The Kelsey Museum and Classes at the University of Michigan

The Kelsey Museum houses a collection of nearly 100,000 ancient and medieval objects from the civilizations of the Mediterranean and the Near East in the new state-of-the-art William E. Upjohn Exhibit Wing. Most of the objects derive from the cultures of ancient Greece and Rome, dynastic and Roman Egypt, and the Near East. The Museum also holds approximately 20,000 photographs from the turn of the last century that focus on the archaeology, sites, and life of the Mediterranean more than 100 years ago.

The Museum has a long history of working with students, both undergraduates and graduates, and we continue to encourage professors to find inspiration from our collections for their classes. Class use has run the gamut, and has included courses in English and creative writing, history, Classics, theater, medical illustration, art history, museum practice, and historic preservation. Future plans are targeted at classes in foreign languages (conversations that focus on objects in the galleries), philosophy, geology, and economics. There are, however, many other types of courses that can use the collections in imaginative ways to create memorable out-of-classroom experiences for students.

Categories of use include:
- Specialized tours of the galleries arranged in advance between the professor and Kelsey staff
- Class visits to the galleries without a specialized tour
- Objects not on display that can be viewed in the Kelsey classroom
- Behind-the-scenes visits to storage, conservation lab, etc.
- Loan of reproductions for use off site

To arrange special classes using the Kelsey’s galleries or to select objects not on display for use in the Kelsey classroom, please contact Lauren Talalay (talalay@umich.edu; 647-0441) or Todd Gerring (tegerr@umich.edu, 647-4167). Please try to contact us approximately 6 weeks before your class is scheduled to avoid scheduling conflicts. You will find more information about the museum at the Kelsey’s website: www.lsa.umich.edu/kelsey

We look forward to hearing from you.