. Please inform us beforehand if any students will be present at the University that day, but unable to participate in the tour so that we can help find a space for the students to work while others are in the gallery.



## DURING YOUR VISIT

On the day that you come to the Museum, if you have chosen to have your students do an accompanying tour activity from your module, please provide each student with the activity. Since we have a small space, if your group has 30 or more people (including adults) we ask that you split the group up. After the tour, students will have the opportunity to walk around, ask questions that they may have that weren't answered during the tour, and work on their activities if need be. This time will be split if your group is also participating in a workshop. If that is the case then half of your class will be receiving a tour, and the other half will be in the workshop and then they will switch.

## AFTER YOUR VISIT (OPTIONAL)

Depending on the module, there may be activities to be completed at your discretion after the visit. We encourage you to use these resources and provide us with feedback based on how well you thought they helped further your students' understanding of the material. If you or your students have any other questions about the contents of the module or your visit to the gallery, please feel free to contact the Museum of Antiquities for clarification.



# WHEN YOU VISIT

## GALLERY RULES

The rules listed here are general rules for visitors to the Museum of Antiquities. Please go over these rules prior to your visit to the Museum so that your students know what to expect when they get here.

1. No outside food, drinks, candy, or gum are allowed in the gallery.
2. Backpacks may not be worn in the gallery. Upon arrival, your tour guide will let you know where you can set down any bags or coats for the duration of your visit.
3. Touching the artefacts is not permitted under any circumstances. This includes the podiums, stands, and cases that artefacts may be on/in.
4. Walk respectfully while in the Peter MacKinnon Building. No roughhousing, pushing, shoving, climbing, running, jumping, or throwing of objects is permitted in the Museum.
5. Talk in quiet indoor voices while in the Museum. There are other offices in the Peter MacKinnon Building and it is important that we don't disturb other people working in the building.
6. During the tour, do not talk while the tour guide is speaking as this may be a distraction to other students as well as the tour guide. If you have any questions or comments to make, raise a hand and wait to be called on.

Please enjoy the Museum! We encourage you to ask lots of questions. If you or your students are curious about one of the artifacts that was not covered in the tour, please ask about it. If your tour guide is unable to answer your question, they will find out and get back to you. Questions and feedback following tours helps us to improve our tours and programming in the future!

## OTHER INFORMATION

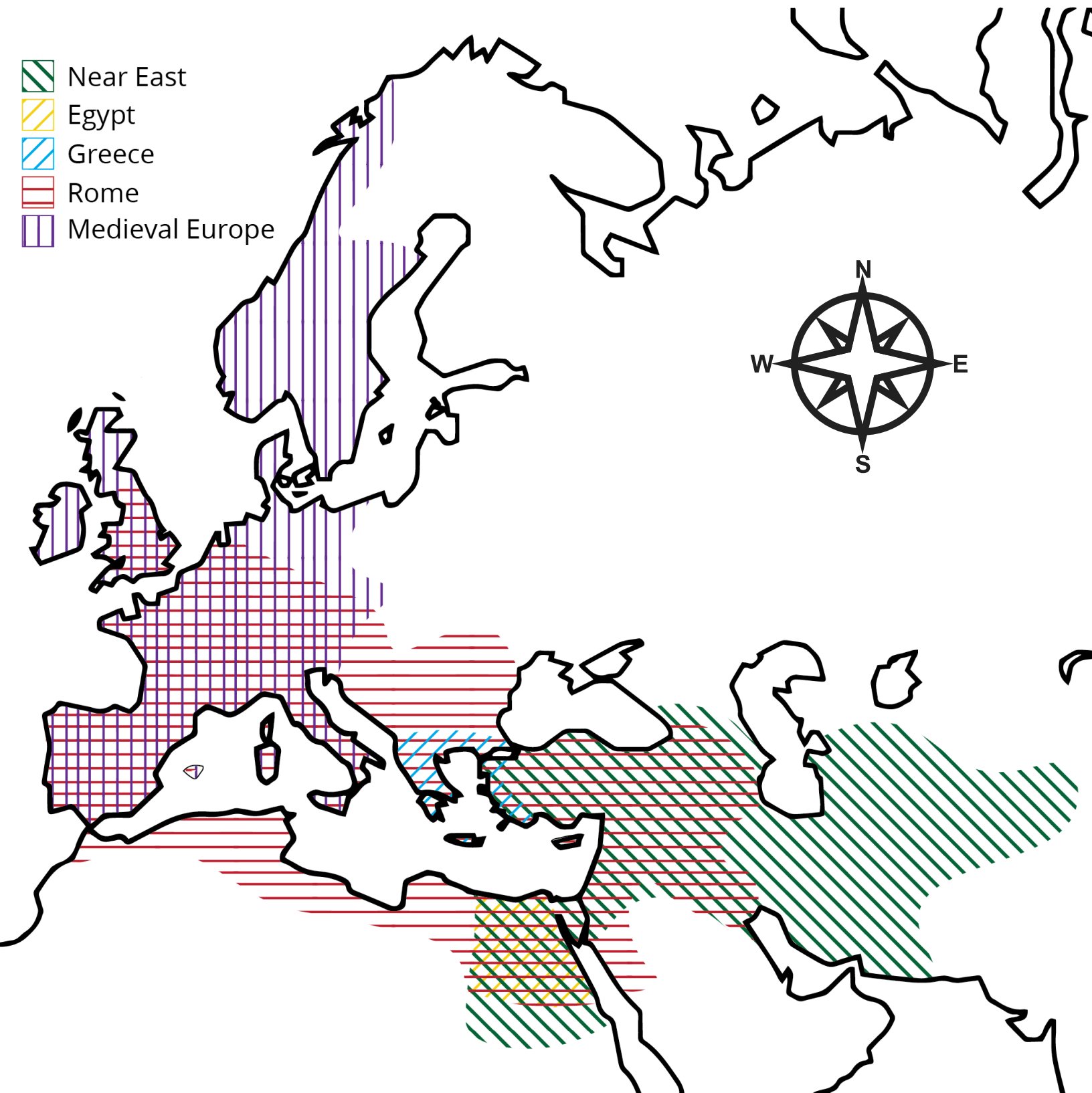
- You are more than welcome to take photos in the gallery - snapchat filters work with some of the statues! We just ask that any photos taken are respectful to the art and the space.
- Although we don't allow food or beverages in the gallery, if a student absolutely needs a snack or a drink at some point in the tour they are welcome to bring it out into the hallway outside of the gallery and rejoin the group once they are finished.
- There are washrooms and a water bottle filling station just down the hallway from the gallery. If you need to go, please ask your tour guide and they will send you in the right direction!





# WHERE IN THE WORLD

The regions represented in the Museum's collection have one common geographical element: the Mediterranean Sea. The Mediterranean was (and still is) a hub of cross-cultural trade, communication, and conflict that drove human civilizations forward.





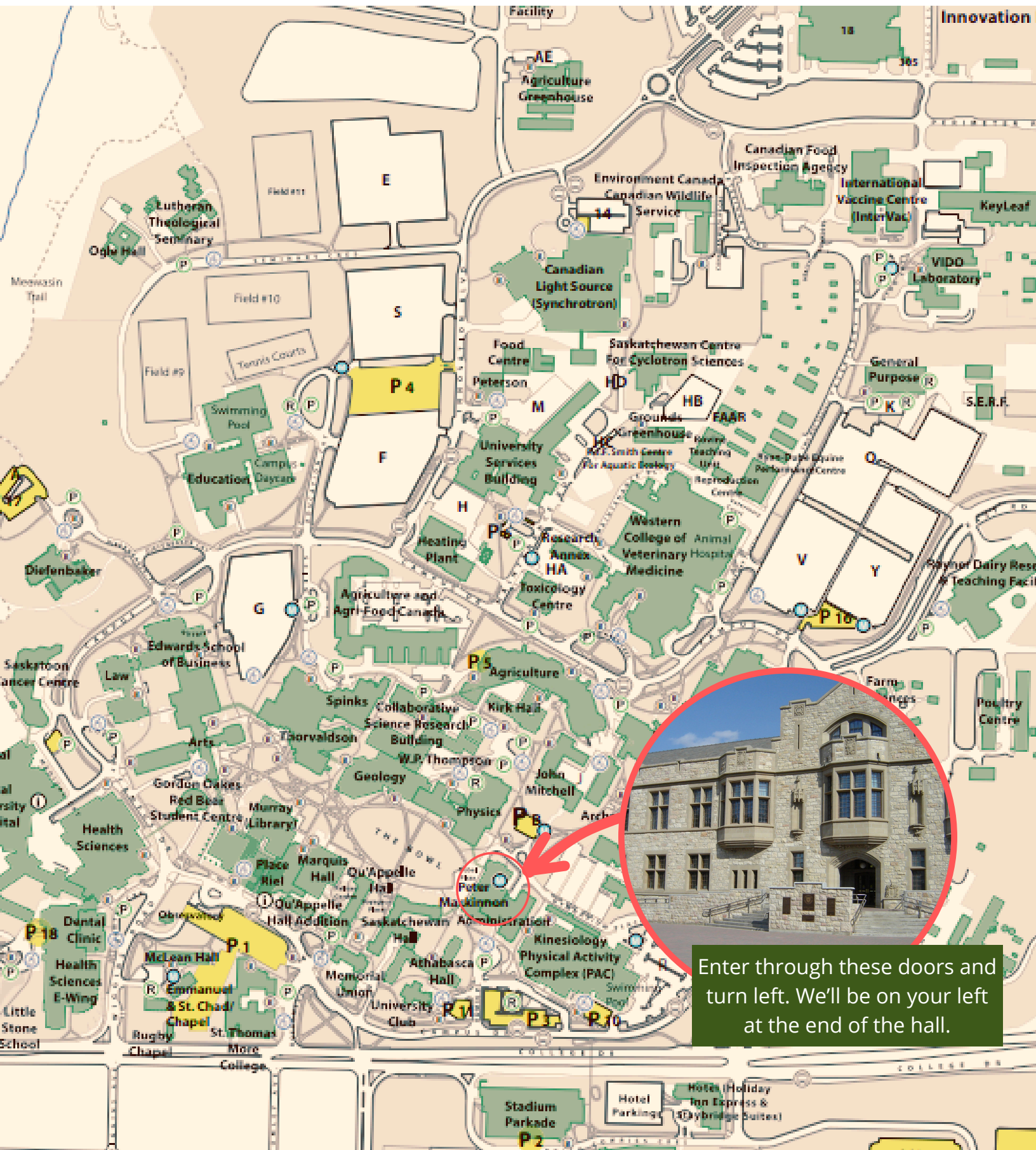
# WHERE IN SASKATOON

The Museum of Antiquities is located on the University of Saskatchewan Campus.

106 Peter MacKinnon Building

107 Administration Place

Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A2



Enter through these doors and turn left. We'll be on your left at the end of the hall.



# FAQS

Below are a few questions that we often receive from students after a tour. You do not have to go through these with the class, and some have been covered in the accompanying PowerPoint lesson, but these are the most likely questions to be asked following a tour:

## 1. Why are the statues naked?

- As discussed in the accompanying PowerPoint lesson, people in antiquity had different perceptions of nudity than we do today. In Ancient Greece, it was common for athletes to practice their sports in the nude. It was also believed that since athletes who were muscular and physically fit were as close to achieving the perfect form of the gods as was possible for humans,

## 2. Why are the statues broken?

- Many statues are missing limbs or other pieces. This is generally simply because the originals were made centuries, even millennia, ago, and time takes its toll on things. Being exposed to the elements can speed up the degradation process, and being lost or buried underground can slow it down.

## 3. Are those bones in the Catacombs real?

- No, they are replicas. Interestingly, if you travel to the real catacombs in Rome, the bones that are visible to groups on tour are also replicas. In the past, tourists and vandals stole bones (yuck!) as they explored the tunnels so most of the real skeletons have been removed and reinterred elsewhere and replaced with replicas.

## 4. Why is one statue green?

- Our charioteer is green because he was made from bronze. Although you probably think of pristine white marble when you think about ancient Greek sculpture, the Greeks actually preferred to work with bronze. It was the Romans who made more of their art from marble. Many of the marble Greek statues are actually later Roman replicas of bronze Greek originals that have sadly been lost to time.

## 5. Where are the originals? Why don't we have more originals?

- Most of the original versions of artefacts in the collection can be found in the British Museum, the Louvre, the Staatliche Museen in Berlin, and several other galleries and historic sites around the Mediterranean.
- Original artefacts are expensive and many of the most famous ones are already situated in galleries around the world. There is also a movement lately in the world of art history surrounding repatriation of artefacts, or sending them back to the countries from which they were taken. We have the ability to make beautiful and accurate replicas, so it makes more sense to have replicas around the world and leave the originals where they came from.



## KEY TERMS & CONCEPTS

- Anthropomorphism: The attribution of human form, character, personality, or attributes to something non-human, such as an animal, object, or god.
- Archaeology: Literally, 'the study of ancient things'; a method and a set of specialized techniques for the gathering or "production" of cultural information.
- Archaic art: Greek art in the period of about 650-480 BCE, marked by the development of the life-size stone statue and by the change from black-figure vase painting to red-figure.
- Attribute: Objects conventionally associated with a person (real or imaginary) by means of which they can be identified when portrayed in art.
- Bust: A piece of sculpture representing the head and upper part of the body of a human figure, usually a portrait of a specific individual.
- Cast: An object, particularly a piece of sculpture, made by pouring or pressing liquid, molten, or malleable material into a mould.
- Classical: Refers to the period between 480-323 BCE, a time when Greek culture is thought to have attained its highest peaks.
- Column: A vertical support, usually circular and slightly tapering towards the top.
- Contrapposto: Poses in which one part of a figure twists or turns away from another part; a relaxed, asymmetrical pose characteristic of much Greek and Roman sculpture in which the body's weight is borne mainly on one leg, so that the hip of that leg rises relative to the other.
- Cuneiform: The written form of early language in the Middle East (Sumerian, Akkadian, and related languages) in which wedge-shaped impressions are left on a clay tablet. It was used from the 3rd through to the 1st millennia BCE and is thought to have derived from older Sumerian pictographic script.
- Fresco: A method of wall painting in which powdered pigments mixed in water are applied to wet plaster freshly laid on the wall.
- Hieroglyph: The stylized picture which formed the writing practiced by the ancient Egyptians. A hieroglyph represented a complete word or a syllable and was usually written on papyrus, a species of rush which was flattened to provide a surface.
- Hellenistic: Greek culture, conventionally from 323 BCE, when Alexander the Great died, to 27 BCE, when Augustus became the first Roman emperor. Hellenistic art is more varied in inspiration than that of the Classical age which preceded it, and the sculpture of the period is often remarkable for its technical skill in execution and overt display of emotion.
- Iconography: A system of illustrations, usually of a symbolic and metaphorical nature, concerning a particular subject.
- *In situ*: in its original position.



# KEY TERMS & CONCEPTS

- **Material culture:** Objects produced by human beings, including buildings, structures, monuments, tools, weapons, utensils, furniture, art, and any physical item created by a society.
- **Medium:** The material or form of expression used by an artist: thus painting, sculpture, and drawing are three different media, and bronze, marble, and wood are three of the media of sculpture.
- **Mosaic:** A picture or design made by setting a multitude of small (usually multicoloured) pieces of glass, marble, or other suitable materials (known as tesserae) in a bed of cement or plaster.
- **Motif:** A recurring theme, idea, or element in a work of art or an artist's oeuvre.
- **Naturalism:** an approach to art in which the artist endeavours to represent objects as they are observed, rather than in a stylized or conceptual manner.
- **Near East:** A region consisting of those countries lying adjacent to the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea including Egypt.
- **Pantheon:** A group of related gods or deities.
- **Pharaoh:** The title taken by the rulers of ancient Egypt who assumed the dual duties of king and god.
- **Pottery:** A coarse textured ware made from clay and fired in a kiln.
- **Provenance:** (Archaeology) The place where an object was found or recovered in modern times; the findspot. (Art history) The listing of the previous ownership of a work of art, forming an essential part of its history.
- **Relief:** Sculpture that projects from a background surface rather than standing freely.
- **Repatriation:** As a result of the 19th- and early 20th-century propensity to collect ancient objects from all over the world and move them into collections in Europe and America, a great deal of material has become detached from its cultural context, and there is now increasing pressure to return it to its place of origin.
- **Replica:** An exact copy of an artwork, either by the artist who created the original, or by another hand.
- **Sculpture:** A work of art carried out in three dimensions.
- **Stela:** A freestanding inscribed, carved, or decorated stone slab set upright in the ground, usually commemorating a person or event.
- **Transitional:** General term used to describe cultures or styles during a period of change from one distinctive form to another. In this case, referring to art made in the late Archaic and early Classical periods, featuring a blend of both styles.
- **Votive:** The offering to a deity of a gift of some kind in order to appease, thank, or enhance the success of pleas, prayers, or supplications



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Museum of Antiquities Website: <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/antiquities/index.php>
- CrashCourse videos for background information:
  - Pantheons of the Ancient Mediterranean: Crash Course World Mythology #7 by CrashCourse on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/EcQ-6Zd1638?si=IPGUeOyoK9x2pO9b>
  - What is Myth? Crash Course World Mythology #1 by Crashcourse on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/HeX6CX5LEj0?si=ID-Vf2sT-lqs9rvv>
  - The Greeks and Romans – Pantheons Part 3: Crash Course World Mythology #9 by Crashcourse on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/XNCQ9w59I7M?si=uPrPZS4JLUzA-rAb>
  - Ancient Egypt: Crash Course World History #4 by CrashCourse on YouTube: [https://youtu.be/Z3Wvw6BivVI?si=iRmh1Hefh\\_0vEMIE](https://youtu.be/Z3Wvw6BivVI?si=iRmh1Hefh_0vEMIE)



## IMAGE SOURCES

Map Fertile Crescent, with boundaries and hydrography. D-Maps. Accessed December 8, 2022. [https://d-maps.com/carte.php?num\\_car=30686&lang=en](https://d-maps.com/carte.php?num_car=30686&lang=en)

Peter MacKinnon Building. Accessed October 26, 2023. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter\\_MacKinnon\\_Building](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_MacKinnon_Building)

Campus Parking Map. Accessed October 26, 2023. <https://parking.usask.ca/parking-maps.php>



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