

## Lecture 12 – Hellenistic

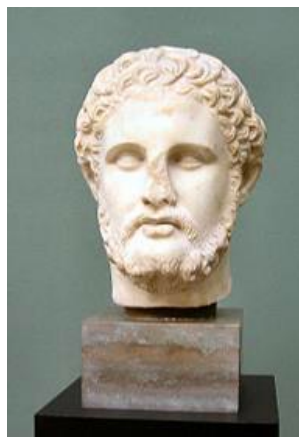
### Greece after the Peloponnesian War

- Peloponnesian War (Athens vs. Sparta): 431-404 BCE
- 404-403 BCE Thirty Tyrants in Athens put in charge by Sparta.
  - Bloodiest periods in Athenian history, many people were murdered due to the new political regime. But this period of the 30 Tyrants only lasted 1 year.
  - People that were in charge were putting families to death. Putting various figures to death for political reasons. And a year later, they are no longer in charge. There was huge backlash because of this.
  - Athens after the Peloponnesian War is in utter terminal. Also to mention around this time was when Socrates was executed. Mainly because many of Socrates students were involved with the 30 Tyrants and also were part of the 30 Tyrants.
- 403- 371 BCE Spartan Hegemony
  - Sparta's basic control over Greece. Not just the Peloponnese but Athens and expanding on.
- 371 BCE- Sparta's collapse:
- Number of Spartan Citizens greatly reduced:
- 479 BCE~ 9,000 Spartiates; 371 BCE~ 1400 Spartiates. Not a lot of citizens considering how powerfully and controlling the Spartans were. How did they maintain control? By enslaving the people in the surrounding areas.
  - The decrease in Spartans was mainly because they lived by the motto "comeback wearing your shield or on it". Meaning you better comeback from war with a shield or die. And as a result, the Spartan population decreased to 1400.
  - With that being said they relied heavily on Spartan allies and Persians to retain rule
- Battle of Leuctra: Sparta marches against city-state of Thebes (only 700 Spartiates and many allies)
- Thebes defeats Sparta, over 400 Spartiates dead. (300 survivors who fled were allowed to keep citizenship of Spartiate. Why?)
  - Because there are not many left and they couldn't afford losing any citizens any longer based on their strict rules.
- Thebes marches on Sparta with 40,000 hoplites and frees Messenian helots.
  - The slaves of the Spartans (Messenian helots) who allowed the Spartans to control their land and remain in power
- 370-360 BCE: Sparta loses power: general anarchy among Greek city states



### Philip 2 of Macedon (historical background)

- Alexander the Great's father
- 359 BCE Philip II became King of Macedon after intense rivalries over kingship.
- As a boy, Philip II was sent to Thebes (Thebes being one of the power players at the time) as "hostage" in exchange for Thebes' support of Alexander II (Philip II's brother) as King of Macedon
  - As a result of this, Philip II learned the Greek ways and Greek warfare. During this time there was still controversy whether Macedonia was part of Greece or not. But at this time there was a very strong and distinct cultural difference between the Macedonians and the Greeks. But Philip II as being a hostage really acquired Greek ways.
- Eventually Alexander II was murdered and more rival for kingship in Macedonia. And eventually the Macedonia army declared Philip II the King.
- And in this perspective Philip II has perspective on Athens and all of Greece. Before he becomes King of Macedonia. Firsthand knowledge whom once upon a time was their enemy.



Philip II of Macedon

### Philip of Macedon: Conquest through Strategy

- Philip II gained Athens as an Ally-
  - Athens sends hoplites to help rivals of Philip II.
  - Philip wins, but sends Athenian hoplites home, even gives them money
    - Act of forgiveness and even reward. Very political and smart about his moves. He's trying to make friends.
  - Captured Athenian colony of Amphipolis, returned it to Athens and swore to protect it.
  - When Athens was engaged in war with its own allies, Philip II re-captured Amphipolis.
    - Taking on the role of protector of Greece
- Philip II helps Amphictyonic League in 3rd Sacred War (Phocian War) to restore Delphi to the Delphians.
  - As a result Philip becomes delegate for the Amphictyonic League. Brought himself into the political network of the Greece
- Philip uses his political power with the Amphictyonic League and eventually conquers most of Greece and created the "League of Corinth"
  - Similar to Amphictyonic League
- Philip takes up model of "Panhellenism" as a claim to avenge Persians for the invasion of Greece in the past.
- Persians allied with Spartans. Philip created a common enemy.
- 336 BCE Philip is murdered by one of his guards who was also a former lover. We don't know why he was murdered.

#### Macedonians Using Sport to establish "Greekness"

- Sport become one of the levers for Philip 2 in establishing his position among the Greeks. But he wasn't the first.
- Early evidence of Macedonians in Olympic Games:
  - First: Alexander I, King of Macedon (498-454 BCE) was prevented from competing in Olympic Games because non-Greeks were not allowed to participate.
  - Alexander I proved his descent (genealogy/ lineage) from Argos and apparently tied for 1st place in the stadion foot race.

#### Defining "Greekness"

- Most individuals defined themselves from their city-state they came from. But it was the Persian war which gave common enemy to unite the city-states and what constituted Greekness.
- There was a Spartan Embassy during the Persian War that was sent to the Athenians asking them not to join the Persian side during the War.
- [Athenian response to a Spartan Embassy not to join the Persians during the Persian War]:

*Herodotus, The Histories 8.144*

*[Athenian response to a Spartan Embassy not to join the Persians during the Persian War]*

*"For there are many great reasons why we should not do this (join the Persians), even if we so desired; first and foremost, the burning and destruction of the adornments and temples of our gods, whom we are constrained to avenge to the utmost rather than make pacts with the perpetrator of these things, and next the kinship of all Greeks in blood and speech, and the shrines of gods and the sacrifices that we have in common, and the likeness of our way of life, to all of which it would not befit the Athenians to be false."*

- **Break Down:** There's no way we can join the Persian side because they burned and destroyed the temple of Acropolis.
- The fact that they speak the same language creates commonality. Also in regard to sacrifices to Gods etc. And way of life. It would not be fit
- Athenians say that there is Greekness that unites the city-states and Greeks could never turn their backs on them

### The "Greekness" of Alexander 1

- One of the first Macedonians to participate in the Olympics

*Herodotus 5.22:*

*"Now that these descendants of Perdiccas are Greeks, as they themselves say, I myself chance to know and will prove it in the later part of my history. Furthermore, the Hellenodikai who manage the contest at Olympia determined that it is so, [2] for when Alexander chose to contend and entered the lists for that purpose, the Greeks who were to run against him wanted to bar him from the race, saying that the contest should be for Greeks and not for foreigners. Alexander, however, proving himself to be an Argive, was judged to be a Greek. He accordingly competed in the furlong race and tied for first place. This, then, is approximately what happened."*

- **Break Down:** claimed that Alexander 1 was a foreigner (not Greek).
- Debate about the cultural identity between Macedonians
- Alexander 1 was not the only foreigner who participated in the Olympics and tried to prove through demonstration in sport.

### Other Examples of performing "Greekness" at PanHellenic Festivals

- 5th century BCE Sicilian Tyrants commemorated victories through praise poems (Pindar) and Victory monuments (Charioteer at Delphi, Tripod dedications)
  - Inscription of Tripod is important

*Tripod dedication:*

*"I declare that Gelon, Hieron, Polyzalos, and Thrasyboulos, the children of Deinomenes, dedicated the tripods having conquered barbarian races, and provided a great hand of alliance towards freedom for the Greeks"*

- **Break Down:** That is what they claim they were doing. In reality what they were doing was fighting against the locals to retain their rule as Sicily Tyrants. But they framed it as a battle for the freedom of Greeks instead. By participating in it, they are qualified as Greek.
  - If a foreign hockey team comes to play hockey against Canada, they claim that they are just as Canadian as us, because they also play hockey.



**Polyzeus dedication,  
Delphi 478 or 474 BCE**



### **Further Macedonian Performances of “Greekness” in the Panhellenic Games**

- King Archelaus I 413-399 BCE: Olympic and Pythian Chariot Race victor 408 BCE)
  - Chariot race victories is a demonstration of wealth.
- Philip II was victor at Olympia
  - Keles 356 BCE
  - Tethrippon in 352, 348 BCE
  - (perhaps a synoris victory at Delphi)
  - Ingratiating himself helping allies even if they're against him, protecting Greek.
  - Establishes himself at the top of the hierarchy.

### **Philip 2: Commemorating Wealth, Power, and “Greekness”**

- Philip commemorated his victory with coinage depicting his victories
- Philip also raised in Thebes



**Coin for Philip II's Keles Victory 356 BCE**



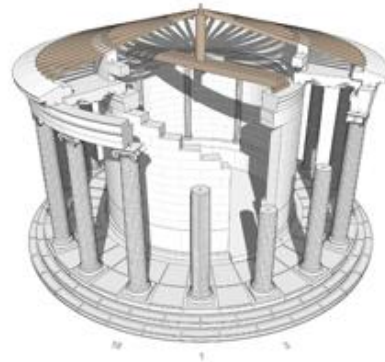
**Coin for Philip II's Tethrippon Victory**

### **Philippeion: Establishing Heroic Status at Olympia (337-335 BCE)**

1. Because Olympia is a Panhellenic Site, the Philippeion is meant to commemorate Philip II uniting Greece.
  - a. Cult building built at Olympic right behind Temple of Hera and beside Pelopeion. Seems to indicate he is worthy to cult worship.
2. Positioned beside the Pelopeion (Shrine of Pelops), Philip II seems to indicate that he was also worthy of heroized status as a “King of Greece”



Phillipeion



Philippeion

**Alexander III of Macedon: <sup>SEP</sup> Alexander the Great (historical background)**

- Son to Philip 2
- 336 BCE- Alexander III takes the throne
  - League of Corinth declares Alexander general against Persia after the death of Philip II.
  - Ideological model that Greece is united against common enemy Persia as revenge for the Persian Wars.
  - Not entirely clear that everyone knewedged him King Of Greece.
- 335 BCE – In Alexander's absence, Athens and Thebes revolt against Macedonian control.
  - Alexander returns and completely destroys the city of Thebes (except for the house of Pindar).
  - Thebes was a power city, and it was completely broken down.
- Decides not to avenge Persia, but to rule over the Persian Empire (This requires official forms of legitimation by the Persians, i.e., marrying into the royal family)
  - He wants to rule Persia and Greece together. He needs to use many of the same political moves as Philip did.



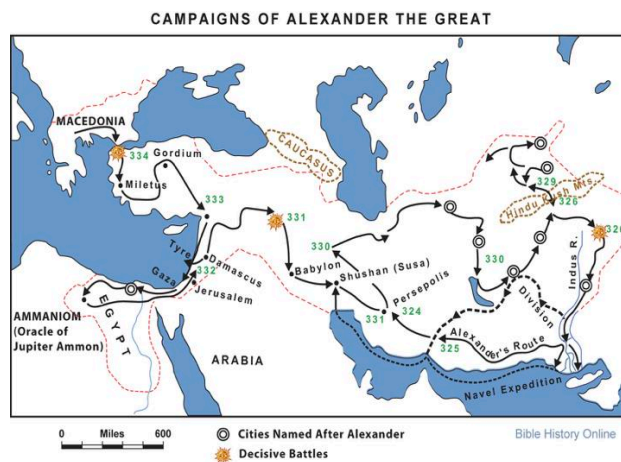
**Alexander the Great: Alexander 3 of Macedon**

## Alexander's conquest of Persia: 334-330 BCE (historical background)

- 334 BCE Battle of Granicus - Alexander defeats Darius
- 333 Battle of Issus- Alexander defeats Darius (captures the family of Darius III)
- 332 siege of Tyre, takes Gaza
- 331 Found Alexandria in Egypt (New Cultural Center of Mediterranean)
- 331 BCE- Battle of Gaugamela (decisive victory)
- Alexander captures Babylon, Susa, and the Persian capital of Persepolis (which he subsequently burned to the ground)
- Darius III was murdered by a Persian traitor Bessus.
- Alexander has Bessus killed (in a very gruesome manner), gives a royal funeral for Darius III, and in so doing, secured his position as ruler over Persia



**Ruins of Royal Hall of Darius and Xerxes in Persepolis**



## Alexander's War in India and Last Days, 327 -323 BCE

- Alexander invades India during monsoon season (big mistake – weakens his forces extremely).
- Wins Battle of Hydaspes (river) against King Porus (of the Paurava Kingdom)
- Mutiny at River Hyphasis has him turn the campaign back towards Mesopotamia by way of the Indus River and Persian Gulf.
- Not enough ships to transport all of his men, so he traveled through the Gedrosian Desert (only 25,000 survivors of 85,000 )
- Was preparing for an Arabian Campaign

- In 323, after several nights of celebration in Perea, Alexander died (perhaps of alcohol poisoning).
- To whom would he leave his Empire? "To the Strongest"

### Spectacle over Sport in the Reign of Alexander the Great

- Philip used Panhellenic competitions to establish "Greekness"
- Alexander the Great was "anti-athletics":
- Back in the day, Kings prior to Alexander and is putting his reputation on the line. He could've lost horribly. A lot of risk involved.
  - Alexander's refuses to participate in Olympic games

*Plutarch Life of Alexander, 4.5*

*"For it was neither every kind of fame nor fame from every source that he courted, as Philip did, who plumed himself like a sophist on the power of his oratory, and took care to have the victories of his chariots at Olympia engraved upon his coins; nay, when those about him inquired whether he would be willing to contend in the foot-race at the Olympic games, since he was swift of foot, 'Yes,' said he, 'if I could have kings as my competitors.'"*

- **Break Down:** Alexander points out if he participates, he has nothing to gain and everything to lose. He is a king of the empire that spans the Caribbean Sea.
- If he lost let's say in a foot race to a common citizen, it would prove that he is vulnerable.

### Alexander as the New Achilles

- Student of Aristotle
- Achilles did not participate in the funeral games even though he is the best. Stood as a model because Achilles didn't because he claimed it wouldn't be fair he would win all events.
- Alexander carried the Iliad with him where-ever he went.
- Achilles' non-participation in Funeral Games of Patroclus (though he was the best) stands as a model for Alexander's non-participation.
- Alexander's private games for Achilles-

*Plutarch Life of Alexander, 15.4:*

*"Then, going up to Ilium (Troy), he sacrificed to Athena and poured libations to the heroes. Furthermore, the gravestone of Achilles he anointed with oil, ran a race by it with his companions, naked, as is the custom, and then crowned it with garlands, pronouncing the hero happy in having a faithful friend while he lived, and after death, a great herald of his fame (i.e.Homer)."*

- **Break Down:** did a ritual and reenactment in honor of Achilles. Nice to have a friend by his side

### Alexander as the New Achilles

- This idea of Alexander wanting to imitate Achilles also appeared in war.
- Cruelty of Alexander was imitation of Achilles

*Friedrich Nietzsche, "Homer's Contest":*

*"Thus the Greeks, the most humane men (Menschen) of ancient times, have in themselves a trait of cruelty, of tiger-like pleasure in total destruction: a trait, which in the grotesquely magnified image of the Hellene, in Alexander the Great, is very plainly visible, but which however, in their whole history, as well as in their mythology, must terrify us who meet them with the flabby idea of modern humanity. When Alexander has the feet of Batis, the brave defender of Gaza, bored*

*through, and binds the living body to his chariot in order to drag him about exposed to the scorn of his soldiers, that is a sickening caricature of Achilles, who at night ill-uses Hector's corpse by a similar trailing; but even this trait has for us something offensive, something which inspires horror."*

- **Break Down:** contrasting the harshness of the Greeks. We look to the Greeks of ideals of beauty and grace but in fact, they were very violent and cruel.
- Life imitating art in the most cruel way. Another aspect of the role Alexander sees himself in as Achilles.

#### Alexander, Medism, and Performances at Court

- Medism = When a Greek adopts Persian customs
- 325 BCE: Alexander arranged a "show" competition –
- Koragos a Macedonian Warrior vs. Dioxippos an Olympic Victor in Wrestling in 336 BCE.
- Koragos dressed as Ares, Dioxippos dressed as Heracles.
  - God versus a hero, kind of a show. Imitates art and on the other hand cultural conflict
  - Dioxippos defeats Koragos
  - Alexander was upset at the loss of the Macedonian. Later Dioxippos is framed for theft.
  - Ashamed, Dioxippos commits suicide.
- Alexander's spectacle competition similar to earlier Persian examples, i.e. Poulydamas of Skotousa fighting Persian immortals in show competition for King of Persia.
- Negotiation between Greek Sport and Persian (and later Roman) Spectacle.

#### Spectacle of Royal Power: Imperial Hunting

- Alexander is imitating a Persian tradition
- Reliefs of Lion Hunt from the Palace at Nineveh for Assyrian King Ashurbanipal:
- Symbols of Royal Power (5th Century BCE)
- Lion hunts symbols of royal power.
  - King stabbing the lion, Lion is caged and released in order for the King to kill them. Where these lions drugged or injured before they were released? We are not sure. These beliefs demonstrate the suffering of the lions. Very contrived way to demonstrate power of the King.
  - Power of the king over nature not just other humans





**Reliefs of Lion Hunt from the Palace at Nineveh for Assyrian King Ashurbanipal:**

**Reconstruction of Royal Lion Hunt Above tomb of Philip II, ca. 330's BCE**

- These lion hunts were actively imitated. Apparently, Alexander also participates in these hunts. Demonstrating his bravery. Following the eastern models of lion hunts.
- It was for fun, not necessity.
- Alexander would engage in Lion Hunts during campaigns as a demonstration of his bravery.



**Krateros dedication at Delphi presented Bronze images of Alexander's Lion hunt with Krateros (general of Alexander) (cf. Plutarch Life of Alexander 23.2-3)**

**Alexander becomes a God at Olympia**

- Alexander declares himself as God.
- In Egypt, Alexander was declared Pharaoh of Egypt, Son of Ra and Incarnation of Horus.
  - Following the Egyptian model. Participating in a lot of cultural appropriation of places he has conquered.
- Alexander traveled to the oracle of Amun-Zeus. The High Priest of Amun addressed him "Welcome Son of Zeus!" (According to Plutarch, this could have been a translation error)
- At the Olympic Festival of 324 BCE, Alexander Proclaimed that the Greeks should worship him as a god.
  - Interesting he used the Olympics as the place. No social media at the time. So, Olympia was the perfect place to spread the news
  - Coin depicts Alexander as Heracles:
  - Not only is he imitating Achilles but also Heracles a son of Zeus.



Coin depicting Alexander the Great As Heracles

### Aftermath of Alexander: The Hellenistic Era

- Alexander's Empire Was Divided between Major Hellenistic Kings 306-220 BCE
  - Macedonia: Antigonids 319-301 BCE, 294-287, 276-168 BCE (Antigonus I- General of Alexander)
  - Western Asia: Seleucids 301-63 BCE) (Seleucus 1- General of Alexander)
  - Egypt: Ptolemies 320-30 BCE (Ptolemy I – General of Alexander)
  - Thrace: Lysimachus 323-281 BCE (Alexander's Bodyguard)
  - Hellenistic Era starts after Alexander the Great. Spread of Greek culture
  - **Hellenization** – Adoption of Greek language, writing, and customs in conquered territories

### Iso-Games, Gymnasia, Ephebic Training in the Hellenistic Era

- **"Iso-Games"**: Cities throughout Hellenistic Empire established their own games and sent out embassies asking other city states to recognize the games. Example. Soteria Festival for Aetolians, established IsoPythian Musical contest and IsoNemean athletic contest. "Iso" means "equivalent to" so IsoPythian = equivalent to Pythian Games.
- Gymnasia were established throughout the Hellenistic Kingdoms
  - Not just centers for physical training
  - Cultural centers. Not everyone could belong to the Gymnasia. Social distinction
  - Elite social centers, schools for citizenship, and places of cultural legitimacy
  - Greeks abroad distinguished themselves from non-Greeks as part of "gymnasium class"
- Ephebic Training: Ephebe = Male Youth
  - Athletic and Mental Education as a form of elite socialization.
  - Those not part of the "gymnasium class" were "apalaistroi" = men without a palaestra

### Ptolemaic Egypt: Hybrid Sport and Spectacles

- Hybrid development of Greek sport and adoption
- Ptolemy I of Egypt and Queen Berenice I both had chariot victories at Olympia.

- Continued the tradition of participating in Olympics
- Ptolemy II – established Museum and Library at Alexandria (largest collection of Greek works in the ancient world), Gymnasium of Ptolemy in Athens, and palaestra and gymnasium at Olympia.
  - Difference aspects of Greek wore used
- Ptolemy II establishes Iso-Olympic Ptolemaia Festival in 282 or 279 BCE
  - Festival of his own to compete with the Olympics festival
- Ptolemy II and his Sister/Wife Arsinoe won Olympic victories in chariot racing and set up victory monuments and cult of royal household at Olympia

### Ptolemaic Egypt: Commemorating Female Victories

- Poems depicting colonies participation
- Berenike II, queen of Ptolemy III won chariot races in 248 at Olympia, as well as victories in Nemean Games and Isthmian Games.
  - Berenike is a woman. Women were allowed to participate in Olympics Chariot race because it did not physically include her in the event.

*Callimachus' "Victory of Berenike II":*

*"To Zeus and Nemea I owe some gift of thanksgiving, young woman, the sacred offspring of the sibling gods, our . . . victory-song about your horses For recently there came from the land of cow-born Danaus, to Helen's small island, and to the Pallenean seer, the herder of seals, a golden message: that near the tomb of Opheltes, the son of Euphetes they ran, by no means . . . of charioteers in front with their breath . . . but running like the winds, no one saw their traces(?)...."*

- **Break Down:** Referring to Euphetes for the victory in Nemean running by the tomb of Opheltes

### Ptolemaic Egypt: Commemorating Female Victories

- Posidippus of Pella (Ancient Epigrammatic Poet)
- Describes female victories

*Posidippus of Pella (Ancient Epigrammatic Poet) AB 78:*

*" Tell of my glory, all you poets, ... to speak  
of what is well known, because my fame has an ancient lineage.  
My ancestor Ptolemy [I] won [an Olympian victory]  
with his chariot when driving his horse at the stadium at Pisa,  
and so did my father's [Ptolemy II Euergetes] mother Berenice [I], and again  
my father won, a king  
who took his name from a king. Arsinoe won all  
three chariot races in one contest ...  
the holy family of women  
... a maidenly...  
saw these [glories] in chariot racing from one house  
and the prize-winning children of children.  
Sing, Macedonians, of the crown Berenice [II]*

won with her successful chariot.”

- **Break Down:** victory of Berenike 2 described as if it was her talking about her lineage and sport.

### Ptolemaic Egypt: <sup>SEP</sup> Commemorating Female Victories

*Posidippus of Pella (Ancient Epigrammatic Poet) AB 79:*

*“A virgin the queen with her chariot, aye, Berenice,  
carries off all victorious crowns for chariot-racing  
at your games, Nemean Zeus.*

*By the speed of her horses, her chariot left many charioteers far behind, whenever she turned;  
her horses running under the rein [like meteors]  
came first before the Argive judges.”*

- **Break Down:** describing her victory at Nemea

### Kyniska- First Female Olympic Victor

*Statue Base of Kyniska's statue at Olympia Inscription:*

*“Kings of Sparta were my forefathers and my brothers. Victorious Kyniska with her chariot drawn by  
swift-footed horses erected this statue. I assert that I am the only woman in all Greece who has  
won this crown. Made by Apelleas, son of Kallikles.”*

- **Break Down:** establishing royal lineage and describing her victory as the first and only female victor in all of Greece. She does not anticipate that she started a trend. Paved the way for other royal women to participate.



### Ptolemaic Egypt: <sup>SEP</sup> Commemorating Female Victories

*AB 87 (XIII 31-34)*

*“When we were still the horses of Macedonian Berenice, people of Pisa, we brought her the crown  
of Olympic victory, which has well-known fame, and with it we took away the ancient glory of  
Kyniska in Sparta.”*

- **Break Down:** Posi dipus frames Berenikes vicotry as a way of robbing Kyniska. Berenike has taking away the glory of Kyniska as the only female victory
- Could've been about female power/ uniting the women, but instead it's about going against each other

### Spectacle in Ptolemaic Egypt

- Type of transition from sporting to spectacle entertainment in the roman period.
- Grand Procession through Stadium at Alexandria, which included exotic animals and statue of Alexander the Great being pulled in a chariot by Elephants □ foundation for later spectacle processions and performances in Rome.
  - Foundation later for Roman triumphs
- Efforts of Ptolemies show a syncretizing (mixing) of Greek and Egyptian elements into a single culture.
  - Blending of cultures. Greek culture on one hand from Alexander and Philip mixed with middle eastern cultures.

### Hellenistic Olympia

- In Olympia, Hellenistic showed an increase in development. Gained in popularity and prestige
- Through benefaction of Hellenistic Kings, building program expanded at Olympia (Paleastra, Gymnasim, Leonidaion- Athlete's quarters at Olympia, and monumental entrance)
- Olympia perhaps also expanded its criterion for participation (no longer have to be Greek, but merely speak Greek)
  - in order to accommodate more international appeal.
- Increased participants at Olympia from Asia Minor, Egypt, and North Africa.
  - Cultural requirements loosen up.

## Lecture 13 – Early Rome

### Roman Pre-History: The Etruscans

- Etruscan Civilization, from ca. 700 BCE- incorporation into Roman Republic in 4th Century BCE (300's).
  - Arcade phase of the Roman Republic
- Transitioned from Chiefdom/Tribal societies to state formation.
- Rome was the first Italic state, but it was inherited from Etruscans.
  - Inherited from the Etruscans



**Etruscan Civilization in Italy**

### **Roman Pre-History: The Etruscans**

- Mining and Trade in metals led to Etruscan Expansion on the Italian Peninsula and surrounding areas.
  - Rome was important because of mining and trading. Led to Etruscan expansion on the Italian peninsula – rich part of Europe
- 540 BCE- Battle of Alalia between Greeks and Etruscans and Carthaginians, near island of Corsica. - New power distribution in West Mediterranean. Carthage expanded its influence, Etruscans relegated to northern Italy.
  - 3 different cultures, not just the Greeks in terms of colonization but then also the Etruscans and Carthaginians. All 3 collided.
  - New power distribution in the west Mediterranean. Carthage expanded its influence. Etruscans were relegated to northern Italy and southern Italy and Sicily was largely occupied by Greece. Around this time this is when Seron of Syracuse was Tyrant from Pindar Olympian 1
- 474, Syracuse's tyrant Hieron (Pindar's Hieron) defeats the Etruscans, the Battle of Cumae.
  - It was the Sicilian tyrants who dedicated tripods at Delphi saying that they battles at Cumae and the war with the Etruscans and others were a contribution to the Greek efforts of freedom. Framing as if it was the same endeavor as the Greeks defending themselves in the Persian war.
- Because of power struggles, Etruscans lose influence over area of Latium and it is eventually taken over by Romans.
  - Latium is an area of Rome
- By the 1st century BCE, Rome has annexed all remaining Etruscan territory
  - Roman culture had taken over entirely.

### **Etruscan Sport and Spectacle**

- No literary sources remaining, which describe Etruscan sport and spectacle.
  - We aren't clear in their level of involvement in sports
- Best evidence are visual images on material objects (vases) and at Archaeological sites (cemeteries).

- Problem for interpretation of Etruscan Sport using visual evidence:
  - How much do images of Etruscan sport tell us about Etruscan games as they really were? How much does the purpose for which an object was made impinge on the fidelity of the representation it conveys?
    - Perhaps these representations are fictional related to ancient Greek context. Maybe Etruscans valued Greek culture but did not actually involve themselves.
- Problem of Greek influence:
  - Etruscan visual culture was strongly influenced by Greek models and we must, therefore, consider the extent to which each Etruscan image reflects that influence. We must also give thought to the possibility that these images depart from Etruscan realities in order to appropriate Greek models. This issue is particularly acute when it comes to sport because it has been argued that Etruscan sport was heavily influenced by Greek sport.

### Etruscan Sport and Spectacle: SEP Greek Gifts and Roman Roots

- Influence of Greek Sport on Etruscans-
- The François Vase:
  - Found in 1844 in an Etruscan tomb in cemetery near Chiusi, Italy.
  - Probably a wealthy individual who can afford an expensive Greek import. People wanted to be buried with these valuable objects
  - Dated to 570/560 BCE
  - Depicts Funeral Games of Patroclus
    - We know it is the Chariot race because the names are inscribed on the vase
- Etruscans did not participate in Panhellenic Games
- Must have had their own athletic culture, influenced by Greek (?)



**The François Vase : Etruscan Vase with Funeral Games of Patroclus Chariot Race**

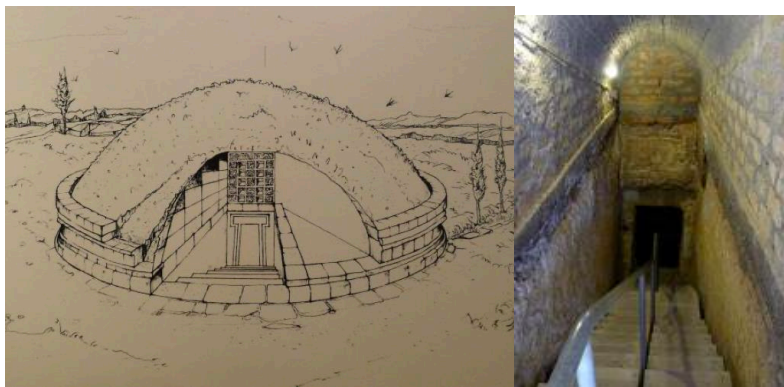
### Etruscan Sport and Spectacle: SEP Greek Gifts and Roman Roots

- No Etruscan literary account of sports or funeral games, but there is evidence from material culture.
- Best evidence for Etruscan Sport: Tomb Painting.
- Cemetery at Tarquinia (Monterozzi)-
  - Contains 6,000 rock cut tombs
  - 200 painted tombs (which include athletic scenes)
  - Whether it indicates they practiced sport or they are borrowing the Greek culture?
  - Paintings are uniquely Etruscan

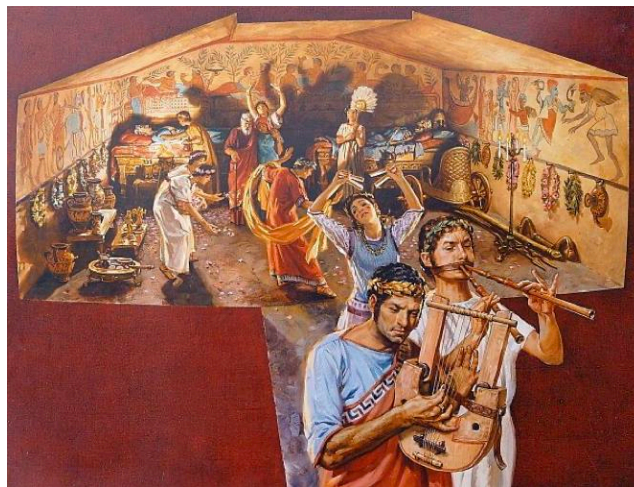


Etruscan Necropolises of Tarquinia

### Cemetery at Tarquinia (Monterozzi)



Entrances steps down to the burial chamber itself, the tomb.

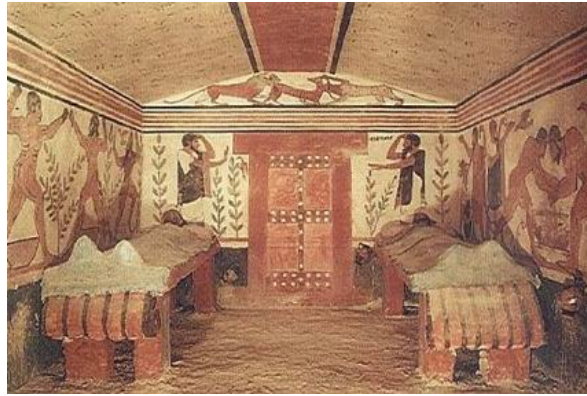


- Once you enter the tomb, you see this reconstruction of burial of elite nobles. Some type of a parade for each person. Lots of deposits of wealth with big tomb. Chariot on the right and bases to the left. The most important part is the images on the wall.

### Tombs of the Augurs, ca. 520 BCE

- Painted Tomb located in Tarquinia.
  - And it is thought the men in the back there with their hand gestures are thought to be Augurs.

- Both on the left and right you can see other depictions of sport. With boxers and wrestlers
- Called Tomb of the Augurs, because men are thought to be interpreting bird signs, as a form of divination.
- Also seems to depict Funeral Games



**Tombs of the Augurs, ca. 520 BCE**

- Left Hand Wall
  - Two boxers
    - Cauldron underneath them. Considered prizes for them.
  - Man Running or Dancing
    - Wearing hat and cloak. Contrast between nudity of the boxers and the clothes individual. Questions the Etruscans nudity in athletics. Did they also copy the Greeks?



**Tombs of the Augurs, ca. 520 BCE**

**Left Hand Wall: Two Boxers and Running or Dancing man**



**Tombs of the Augurs, ca. 520 BCE**  
**Right Hand Wall: Two Wrestlers and Running or Dancing man**

**Tombs of the Augurs, ca. 520 BCE CONT'D**

Right Hand Wall:

- Two Wrestlers
  - Stacked cauldrons seen as the prizes. You can tell it is a sporting practice because on the sides are clothed individuals. And so, you can tell athletics is being performed here from the distinction between the clothed and naked.
- Prizes in the middle (compare with Funeral Games of Patroclus)
- Note-
  - Contrast between Nude Athletes and non-nude observers
  
- Above Man's Head was written "Phersu" (Perhaps the Etruscan word for mask)
  - You see an individual holding a rope that is wrapped around the head of the person with the bag being eaten by a dog.
- Similar depictions found elsewhere? "Phersu Games"
- How do we interpret this episode?
  - Human Sacrifice? Death by Dog
  - Etruscan Origin of Roman Gladiator Combat?
  - Etruscan Origin of Roman Exposure to Beasts (damnatio ad bestias)?
  - Funeral Ritual meant to spill blood but not kill?



**Tombs of the Augurs, ca. 520 BCE**  
**Image also found on the Right Hand Wall**

**Tomb of the Olympiads<sup>SEP</sup> Tarquinia**

- Another tomb in Tarquinia.
- 6th century BCE Tomb
- Does not necessarily depict the Olympics
- Discovered in Tarquinia in 1958.
- Named not only for depiction of events, but also because of the Rome Olympics of 1960
- Note: Greek Athletics? Athletes not nude.
  - Inconsistency of Etruscan sport. Does indeed prove that Etruscans participated in Athletics.



**Tomb of the Olympiads**<sup>[1][SEP]</sup> **Tarquinia**  
**Left to right: Chariot race, Discus, Running**

**Tomb of the Monkey at Chiusi**<sup>[1][SEP]</sup> **480-470 BCE**

- Beginning of classical period in Greece.
- All practices that were part of Greek athletics
  - No consistency between clothes vs naked sporting



**Javelin Thrower, Boxers**

**Horse-Racing, Wrestlers, Trainer/Judge**

**Non-Nude Athletics:**<sup>[1][SEP]</sup> **Greek Vases for Etruscans**

- Perizoma Group:
  - Reference to long cloths. Seem to have been painted on after the fact. Not part of original painting
  - Why were the individuals given long cloths? Maybe the Etruscans did Not compete naked. Solidifies that naked athletics was unique to the Greeks.

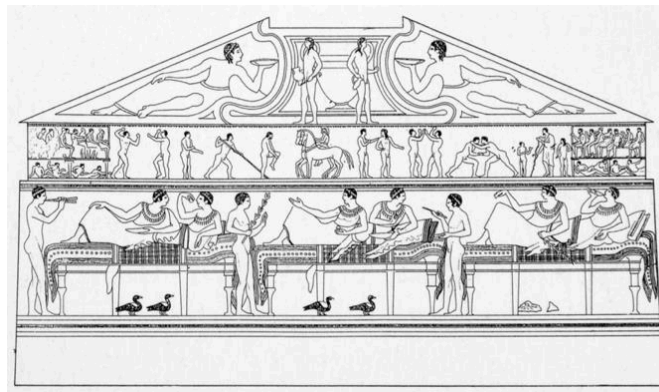
- Vases discovered in Italy
- Greek Vases with naked athletes, with Perizomas painted on them afterwards.
- Most likely made for export for Etruscan clients.
- Basic Inconsistency in representation: some athletes nude (Tomb Paintings) other are not (Perizoma Group).



**Perizoma Group: <sup>SEP</sup>Greek Vases for Etruscans**

**Tomb of the Chariots: <sup>SEP</sup>Tarquinia, 500-490 BCE**

- Just before the classical period begins.
- Depicts horseback riding or chariot racing. Also, javelin, boxing
- The emphasis on spectators on the top and down below.
  - The top with two people drinking
  - The audience on the bottom represent the lower band of banqueters. Greek practice on leaning on couches during banquets was a Greek practice. Comes from the east and makes it way to Italy.
  - Emphasizes on eliteness. Only the wealthy could host these events and attend them. We are not sure if the athletes are also wealthy or are, they only there for entertainment. Spectacle function?



**Symposium: Tomb of the Chariots: <sup>SEP</sup>Tarquinia, 500-490 BCE**

**Etruscan Sport as Spectacle**

- Etruscan games were above all spectator sports.

- Intended to please those who watch.
- In the audience we find the ruling classes, decked out with symbols of their power, enjoying the show; on the field of competition, we find the athletes, professionals of low social standing. We aren't entirely sure
- In contrast to Greece, sport in Etruria was not a privileged locus for status competition by free men
  - One of the motives for athletics was to garner status

*Bevagna, "Etruscan Sport" in A Companion to Sport and Spectacle in Greek and Roman Antiquity*  
 "We do not have a complete picture of Etruscan sport, but it is clear that Etruscan situation is closer to Rome than to Athens."

- **Break Down:** Even though it seems they were influenced by Greek; it is the function of sport socially as an object of spectatorship that makes it more equivalent to Roman practice than Greek.

### Early History of Rome

- Monarchy from 753 BCE-
  - Early history is debatable. The legends do seem to record accurately that Rome became a city of outsiders and outcasts and that Roman citizenship was from early times a legal rather than ethnic status.
    - You were Roman because you belonged to the city of Rome, not because of your lineage.

### Rome's Kings, according to Roman Tradition:

- Romulus
- Numa Pompilius
- Tullus Hostilius
- Ancus Marcius
- Tarquinius Priscus (Lucumo)
- Servius Tullius
- Tarquinius Superbus

### Early History of Rome: The Republic

- Oligarchy from 509-31 BCE
  - Known as time of Republic = **Res Publica**
  - Romans called their government, The Senate and the Roman People
    - (SPQR = Senatus Populusque Romanus)
    - Two sides, the people and the governing senate. Two sides coming together
- **2 Consuls:** chief magistrates of Rome; Presided over the senate; elected yearly
  - Elected yearly so they did not gain too much power
- **Praetor:** (increase from 2-> 8 commander of army or elected magistrate, ruled provinces)
- **Aedile:** (2 pairs) office of maintenance of public works. Including buildings and festivals
- **Quaestor:** Financial officers
- **Patricians:** Old Ruling Class Families in Rome.
  - Determined by lineage
- **Equestrians:** Aristocracy, lower than Patricians
  - But still part of elites

- **Tribune of the Plebs:** The tribunes were sacrosanct— had veto power over the senate and were sacrosanct; No harm could be done to the tribune. Tribune had protection of the Plebs- the people.
  - System to create a balance between the upper- and lower-class people.



### Roman Festivals and Entertainments

- Greek athletics part of religion worship, same thing for Romans:
- Early Roman Sport directly linked to Religious Worship: Festivals or Holidays – Feriae
- Roman Games = Ludi (from Latin Ludere – “To Play”)
  - Chariot Races or Theatrical performances as acts of communal thanksgiving to the gods for military success or deliverance from crisis.
  - Early Chariot Races (Ludi Circensis) were associated by tradition with the foundation of Rome under Romulus and also with the Etruscan King (or 5th King of Rome), Tarquin Priscus.

### Violence, Ludi, and Mythic History of Rome: <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[5p]</sub> The Sabine Women

*Cicero (1st century BCE), Republic 2.7.*

*“And Romulus accomplished all this very quickly; for after founding the city, which by his command was called Rome after his own name, in order to strengthen the new commonwealth he adopted a plan which, though original and somewhat savage in character, yet for securing the prosperity of his kingdom and people revealed a great man who even then saw far into the future.?”*

- **Break Down:** Romulus (first king of Rome). To say savage is an understatement, more like horrific.

*Cicero (1st Century BCE), Republic 2.7.*

*“For when Sabine maidens of honourable lineage had come to Rome on the occasion of the Consualia (harvest festival) to witness the games [ludi] whose annual celebration in the circus he had just instituted, he ordered their seizure and married them to young men of the most prominent families. When the Sabines, thus provoked, made war on the Romans, and the fortunes of the conflict were various and its issue doubtful, Romulus made a treaty with Titus Tatius, the Sabine king, the stolen women themselves petitioning that this be done. By this treaty he not only added the Sabines to the body of Roman citizens, giving them participation in the religious rites of the State, but also made their king a partner in his royal power.”*

- **Break Down:** essentially abducted and married off to roman elites.
- Foundations of civilization are based on force and violence. The Ludi were supposed to be festivals for war but they became events of internal conflict.

- What does this foundation myth tell us about Rome's views on the relationship between violence and civilization? What role does sport play in this foundation narrative?
  - Earliest events in Rome. He is advocating he needs to perpetuate the people. Baits in people through sport festivals and abducts them. Creating a treaty.

### Origins of Ludi Circensis (Ludi Romani/ Great Ludi): Livy (end of 1st century BCE)

Livy (end of 1st century BCE) *The History of Rome* 1.35.7-9

*"First Tarquinius waged war on the Latins and captured the town of Apiolae. Because he brought back more plunder than expected from what seemed like a small war, he put on more extravagant ludi than previous kings had done. It was then that the place now called the Circus Maximus was marked out. There were separate sections of seats for senators and knights to watch from, with benches on supports as much as 12 feet from the ground. There were horse races and boxers brought in from Etruria. These games are still held annually and called the Ludi Romani or the Great Ludi. "*

- **Break Down:** the circus was originally brought about for victory in war. Great celebration with chariot racing. That became instituted.
- Funeral games in Greek times were for elite individuals. In Rome, it was for military victories.
  - Greater focus on war and the state rather than individual greatness.

### Chariot Racing at Rome: Circus Maximus

- The Circus Maximus was situated on the level ground of the Valley of Murcia (Vallis Murcia), between Rome's Aventine and Palentine Hills
- The name Maximus, literally "very large" refers not to the size of the Circus but to its proximity to the Ara Maxima (very large/great altar), said to have been dedicated by Hercules on his journey through Italy in mythological times.
- Largest Man-Made structure in the entirety of the Roman Empire
- Accommodated the largest audience: approximately 150,000
- Circus Maximus Reconstruction (at the height of the Roman Empire)
  - VIDEO LINK ON SLIDE 26



### Circus Maximus

- Chariot Races preceded by a sacred procession that paraded through the city streets and terminated in the Circus Maximus, where it circled the track.
  - Included images of the gods, which were brought to the royal skybox (pulvinar), which served as their shrine and house, from there they presided over the games.
  - Hector is chasing Achilles and the Gods were watching. Here too in Rome, the Gods are also an audience watching these events

### The Sacred Procession at the Circus Maximus

- (Ovid, love poet, meets his mistress at the circus Maximus)
- All about Ovid's love involvements. Demonstrating what he prefers is his love interest rather than spectacle entertainment., Talks about the gods that are present because he is secretly meeting his mistress at the Circus maximus. Gives us a sense of what ancient Rome would've felt like.
- Victory is the first procession, the deity. Ovid transform victory in spectacle to victory in love. Ovid is saying he is a lover, not a fighter. We see how Ovid transforms spectacle into his own personal perspective.

*Ovid (43 BCE-17CE), Amores 3.2.43-58*

*"But now the procession is coming—keep silence all, and attend! The time for applause is here—the golden procession is coming. First in the train is Victory, borne with wings outspread—come hither, goddess, and help my love to win! Applaud Neptune (Poseidon), you who trust too much in the wave! I will have nothing to do with the sea; I choose that the land keep me. Applaud thy Mars, O soldier! Arms I detest; peace is my delight, and love that is found in the midst of peace. And Phoebus Apollo—let him be gracious to augurs, and Phoebe gracious to huntsmen! Minerva (Athena), turn in applause to thee the craftsman's hands! You country dwellers, rise to Ceres (Demeter) and tender Bacchus (Dionysos)! Let the boxer court Pollux, the horseman Castor! But we applaud thee, mild Venus (Aphrodite) and thy children potent with the bow...."*

- **Break Down:** All about Ovid's love involvements. Demonstrating what he prefers is his love interest rather than spectacle entertainment., Talks about the gods that are present because he is secretly meeting his mistress at the Circus maximus. Gives us a sense of what ancient Rome would've felt like.
- Victory is the first procession, the deity. Ovid transform victory in spectacle to victory in love. Ovid is saying he is a lover, not a fighter. We see how Ovid transforms spectacle into his own personal perspective.

### [Side note]<sup>SEP</sup> Greek Gods/Roman Gods

- Romans have equivalence of roman gods. Common under European ancestry.

<b>Zeus</b>	<b>Jupiter</b>	<b>Father of Gods</b>
Hera	Juno	Goddess of Marriage
Poseidon	Neptune	God of Sea/horses
Apollo	Apollo (Phoebus)	God of Music, Prophecy

Aphrodite	Venus	Goddess of Love
Ares	Mars	God of War
Artemis	Diana	Goddess of animals
Hermes	Mercury	God of Exchange/souls
Hephaestus	Vulcan	God of Metalwork

**Circus Maximus in 1978 CE**

- Truly huge track.



**KEY TERMS OF CHARIOT RACE**

- Spina, Carceres, Meta, Sparsor, Hortator, Dolphins, Eggs, Metae, Laps, Track

**The Design of Circuses**

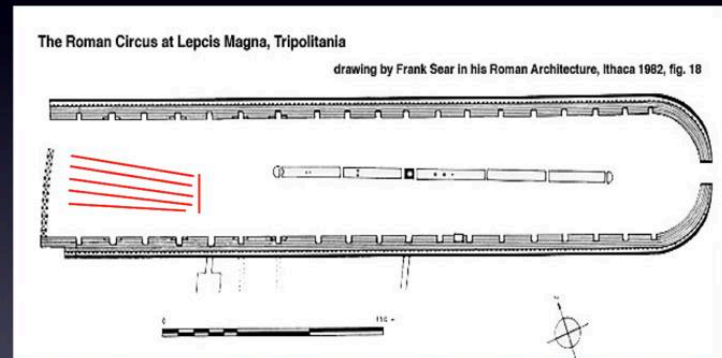
First, some useful terms identifying common functional elements of all circuses:

- Carceres** . . . starting gates (lit., cells)
- Spina** . . . dividing "spine" carries statues, markers, etc.  
. . . turning posts at ends of the spina
- Meta (pl. metae)** . . . "sprinkler," throws water to cool horses
- sparsor** . . . a faction member who guided chariots
- hortator** . . . a faction member on horseback who scouts the way ahead
- Dolphins** . . . lap counters (full laps from start?)
- Eggs** . . . lap counters (laps at 1st turn?)

**7 laps: in art, 7 dolphins and 7 eggs are standard, but some written sources say 9.**

- To prevent crashes, everyone lined up. Closest to the middle is the least distance. Crashing is a major appeal in these races.

Further to prevent collisions at the start, lanes were marked in chalk from the carceres to the spina.



Drivers were required to hold their lanes up to the "break line" or "white line" across the track before the spina.

### Chariot Racing Factions: Firms, Teams, and Fans

- In ancient Greece, the wealthy individuals would be the one to raise the horse. And the prizes went to the owner of the horse, not the charioteer.
- Unlike in Greece, Chariot Racing in Rome became a Team Sport, sometime after 201 BCE.
  - Chariot Racing Teams = Factions, Factiones
- Factions were privately owned and operated businesses, led by private executives (domini factionum).
- Factions owned all the chariots, horses, stables, and equipment needed for races.
- Chariot Races consisted of four, six, eight or twelve four horse chariots (quadrigae)
- Factions divided into 4 groups, organized by Team "color": Red, White, Green, and Blue. (Factions will be discussed in greater detail later in the course)
  - Became a way for fans to associate. People voting for specific teams

### Differences Between Roman and Greek Chariot Racing

- Roman drivers wrapped the reins round their waist, while the Greeks held the reins in their hands.
  - Significantly more danger for Romans. If you crashed, you would basically be dragged.
- Romans could not let go of the reins in a crash, so they would be dragged around the circus until they were killed or they freed themselves. In order to cut the reins and keep from being dragged in case of accident, they carried a falx, a curved knife. They also wore helmets and other protective gear.
  - Although they did wear protective gear which is safer than the ancient Greek
- Another important difference was that the charioteers themselves, the aurigae, were considered to be the winners, although they were usually also slaves (as in the Greek world).
  - Slaves were praised and could win their way out of slavery.



## Lecture 14 – Triumphs and Spectacle

### Theories of Violence and Society

*“Natural” Theory - Thomas Hobbes Leviathan (1651)*

*“Man is engaged in constant war, where every man is enemy to every man. Man’s Life is “solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short.”*

- **Break Down:** violence is an innate feature of humans. Why is violence valued? Why do we enjoy watching?
- It is because all humans love watching violence. As niche mentioned Achilles dragged people from chariots.

Safety Valve Theory - Rene Girard, Violence and the Sacred (1972)

**Mimetic Desire:** everyone wants what someone else has.

**Mimetic Rivalry:** All conflict originates from Mimetic Desire.

**Scapegoat Mechanism:** Single individuals blamed, and violence acted upon the single individual.

- **Break Down:** In order to get around this, Scapegoat Mechanism is introduced. Violence acts as a safety valve. Gives expression to violence so others don’t have to express violence themselves.
- Modern comparison to video games. Instead of performing violence that all humans need, we can watch violence and get that same release.

### Violence and Civilization - ~~SEP~~ Opposites or Complements?

Violence and Civilization as opposites:

*Norbert Elias - German Sociologist of Jewish Descent -The Civilizing Process (1939)*

*“Monopolization, and especially the monopolization of physical force and violence warranted more self-restraint from both the government and the individual.”*

- **Break Down:** Violence led to greater civilization. The more that strength and force is illustrated. There is a greater level of peaceful behavior.
- He suggests that greater force leads to greater civilization.

*Ian Morris, War: What is it good for? - (Morris 2014, 8)*

*“What has made the world so much safer is war itself...beginning about ten thousand years ago in some parts of the world, then spreading across the planet, the winners of wars incorporated the losers into larger societies. The only way to make these larger societies work was for their rulers to develop stronger governments, and one of the first things these governments had to do, if they wanted to stay in power, was suppress violence within the society”*

*“...Governments have made us safer and war is pretty much the only way we have discovered to make governments, we have to conclude that war really has been good for something” (Morris 2014, 9)*

*“As well as making people safer, I will suggest, the larger societies created by war have also—again, over the long run—made us richer.” (Morris 2014, 9)*

- **Break Down:** In agreement with Norbert Elias. War makes society greater and richer. Certain historians have argued for War having a peaceful aspect. Rome is an extreme warlike culture that spread its culture through the mechanism of war. Was Rome peaceful otherwise?

### **War, Violence, and Spectacle - Foundations of Rome**

Ludi Romani - Livy, The History of Rome 1.35.7-9 (Livy's dates: 59 BCE-17 CE)

“First Tarquinius waged war on the Latins and captured the town of Apiolae. Because he brought back more plunder than expected from what seemed like a small war, he put on more extravagant ludi than previous kings had done. It was then that the place now called the Circus Maximus was marked out. There were separate sections of seats for senators and knights to watch from, with benches on supports as much as 12 feet from the ground. There were horse races and boxers brought in from Etruria. These games are still held annually and called the Ludi Romani or the Great Ludi. “

- **Break Down:** function of War
- It was on the occasion to celebrate victory. Triumphs function as a celebratory for war.

### **The Roman Triumph - War as Spectacle**

Triumph (Triumphus)

- Formalized Recognition of successful General through a public processional entrance into Rome in celebration of military victory.
  - o General will be victorious in a specific war and then there's a celebration
- Rome registered roughly 300 triumphs. Not all the war fought but the ones won
- Triumphs were Political, Religious, and Military celebrations, not part of the regular religious calendar.
  - o In relationship to onetime events
- How does the Roman Triumph relate and differ from Ancient Greek forms of acknowledgment of athletic victory?
  - o Similarity for the idea of returning home. Victory procession when they return home like the Generals.
  - o Fundamental difference, Greek did not perform war, it was athletic victory. The other is a celebration of war. Political value vs symbolic value
  - o Victory of the general is the victory of the state.

### **Aspects of the Roman Triumph**

Triumphator - Victorious General,

- dressed in purple robes suggestive of kingship and Jupiter - Toga Picta
  - o Suggestion of royalty, very expensive, shows status and wealth
- Rode in gilded chariot.
- In front of chariot, attendants carried fasces- symbols of his imperium (power to command the army)
  - o Highly symbolic

Slave held gold laurel wreath

Over head of general- sign of victory, but also reminded general of mortality.

- Soldiers of general allowed to enter the city (as soldiers) on this one occasion.

Fasces

axe had to be removed within the boundary of the sacred inner city of Rome Why > power of life and death with the people not the General within the city.



The Granger Collection,  
New York

## Lecture 15 – Are you not Entertained?

Types of Imperial Gladiators-

Equites: Latin for Horsemen/Knights

- Only fought other horsemen
- Opening act for Gladiatorial Combat. Less heavily armed, less of a show
- White Tunics, brimmed helmet, manica (arm guard) sword and shield
- Picture shows two gladiators fighting. In the mosaic the romans conveyed the fate of these gladiators. The one on the left will die because his name is written.



### Imperial Gladiator Types: Provocator – Challenger

Type of Imperial Gladiator from era of Republic

Attire:

- Non-brimmed visored helmet,
  - Bulky, and heavy. Could be very warm. Hard to see through.
- neck guard in back,
- Subligaculum = loincloth. Extra padding
- greave on left leg
- concave rectangular shield
- Breastplate (only type to have breastplate). Very well protected. Your chances of survival were fairly good.



Gladiator Types:

- Thraex – (Thracian)
- Only Ethnic type of Gladiator in Imperial period

Equipment:

- Curved sword (sica)
- Small oblong shield
- Manica on right arm
- Brimmed helmet with griffin on top
- Extra long quilted leggings. Compensation for a smaller shield



**Gladiator Types:**

- Hoplomachos- ( from Greek “hoplite”)

Equipment:

- Manica on right arm
- Extra long quilted leggings
- Small Shield- circular and concave
- Dagger and Spear as weapons



### Imperial Gladiator

Types: Murmillo

- One of most heavily armed.
- Helmet with angular crest
- Large Oblong shield

Fan Based Fighting between Parmalarii (those who cheer for Gladiators with little shields) and Scutarii (those who cheer for big shields) Parmalarii- cheer for the underdog (Thraex and others with small shields usually lose)



### Imperial Gladiator Types: Retiarius (Net Man)

- Not based on military garb.
- Armed with
  - Fuscina -trident, net, dagger, Galerus- protector for shoulder
  - Manica on left arm
  - Greaves
- Had to rely on speed and agility to fatigue his more heavily armed opponents. Distance.



Lifts finger because he is injured

(Zliten Mosaic 2nd Century CE)

### Types of Imperial Gladiators:

Secutor (Pursuer)

- Created as opponent to Retiarius; another name= contraretarius
- Same equipment as murmillo except helmet
- Brimless helmet with 2 small eyeholes.

- Retiarius vs. Secutor became the most popular pairing. Evenly matched



### Death of a Gladiator

- Editor – The one who pays for the games; In Imperial times, Emperor was the primary editor for munera.
- Types of Missio (Release from Death/forgiveness)
  - Missio requested by raising the left arm and left index finger (and some other gesture of defeat)
  - Stans [missus]: Released while still standing.
  - Missus: Release while not standing. Moment of death
  - Augustus banned being forced to die. All given the option to quit



Detail from Zliten Mosaic, Libya, 2nd Century CE

## Death of a Gladiator: Thumbs Up or Down? <sup>SEP</sup> Latin –Pollice Verso

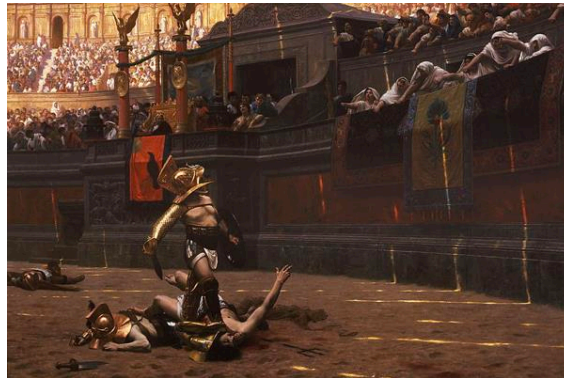
- We don't know if it means thumbs up or thumbs down. Not true thumbs down mean he dies. And Thumbs up means live

Juvenal, Satire 3

“Those erstwhile players of horns, those perpetual friendsOf public arenas, noted through all the towns for their Rounded cheeks, now mount shows themselves, and kill To please when the mob demand it with a turned thumb (pollice verso)”

### Pollice Verso, Jean-Léon Gérôme 1872

- Looking to the crowd. Crowd shouting to kill him. Thumbs down for gladiator to be killed. Undetermined in ancient Rome. Point thumb towards the chest to kill him. Any thumb gesture is indicating killing. Not exactly sure tho what meant to keep him alive.



### History behind Gladiator (The Movie)

- Marcus Aurelius, Emperor of Rome prior to Commodus
- Wisest man in history
- 161 CE- 180 CE; The Stoic Emperor
- Wrote Meditations while on campaign.

Examples of his stoic philosophy:

“You have power over your mind - not outside events. Realize this, and you will find strength.”

“Very little is needed to make a happy life; it is all within yourself in your way of thinking.”

**BD:** Very striking. Stoic is your perception of reality. Not focusing on something you can't control. Acknowledging the limits of his own power. It has become extremely popular way of thinking.

- Commodus (son of Marcus Aurelius), Emperor 177-192 CE

Cassius Dio, Roman Historian called Commodus' reign a descent "from a kingdom of gold to one of iron and rust"

**BD:** Abrupt transition from the most philosophical wise emperor, to one that is exact opposite. Model of focusing what you cant control may create problems. For those who feel they cannot control. Proble of fathers and sons.



Marcus

Aurelius



Commodus

### Popular Reception of Commodus<sup>SEP</sup> Ancient and Modern

Historia Augusta- "Life of Commodus"

- *"After the death of Antoninus, Marcus tried to educate Commodus by his own teaching and by that of the greatest and the best of men. 6 In Greek literature he had Onesicrates as his teacher, in Latin, Antistius Capella; his instructor in rhetoric was Ateius Sanctus."*
- *"However, teachers in all these studies profited him not in the least — such is the power, either of natural character, or of the tutors maintained in a palace. For even from his earliest years he was base and dishonourable, and cruel and lewd, defiled of mouth, moreover, p267 and debauched.3 8 Even then he was an adept in certain arts which are not becoming in an emperor, for he could mould goblets and dance and sing and whistle, and he could play the buffoon and the gladiator to perfection. 9 In the twelfth year of his life, at Centumcellae,4 he gave a forecast of his cruelty. For when it happened that his bath*

*was drawn too cool, he ordered the bathkeeper to be cast into the furnace; whereupon the slave who had been ordered to do this burned a sheep-skin in the furnace, in order to make him believe by the stench of the vapour that the punishment had been carried out."*

**BD:** even the young Commodus was spoiled and would kill anybody. Idea of a spoiled and evil person.

### **The Munus of Emperor Commodus 192 CE**

- Commodus was jealous of the popularity which Gladiators received. So he become one. Even though gladiators were of lower-class

Cassius Dio Senator and Eye Witness:

"After lunch Commodus would fight as a gladiator. The form of contest that he practiced and the armour that he used were those of the secutores, as they were called: he held the shield in his right hand and the wooden sword in his left, and indeed took great pride in the fact that he was left-handed. His antagonist would be some athlete or perchance a gladiator armed with a stick; sometimes it was a man that he himself had challenged, sometimes one chosen by the people, for in this as well as in other matters he put himself on an equal footing with the other gladiators, except for the fact that they enter the lists for a very small sum, whereas Commodus received a million sesterces from the gladiatorial fund each day."

**BD:** Commodus is play fighting with a stick. Yeah hes trying to show is military skills to the crowd. Funds used to put on Gladiatorial shows, he paid himself a large sum. Instead he cuts himself in on the money even though its meant for the gladiators.

### **The Death of Commodus- 192 CE**

- End of Commodus' Munus with mock death of Commodus, Senators dressed in black and Commodus' helmet taken out of the Porta Libitensis (Gateway of death)
  - Pretended to die
- Commodus planned to kill the new consuls the day they took office, dressed as a secutor. Taking this act into real life empire.
- Senate, Praetorian Prefect, and mistress conspired against him. All these people who you are supposed to be friends with try to kill you..
  - Poisoned, but it did not kill him.
  - Death by Personal Trainer (Strangled in his bath)

### **Roman Recreation and Physical Fitness**



Body shapes are not those of the idealized type represented in Greek culture. Roman paintings made figures look more realistic. Body: Understood its function for purpose and health

Roman Athletes – Baths of Caracalla



- women participating as fitness culture just as men

“Bikini Girl Mosaic- Sicily

### Roman Recreation/Leisure

*(Toner, Leisure and Ancient Rome, p17) Modern Definition of Leisure:*

*“Leisure is a system of symbols which acts to establish a feeling of freedom and pleasure by formulating a sense of choice and desire.”*

**BD:** fitness culture is about leisure or recreation. Lets say a boxer may choose to compete in the Olympics, how hard they train is no longer their control. It's the coaches decision in pursuit of winning. Choice versus freedom. Comparing fitness versus competition

- Roman Otium – Leisure Time in contrast to Negotium (Business) = not otium
- Otium is the primary concept, not work.
- Otium – could be retirement after a political career. Goal: Otium cum dignitate.

### Otium cum Dignitate

*Cicero, (Roman Politician of the Republic) De Oratore 1.1:*

*“As I frequently contemplate and call to mind the times of old, those in general seem to me, brother Quintus, to have been supremely happy, who, while they were distinguished with honours and the glory of their actions in the best days of the republic, were enabled to pursue such a course of life, that they could continue either in employment without danger, or in leisure with dignity. To myself, also, there was a time when I thought that a season for relaxation, and for turning my thoughts again to the noble studies once pursued by both of us, would be fairly allowable, and be conceded by almost every one; if the infinite labour of forensic business and the occupations of ambition should be brought to a stand, either by the completion of my course of honours (cursus honorum), or by the decline of age.”*

**BD:** possibility of achieving retirement with dignity. The republic is under threat and opportunity for leisure has been taken, no such thing.



Cicero, 106-43 BCE Killed by soldiers of Mark Antony

### Roman Recreation/Leisure

The Ambiguity of “Free Time”: Otium as means of self-definition:

*Pliny, Panegyric (for Emperor Trajan), 82.8-9:*

*“For it is by a man’s pleasures – his pleasures indeed – that his sense of dignity, integrity and moderation can best be judged. For who is so dissolute that no trace of seriousness is to be found in his pastimes? Our leisure (otium) gives us away.”*

**BD:** otium is what comes to define you. How you choose to spend your free time is who you become. Ones free time is serious business

### A Day in the Life of a Roman Aristocrat

- Pliny the Younger, 61-112 CE
- Lawyer, Magistrate of Ancient Rome; Witnessed eruption of Mt. Vesuvius.
- Letter 36: Summertime in Tuscan Villa
- Wakes up, when he feels inclined to Composes writing in his head, then has a scribe come and he dictates his ideas.
- 10 or 11am further dictation on the terrace outdoors.
- Joy-ride in his chariot
- Goes for a walk
- Then reads Greek or Latin aloud
- Goes for a second walk
- "Then I walk again, am anointed, take my exercises, and go into the bath." Exercise is performed wearing an endomis (not performed nude). Fitness routine because he isn't actually training for anything. Roman type of exercise
- Dinner with wife and friends; and an author is read aloud to them.
- Then music is performed.
  - Instead of television
- Goes for a third walk with guests
- Evening ends with conversation.

### Example of a Roman Villa (Fresco from Stabiae)



- Example of roman villa, Lush gardens, entire structure incorporated nature. Only the rich could own these

### Elites in charge of otium for Lower Class:

*Cicero, On the Republic 1.52*

*"It is essential for those who are looking after the state that the people be very happy and devoid of all concern and contemplation, having handed their leisure over to others (aliis permissio otio suo) who must look after it and who must not make the mistake of having the people think that their leaders are neglecting their comforts (commoda)".*

**BD:** lower class could also have leisure. Responsibility of the higher class to offer activities. We don't want to lower class worrying about the politics of the higher class. Keep them distracted.

**Elites take part in lower class otium:**

*Cicero, Pro Murena 39:*

*"But if we ourselves who are kept by our business from public pleasure and are able to find many other pleasures in the work itself, if we nevertheless are delighted and attracted to games, why are you amazed at the ignorant masses?"*

**BD:** roman spectacles form a leisure. Basically lower class and higher class both find the same things fun

**Disdain for the Otium of Fitness**

*Seneca, Letter to Lucius, 56. 1-2*

*"Here I am, surrounded by all kinds of noise (my lodgings overlook a Bath). Conjure up in your imagination all the sounds that make one hate one's ears. I hear the grunts of musclemen exercising and jerking those heavy weights around; they are working hard, or pretending to. I hear their sharp hissing when they release their pent breath. If there happens to be a lazy fellow content with a simple massage I hear the slap of hand on shoulder; you can tell whether it's hitting a flat or a hollow. If a ball-player comes up and starts calling out his score, I'm done for. Add to this the racket of a cocky bastard, a thief caught in the act, and a fellow who likes the sound of his own voice in the bath, plus those who plunge into the pool with a huge splash of water. Besides those who just have loud voices, imagine the skinny armpit-hair plucker whose cries are shrill so as to draw people's attention and never stop except when he's doing his job and making someone else shriek for him."*

**BD:** we don't have a term for fitness in the roman times. People exercise for both fun and health. In this bath, he is extremely disturbed by all the noises in the bath.

**Weightlifting**

Ancient Greek Stone Lifting, 6th Century BCE:

Island of Thera, "Eumastes of Kritoboulos lifted me from the ground" – Rock weighs 400kg = 880 lbs

(World Record Raw Deadlift = 1,018lbs Eddie Hall)

Olympia, "Bubo lifted me over his head with one hand"

- Rock weighing 143kg = 315 lbs. We don't know how the rock was lifted.

Roman Imperial Period:

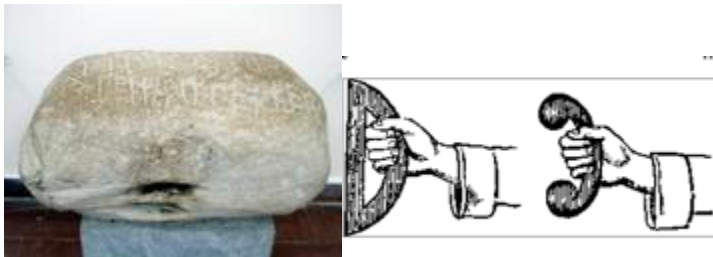
Galen, Roman Physician (129-216 CE) in his text *On Health*

prescribes lifting weights to shoulders and overhead, and partner resisted workouts (isometrics)

*Philostratus (170-250 CE) Gymnasticus 55:*

*“The large halteres train the shoulders and hands of jumpers, and the circular ones train the fingers. The jumping weights should be taken up by those that practice light and heavy forms of training, except in recreational exercise (taking a break).”*

**BD:** for those taking a break.



Halteres as precursor To the dumbbell. Hand groove shows people would actually lift this rock.

### Roman Ball Games

Harpastum – “small ball game” – Ancient Rugby?

Description of Harpastum in Athenaeus Greek Author

*“Antiphanes describes the game thus: ‘He seized the ball and passed it with a laugh to one, while the other player he dodged; from one he pushed it out of the way, while he raised another player to his feet amid resounding shouts of ‘out of bounds’ ‘too far’ ‘right beside him’ ‘over his head’ ‘on the ground’ ‘up in the air’ ‘too short’ ‘pass it back in the crowd’”*

**BD:** could be ancient form of rugby. He has no clue of what's going on. Would take you a while. Some argue European soccer, with this ball game being the precursor.

Calcio Storico, “Historical Soccer”- Modern Version of Harpastum?

### Roman Ball Games

Trigon:

--Three payers, each had a scorer (to keep score) and a ball boy.

Scorer counted missed catches, and the winner was the player with the smallest score.



### Women and Sport in Rome

Propertius, Roman Elegaic Poet (50-15 BCE, Augustan Age):

*Elegy 3.14, The fantasy of Sparta:*

*“Sparta, we are amazed at the rules of your wrestling schools, and particularly at the young women athletes: for your girls, there is no shame in working out, naked among the men wrestling.....The Roman Woman, on the other hand, goes around in a huge crowd– you can’t get anywhere near her, can’t find out what she’s really like or find a way to talk to her. Rome, if you would adopt the rules of wrestling from Sparta, you would be even dearer to me.”*

**BD:** Women participated in sport with chariot racing. Fitness was different. Fantasy he has of spartan women. Roman women has a huge pride and you can barely talk to them (open up). Strength isnt dependent on gender but how much training you do.



Spartan Votive Figurine Found at Dodona

### Roman Gladiatrix: Fear of a Strong Woman?

*Juvenal (1st Century CE) Satire 6:*

*“Who doesn't know about the purple athlete's cloaks, and the ladies' wrestling ointment? Who hasn't seen the wounds on the palus, which they've gouged with the rudis and beaten with the shield?...What decency can a woman show wearing a helmet, when she leaves her own sex behind? She wants to be strong like a man, but does not want to turn into a man: after all, we men have such little pleasure.”*

**BD:** talking about the fact that these females, all pleasure taken from men.

- Women occasionally performed gladiator combat in the Arena (Nero forced women and senators to fight).
- Emperor Severus banned female Gladiators in 200CE. That means there were in fact female gladiators



Relief of two Gladiatrices (Female Gladiators) Named Achillea and Amazonia Halicarnassus

**Women and Exercise** <sup>117</sup><sub>SEP</sub> **“Bikini Girls” Mosaic, Sicily, 4th Century CE**



- At the top, women running. Women holding the symbol of victory. Two women playing volleyball. Central figure is important, they are participating in actual competition.

### Why did the Romans Exercise?

*Marcus Cato, Roman Statesman in the third to second century BCE.*

*The paradox of exercise and life: (Aulus Gellius 11.2.6): "If you exercise, the body is worn away. If you do not exercise, it is overcome by rust."*

**BD:** DAMNED IF YOU DO, DAMNED IF YOU DON'T. Exercising clearly exhausts the body, but if you don't exercise, your body will fall apart. Exercise in moderation. How much you exercise is important.

Varro (1st century BCE), *On Farming*:

*[Roman Nostalgia]*

*"As long as Romans continued to farm, there were two benefits: by cultivation they made and kept their lands most productive, while they themselves enjoyed a lustier health, and might dispense with the town gymnasia of the Greeks."*

**BD:** exercising is productive. Exercise without anything happening. But Romans, they are participating in farm work. It's a win-win. Greek style athletics slowly took on importance in Roman period.

### Physical Fitness and Military Training

- *luceni/lucentes*: Aristocratic Youth of military training age.

- Revitalized by Augustus as a paramilitary or pre-military youth organization (for Aristocrats); example: Trojan Games (Ludus Troiae)
- Large Palaestra built at Pompeii, Herculaneum, and elsewhere around Rome to accommodate the youth groups for paramilitary training. (Greek influence?)
  - Military training for youth which took part in the gymnasium. Prior to official training in the military. Athletics is the precursor



Palaestra at Pompei

### Why did the Romans Exercise? Health

*Galen, The Best Constitution of Our Bodies:*

*“Everyone speaks in favour of the healthiest body, as also of the most ‘well-conditioned’.....“The ‘well conditioned’ is the healthiest arrangement, and the goal of all men.”*

**BD:** GOAL OF FITNESS: health and conditioning for the Romans. Galen is against the idea of training for appearance. Looking good.

Well Conditioned for Galen is not about Appearance but Functioning of the Body in moderation.

Vs. Today:



### Critics of Physical Exercise: Brain versus Brawn

*Seneca (Stoic Philosopher, Teacher of Nero)*

*“For it is silly, my dear Lucilius, and no way for an educated man to behave, to spend one’s time exercising the biceps, broadening the neck and shoulders and developing the lungs. Even when the extra feeding has produced gratifying results and you’ve put on a lot of muscle, you’ll never match the strength of the weight of a prized bull. Moreover, the more weight you put on, the more constricted and sluggish your mind becomes. You ought therefore to reduce your body and give more play to your mind.”*

**BD:** mind versus body. More tension on the body will slow down your brain. More weight you put on will slow down your mind and make your body sluggish. Opposition of mind versus body.

### **Critics of Physical Exercise**

*Seneca’s criticism, continued:*

*“There are numerous disadvantages to being an athlete. There is first of all the laborious training, which exhausts a man’s vitality and disqualifies him from concentration and serious study. Then there is the sheer size of a training meal, enough to deprive a mind of its agility. There are the slave-coaches, dreadful men who behave like tyrants. ... A perfect day for them is one in which they have had a really good sweat and, to make good the loss, take a good swig of liquor, which will sink the deeper if they have had nothing to eat. Drinking and sweating- this is the life to which those people are condemned.”*

**BD:** greeks were conquered by the romans and greeks knew fitness. Some of them became roman slaves. Drinking and sweating. Partying. Losing water in both actions.

Vs. Today- Stoic Fitness- ??

Stoic Philosophy today in Professional Sports ?!?

### **Training for Stoics: ASKESIS (Endurance vs. Performance)**

Askesis - Original meaning in Ancient Greek- physical training as part of education.

- Training for toughness rather than training for a prize.

#### In Classical Philosophy of Plato and Aristotle

- The term for physical training and formation, which normally applied to the body (soma), is then applied to the soul/mind (psychē)

During the Hellenist and Roman periods, there is a shift in arguments on mind-body dualism, where the soul/mind (psyche) is considered to have a material quality just like the body (soma).

What you do with your body will have effect on your soul

*Gaius Musonius Rufus, Lecture 6: Askesis of Mind and Body:*

*“Now there are two kinds of training (askesis), one which is appropriate for the soul alone, and the other which is common to both soul and body. We use the training common to both when we discipline ourselves to cold, heat, thirst, hunger, meager rations, hard beds, avoidance of pleasures, and patience under suffering.”*

**BD:** ability to endure, ability to suffer. Ability to endure pain is key for an athlete. Taking cold showers for example. Fasting,

### **Askesis and the Athletic Metaphor in Ancient Stoic Philosophy**

*Epictetus: (former slave, Roman Stoic philosopher)*

*1.29.33-40. From “On Stability (Eustatheia)”*

*“Who then is unconquered? He whom nothing disturbs which is beyond one’s choice. Then when I approach each remainder of a set of circumstances, I think in the manner of an athlete. “That man won the first lot. What then about the second? And what if there is heat? (22) What about at Olympia?” And so on and so forth. And if you try to bribe him, he will show contempt at such an act. And what if you put a young woman in front of him? And what if the contest takes place in the dark? And what if reputation is at stake? And what if blame is involved? Or praise? Or even death? (23) He is able to conquer all these things. So what if there is heat or rain or if there is some sadness? Or if he is tired? This man is my unconquerable athlete (anikētos athlētēs).*

**BD:** talks about everyone needs to persist on their goals despite their circumstances. There are many excuses for poor performance for athletes, this goes same for humans in life. Ignore circumstances to reach their goal.

### **Mens Sana in Corpore Sano (A Healthy Mind in a Healthy Body) THE Original Usage**

Juvenal, Satire 10:

You should pray for a healthy mind in a healthy body.

Ask for a stout heart that has no fear of death,  
and deems length of days the least of Nature's gifts  
that can endure any kind of toil,  
that knows neither wrath nor desire and thinks  
the woes and hard labors of Hercules better than  
the loves and banquets and downy cushions of  
Sardanapalus.

What I commend to you, you can give to yourself;

For assuredly, the only road to a life of peace is virtue (virtus).

**BD:** not simply about health and moderation. It is about the endurance of hardship. Somebody who seeks out toughness.

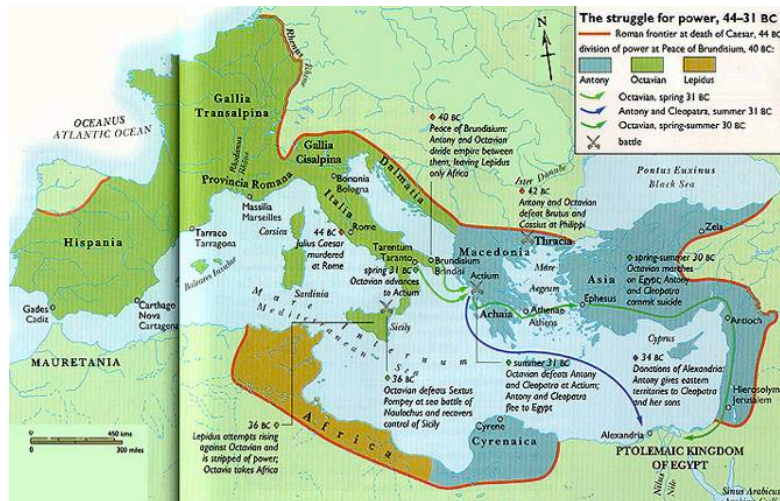
- Virtus – derive from Latin word for “Man”- Vir; Virtue = manliness

## Lecture 15 – Roman Empire (Lectures 15 and 16 are backwards. Lecture 16 is before lecture 15)

### Aftermath of Caesar's Assassination <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> - Second Triumvirate-

- To establish order
- In 44 BCE, time of Caesar's assassination, Marcus Antonius (Antony) was co-consul with Caesar. The other man in charge, even though it was only ceasar “in charge”
- Rapid, shrewd action by Antony (Caesar's co-consul in 44), M. Aemilius Lepidus (his Master of Cavalry), and C. Octavius (his grand-nephew and heir= Augustus) quickly isolated the conspirators from their natural base in Italy.
  - Take power away despite ceasar was killed. It didn't end to a power structure which was put in place before he died.
- The Senate soon after appointed these three as a triumvirate, ‘triumvirs for putting the state back together,’ with the power to make laws without the approval of Senate and Assembly and to nominate all magistrates.
- 42 BCE- Julius Caesar is deified, cult of Divus Julius = First Roman Historical figure to be deified (take on status of a God).
- Octavius as adopted son of Julius Caesar takes up the title Divii Filius = son of god.
  - Ceasar was god, than octavious takes up the title

### Octavius vs. Antony: Divided Roman Empire



- Basic map of Roman empire. Strong divide between territories owned by Marc Antony. Greece and part of Sicily. Towards Egyptish. Western side, rule of Octavian which becomes Augustus.
- Divide between Octavian and Marc Antony.

### Octavius vs. Antony

- Antony marries Cleopatra; has some military success in the East
- Accused of becoming “Foreign” and “Non-Roman” in habits and customs.
- “Donations of Alexandria” – political act of Cleopatra and Antony to give lands of Rome to Cleopatra’s children.
  - o Cleopatra queens of Egypt
- Caesarion, son of Julius Caesar and Cleopatra declared “King of Kings” --> direct threat to Octavian, official heir of Caesar.
  - o Cleopatra states that her children have more rights to rule than Octavian
- Octavian, with support of Rome, pursues Antony. Rome versus its empire. Octavian on the side of the west and Antony on the east.
- 31 BCE – Battle of Actium --> Octavian wins.
- Part of tragedy of Cleopatra: Cleopatra sends messengers to Antony saying that she has committed suicide; Antony kills himself, while Cleopatra still lives. Cleopatra eventually kills herself as well.

### Praise of Cleopatra

*Horace Odes 1.37*

*“Seeking to die honorably,  
 She had no coward’s fear of the sword,  
 Nor did her swift fleet make for hidden shores.*

*Her face serene, she dared to behold her helpless palace, brave enough to clutch deadly snakes  
So she should take the black poison into her body.*

*All the more fierce— she planned her own death—*

*She deprived Caesar's swift Liburnian ships of her being led in his proud triumph like a meek  
woman. "*

**BD:** Beauty and power makes her so attractive. Octavius the adopted son of caesar. She has the honor which is equivalent on a noble aristocrat. Unwilling to give octavius the joy of being lead triumph and slavery. Respect for her among rome people



Statue of Cleopatra



Elizabeth Taylor as Cleopatra in the film, Cleopatra, 1963

### Octavius becomes Augustus

- Avoid being killed what happened to Julius Caesar
- To avoid the fate of Julius Caesar, Octavius separated powers from their offices, rather than directly challenging the government.
- 27 BCE gained title "Augustus" with Religious, not Political connotation.
  - o Tribunician Power was given to him, without becoming Tribune (which makes him sacrosanct).
    - It is an act of violence against religion to kill him.
  - o Was given Proconsular Imperium (military control), without holding office of consul.
- During Augustus' rule, offices of Republican government still existed, but were rendered useless. Using the empire to his benefit so that he cannot be killed by changing laws etc.

### Augustus establishes Popularity and Power through Spectacles

*Suetonius, Divine Augustus 43*

*"In the number, variety, and magnificence of his public spectacles, he surpassed all former example. Four and-twenty times, he says, he treated the people with games upon his own account, and three-and-twenty times for such magistrates as were either absent, or not able to afford the expense."*

**BD:** he himself through his own wealthy achievements through military redirected the money into spectacles in order to obtain popularity from the people. Solidifying his position with the people

Suetonius: Roman Historian of early Imperial Period

(lived, 69 – after 122 CE)

### **Suetonius, Divine Augustus, 43 - Noble Spectacle?**

“He entertained the people with wrestlers in the Campus Martius, where wooden seats were erected for the purpose; and also with a naval fight, for which he excavated the ground near the Tiber, where there is now the grove of the Caesars. During these two entertainments he stationed guards in the city lest, by robbers taking advantage of the small number of people left at home, it might be exposed to depredations. In the circus he exhibited chariot and foot races, and combats with wild beasts, in which the performers were often youths of the highest rank.”

**BD:** spectacles were things everyone attended. Augustus ensures the safety of the people by paying for the spectacles. I guess because crimes can happen often and these spectacles gives the people to be safe. Allowing roman nobles to participate. He is essentially blended the people. Intergrating them by having them compete.

### **Spectacle and Social Reform/Stratification Suetonius, Divine Augustus**

“Augustus corrected the confusion and disorder with which the spectators took their seats at the public games, after an affront which was offered to a senator, for whom, in a crowded theatre, no one would make room. He therefore procured a decree of the senate, that in all public spectacles of any sort, and in any place whatever, the first tier of benches should be left empty for the accommodation of senators. He would not even permit the ambassadors of free nations, nor of those which were allies of Rome, to sit in the front seats; having found that some freed slaves had been sent under that character.”

**BD:** first problem that anyone can sit anywhere. No heirarchy in streets. No price but rather seats dedicated for social class. Spectacle became a way to view its own heirarchy structures. Political move because he disempowered the senators. He is the ruler of rome, he still honors them by giving them special privelages. Robbing the senators but also giving them privilege.

### **Spectacle and Social/Reform Stratification Suetonius, Divine Augustus**

“He separated the soldiery from the rest of the people and assigned to married plebeians their particular rows of seats. To the boys he assigned their own benches, and to their tutors the seats which were nearest it; ..... Nor would he allow any women to witness the combats of the gladiators, except from the upper part of the theatre, although they formerly used to take their places promiscuously with the rest of the spectators.”

**BD:** Augustus implement moral propriety. Separate the married from the non-married. Separate the women. Chaotic scene . Rigid and structured system. Control spectators showing his ability to control the society in general.

## Augustus, Virgil's Aeneid, and the "Trojan Games"

- Romans thought themselves ancestors of the Trojans.
- Mythic figure-Aeneas, a Trojan, who is the son of Aphrodite, the goddess of Love, and Anchises, is considered the mythic founder of Rome.
  - o According to the mythology. There are many different founders of Rome.
- Virgil's Aeneid – Latin Epic Poem about Aeneas traveling from Troy to Rome after the sack of Troy.
  - o Written between 29 and 19 BCE; Published after Virgil's death.
  - o Books 1-6: Journey to Italy
  - o Books 7-12: War in Italy
- Written during time of civil war in Rome and the rise of Augustus.
  - o Political propaganda part of continuous line of rule from Aeneas to Augustus
- Promotes the reign of Augustus as new era of peace that reflects the foundations of Rome.
- Legitimated Reign of Julius Caesar ---> Child of Aeneas named Iulus as ancestor for the Julian Family (i.e. family of Julius Caesar)
  - o Poem on political propaganda of Rome itself and Augustus



"Monnus-Mosaic", Rheinisches Landesmuseum,

## "Divine" Augustus, Virgil's Aeneid, Book 6 (Underworld)

Anchises (Aeneas' Father), tells the future to Aeneas when in the underworld:

"Now turn your eyes this way

And behold these people, your own Roman people.

Here is Caesar and all the line of Iulus

Soon to venture under the sky's great arch.

Here is the man, he's here! Time and again

You've heard his coming promised– Caesar Augustus!

Son of a god, he will bring back the Age of Gold

To the Latin fields where Saturn once held sway,

Expand his empire past the Garamants and the Indians

To a land beyond the stars, beyond the wheel of the year,

The course of the sun itself, where Atlas bears the skies and turns on his shoulder  
the heavens studded with flaming stars.”

**BD:** meets his father in the underworld. Describe history of Rome that is to come. This is similar to the Odyssey. Aeneas sees Rome's future instead of history. Aeneas views Augustus as the future ruler of Rome. Connection between mythic and historical present with Augustus coming to power.



### Virgil's Aeneid Bk.5: The Trojan Funeral Games<sup>[1]</sup> on anniversary of death of Anchises (Aeneas' Father)

Aeneas:

“So come, all of us celebrate our happy rites!

...I shall hold games for all our Trojans.

First a race for our swift ships, then for our fastest man afoot,

And then our best and boldest can step up to win the javelin-throw or wing the wind swift arrow or dare to fight with bloody rawhide gloves (boxing). Come all! See who takes the victory prize, the palm.”

**BD:** instead of chariot race, it is a boat race. Boat race is in reference for Augustus because he established the Roman Empire when defeating Marc Antony which was on ships.

Aeneas distributes prizes, like Achilles.

In place of chariot race there is a boat race --> why?

### Virgil's Aeneid Bk. 5: Funeral Games<sup>[1]</sup> Trojan Games

Groups of young boys on horse back—

“watch the long column, split into three equal squads,

Splits into rows of six, in bands dancing away,

Then recalled at the next command they whelled and charged each other, lances tense for attack,

Wheeling charge into countercharge, return and turn

Through the whole arena, enemies circling, swerving back in their armor, acting out a mock display of war.”

**BD:** trojan games show skills from the trojan youth. Form of horseback fighting which is acted out.

### **Virgil's Aeneid Bk. 5: Funeral Games** <sup>[11]</sup> **Trojan Games**

“This tradition of drill and these mock battles:

Ascanius was the first to revive the Rite

When he girded Alba Longa round with ramparts,

Teaching the early Latins to keep these rites,

Just as he and his fellow Trojan boys had done,

And the Albans taught their sons, and in her turn

Great Rome received the rites and preserved our fathers' fame.

The boys are now called Trojans, their troupe the Trojan Corps.”

**BD:** these acts are traditions. Trojan corps act out battles on horses. Mythological account for this not real

### **The “Trojan Games” at Rome**

- Not actually “Traditional” compared to representation in the Aeneid.
- First held by Sulla
- Then held by Julius Caesar for Triumphal Games of 46 BCE
- Augustus put on “Games of Troy” often, but they were eventually cancelled due to injuries to aristocratic youths.
  - o Augustus encouraged Roman noble youths to participate in Spectacles (perhaps influence of Greek culture)
  - o The Senate fought against the practice of having elites perform in spectacle.

### **Greek Athletics and Roman Spectacle**

- Roman spectacle is chariot racing and gladiatorial combat etc up until this point.
- In the early history of Rome, there was a mistrust of “Greek Sport,” especially nudity, because it was considered effeminate and immoral --> contrary to Roman Virtus
  - o Greek style sport was contrary to what Rome called Virtus. Roman Virtus is manliness. Not focused enough on war, too focused on body. Therefore, not manly.
- As the Roman empire expanded, Greek sport became a part of Roman Spectacle.

### Augustus and Greek Athletics

- In Rome, Augustus held Greek Athletic competitions (spectaculum athletarum) on three separate occasions. Different from Olympics, instead being used as part of a bigger show, the spectacle of Rome.
- 28/27 BCE – Actian Games (In honor of his victory at Actium): included athletic, equestrian, and musical contests
- Mix of Greek and Roman elements:
  - o Nobles performed in Equestrian Events
  - o Gymnastic Contest in Wooden Stadium of Campus Martius
  - o Gladiatorial Combats among captives. I
    - interesting mix of slaves, nobles etcs, blending the people of society as part of the spectacle.
  - o Actian Games were added to the periodos of Sacred Crown Games. Includes Olympia, delphi, nemea etc.
- In 2 CE, Quadrennial Augustalia Games were established in Naples to honor Augustus.
  - o An Iso-Olympic Games
  - o Wreathes of Wheat were given as prizes (Cash prizes for musical contests)
  - o Included a 30-day training period, like at Olympia.
    - Main ways to incorporate both roman rule and his own identity. Valuing Greek style sport.

### Augustus and Herod of Judea

- Herod of Judea- A Roman Client King of Judea (30-4 BCE)
- Herod financially patronized the Olympic Games and became President of the Olympic Games in 12 BCE. And he subsidized future Olympic Games.
  - o 10/9 BCE, Herod implemented combined Greco-Roman Games in honor of Augustus. Mutual benefit there.
- Although there was Jewish Resistance to Roman Rule, Herod accepted Roman rule and used Greco-Roman Games as a tool for self-promotion and promotion of Augustus. Greek style sport used as a mediator between other cultures.



Herod I of Judea

### Augustus- Regulating the Arena

- Traditionally, Festival Games- Ludi- were provided by the state, and Arena Games – Munera- were the personal gift of individual producers.
  - o i.e. munera were used to get popular favor from the people.
- Prevented this by: Augustus centralized munera on an official basis and established the foundation for an Imperial Games administration.
- Augustus' regulations:
  - o Praetors could only hold 2 shows while in office, with a maximum of 120 Gladiators.
  - o Funding for games came from the State and Praetors could not use private funds to put on more elaborate games.

### Augustus- Regulating the Arena

- Augustus forbade the holding of combats sine missione (“without release”)
  - o Combats sine missione = fights that did not go to a decision, i.e. they went to death.
- Augustus wanted all fights to go to an appeal for missio. For forgiveness for the one who will lose.
- Benefits of Augustus' change: Mercy
  - o Assured quality of fighting, without ending prematurely.
  - o Guaranteed possibility of survival of good gladiators. If the guy died within the first 5 seconds the spectators would think they got ripped off because it ended so fast. It would also be expensive. You wouldn't want your favourite gladiator to die
  - o Gave the people an active role in the process and outcome of the combats. Participation among the spectators themselves.

### Munera Legitima of Arena Show<sup>[1][2]</sup> under Augustus

- Munera Legitima = Official Tripartite structure of Arena show. Sponsored by the state
- Morning Show, 9am= Matutina- Beast shows with fighting by well-equipped hunters.
  - o Hunters = Venatores,
  - o Beast Handlers/fighters = Bestiarii
  - o Lots of violence. Blood lust in the roman people. Animals and humans dying.
- Noon- = Meridiani, “noontime show” – elaborate public executions of criminals.
- Mid-Afternoon- Gladiatorial Combat.

### Summary

- Know Date of Caesar's assassination- 44 BCE
- Date of Caesar's deification – 42 BCE
- Battle of Actium (Octavius vs. Antony)- 31 BCE
- Horace's Ode in Praise of Cleopatra
- Octavius gains title Augustus – 27 BCE
- Suetonius, Divine Augustus passages on Spectacle

- Virgil's Aeneid Book 6 episode: Anchises shows Aeneas the future of Rome
- Virgil's Aeneid Book 5 episode: Trojan Games
- Augustus and Greek Athletics
- Augustus regulating the Arena
- Munera Legitima

## A Selective History of Roman Emperors- The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

### Julio-Claudian Emperors:

- Augustus, reigned 27 BCE- 14 CE
- Caligula, reigned 37 CE- 41 CE
  - o Rule defined by cruelty, sadism, extravagance, and intense sexual perversity;
  - o Stories of incest with his sisters and then prostituted them;
  - o Had most of his family murdered or exiled;
  - o Said to have killed on a whim
- Had a statue of himself erected in the Temple of Jerusalem to be worshiped.
- First Official Emperor to be assassinated by Praetorian Guard. His own people murdered him



## A Selective History of Roman Emperors- The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

### Nero, reigned 54 CE- 68 CE

- Last of the Julio-Claudians
- vain, insane, power hungry
- 59 CE, he had his mother executed
- Divorced his wife and had her exiled in order to re-marry; after protests, he brought his first wife back from exile, and then had her executed.
- Story that he kicked his second wife to death (and then did not have her buried, but had her embalmed)
- 64 CE – Great Fire of Rome (started by Nero for his new palace?)
- 67 CE, ordered a young ex-slave to be castrated and married him.
- Nero committed suicide when he was declared an enemy of the state
- (Stories could be result of bias from Ancient Historians)



## A Selective History of Roman Emperors- The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly The Flavians

Vespasian, reigned 69 CE-79 CE

- Known for military exploits including Roman Invasion of Britain in 43 CE and subjugated Judea during the Jewish Revolt of 66 CE
- Responsible for beginning construction of the Flavian Amphitheater; aka the Colosseum.



## A Selective History of Roman Emperors- The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly Nerva-Antonian Dynasty – The Good (Mostly)

The “Five Good Emperors”:

Machiavelli:

“From the study of this history we may also learn how a good government is to be established; for while all the emperors who succeeded to the throne by birth, except Titus were bad, all were good who succeeded by adoption, as in the case of the five from Nerva to Marcus. But as soon as the empire fell once more to the heirs by birth, its ruin recommenced.”

- Trajan, reigned 98 CE- 117 CE
- Extensive building program (Trajan’s Column, Trajan’s Forum, Trajan’s Market, etc.)
- Undiminished Popular Appeal throughout History:

“ Wise, Just, and Moral Man”



### **Bread and Games**

“Now that no one buys our votes, the public has long since cast off its cares; the people that once bestowed commands, consulships, legions and all else, now meddles no more and longs eagerly for just two things----Bread and Games!”

BD: Roman people involved in government. Lots of drama has stopped because the emperor distracts the people with entertainment.

Juvenal- Roman Satirical Poet 60-130 AD



### **Bread and Games**

Marcus Cornelius Fronto. Similar statement made as above^

100-170 CE

Tutor to Roman Emperors

“The Emperor Trajan knew that the Roman people are held in control principally by two things– free grain and shows– that political support depends as much on the entertainments as on matters of serious import, that...neglect of the entertainments brings damning unpopularity, that gifts are less eagerly and ardently longed for than shows, and finally, that gifts placate only the common people on the grain dole, singly and individually, but shows placate everyone.”

**BD:** the idea of bread and games. Distracts people. In terms of social class, free food, bread is meaningless to the wealthy and elite. But universal is spectacle entertainment is both enjoyed by the poor and wealthy.

### Expansion of the “Entertainment Industry” of the <sup>1st</sup><sub>SEPT</sub> Roman Empire

Early Empire = 159 Total Festival Days

Under Augustus (27BCE-14 CE) – 65 days of Games

Under Claudius (41CE -54CE)– 93 days of Games

Later Empire = 230 Total Festival Days

Marcus Aurelius (161-180 CE) – 135 days of Games

Circus Maximus- 150,000 Spectators

Colosseum – 50,000 Spectators

- Expansion of the entertainment industry. Between Augustus and Aurelius there was a double increase

### Emperors on Display in Roman Spectacle

- Augustus – Ideal Emperor and Spectator
  - o Always attentive to the Spectacles, whether ill or healthy, attended shows even up to the days before his death. Knew that’s where he had to be seen
  - o Made all games a matter of Imperial Spectacle (rather than private funding)
  - o Cultivated talent through Gladiatorial Schools; no combats sine missione. Made the shows better
  - o Encouraged elites to perform (in various capacities) in Roman Spectacle

“Emperors were to be credible fathers of the country, strong military leaders, rulers of the world, and worthy candidates for deification and veneration in the emperor cult.”

- ^^ Power was concentrated thru spectacle entertainment

- Kyle, Sport and Spectacle p.303

### Caligula’s Cruelty <sup>1st</sup><sub>SEPT</sub> and Control in Spectacle



*Suetonius Caligula, 26-27 (Mahoney p49)*

*“At a gladiatorial munus, when the sun was blazing and the awnings had been put out, he would sometimes insist that they be taken off, and forbid anyone to leave. He would exhibit the cheapest, second-rate beasts and gladiators grown old and sick. He would make men with physical disabilities fight, even if they were respectable, free citizens. And sometimes he would close the granaries and announce that the people would starve.”*

**BD:** Use of control of spectacle to control the people. People who were old were forced to fight. Abusive power. Boast his power and threaten them.

### **Emperors on Display in Roman Spectacle: Caligula**

*Suetonius, Caligula 55:*

*“He was so extravagantly fond of the party of charioteers whose colours were green, that he ate and lodged for some time constantly in the stable where their horses were kept. At a certain revel, he made a present of two million sesterces to one Cythicus, a driver of a chariot. The day before the Circensian games, he used to send his soldiers to enjoin silence in the neighborhood, that the repose of his horse Incitatus, might not be disturbed. For this favorite animal, in addition to giving a marble stable, an ivory manger, purple housings, and a jeweled frontlet, he appointed a house, with a retinue of slaves, and fine furniture, for the reception of those who were invited in the horse's name to eat with him. It is even said that he intended to make his horse consul.”*

**BD:** fan of chariots and green team. To ensure success, he wanted to make sure everything goes well. This obsession he had with his horse. Horse summons you to a dinner party. Strange thing, abusing his power. And insane he was

### **Nero's Need for the Lime-Light<sup>SEP</sup> Nero at Olympia**



To improve Roman relations with Greece, Nero competed at the Olympic Games of 67/66 CE.

Suetonius, Nero, 24

*“That no memory or the least monument might remain of any other victor in the sacred Grecian games, he ordered all their statues and pictures to be pulled down, dragged away with hooks, and thrown into the common sewers. He drove the chariot with various numbers of horses, and at the Olympic games with no fewer than ten; though, in a poem of his, he had reflected upon Mithridates for that innovation. Being thrown out of his chariot, he was again replaced, but could not retain his seat, and was obliged to give it up, before he reached the goal, but was crowned notwithstanding.”*

**BD:** Olympic games were sacred games. Blessed by the gods. Nero tries to remove the memories of all the previous Olympics winners and only have his victory noticed. Not able to drive the chariot, he wanted glory in all aspects. Usually the owner of the chariot doesn't actually race. He lost/ failed the race but still ended up winning. Nero's name crossed out after his death. The people did what Nero did to the past athletes.

## House of Nero at Olympia SEP Temporary Residence for participation in 67/66 BCE



1. North-East propylon-2.Pyloneion-3.Phillipeion-4.Temple of Hera-5. Pelopion...7.Metroon...-9.Crypt (arched way to the stadium)-10.Stadium-11.Echo Stoa...13.Hestia Stoa -15. Temple of Zeus-16. Altar of Zeus...19. Nike of Paionios.....  
TREASURIES: I.Sicyon-II.Syracuse-III. Epidameus?- IV.Byzantium? -V.Sybaris



- Had an entire building made for himself at the Olympics.

## Nero's Need for the Lime Light SEP Nero at Olympia

Suetonius, Nero, 53:

“But above all he was carried away by a craze for popularity and he was jealous of all who in any way stirred the feeling of the mob. It was the general belief that after his victories on the stage he would at the next lustrum [i.e., Olympic Games] have competed with the athletes at Olympia; for he practiced wrestling constantly, and all over Greece he had always viewed the gymnastic contests after the fashion of the judges, sitting on the ground in the stadium; and if any pair of contestants withdrew too far from their positions, he would force them forward with his own hand. since he

was acclaimed the equal of Apollo in music and of the sun in driving a chariot, he had planned to emulate the exploits of Hercules as well; and they say that a lion had been specially trained for him to kill naked in the arena of the amphitheatre for all the people, with a club or by the clasp of his arms.”

**BD:** LIONS specially trained so Nero could pretend to be like Hercules. Ridiculous attempt to be involved in Olympics which goes beyond what most emperors have done.

### Imperial Chariot Races: <sup>[[[</sup>Changes to Circus Maximus

- Very Basic Form to Circus Maximus until Late Republic.
- Caesar first improved the Circus Maximus
  - o Elongated the Track
  - o Tiered rows of seats on both sides.
- Augustus added a platform area = Pulvinar
- Pulvinar housed a shrine, the Royal Box.
- Claudius redid wooden starting gates (Carceres) in Marble
  - o Additions
- Nero added special seating for the class of knights
- Domitian Rebuilt the Circus, after the Great Fire of 80CE
  - o Different fire from the one involved with Nero
- Trajan rebuilt the pulvinar and replaced wooden seating with brick-faced concrete.

### The Violence of the Circus Games

*Apollonaris Sidonius (Late source, 460CE-465 CE, )*

*“Now the enemy, pursuing you recklessly...comes boldly across the course to ram your wheel. His horses crumple. The shameless mob of their legs goes in the wheels and breaks the spokes one after another, until the center of the wheel is full of cracking sounds and the rim stops the flying feet. He himself falls from the collapsing chariot, making a massive mountain of ruin, and staining his fallen face with blood.”*

**BD:** extreme danger in chariot racing

### Imperial Factions <sup>[[[</sup>for Chariot Racing

Review: Factions were privately owned and operated businesses, led by private executives (domini factionum).

Factions divided into 4 groups, organized by Team “color”: Red, White, Green, and Blue. No expansion there.

### Under the Empire factions continued as commercial organizations

- Emperors took control of Gladiatorial Games
- Emperors did not take control of factions.
  - o Would take all the fun and uncertainty out of chariot racing. If he was paying for the green to, he would place bet that the green team would win. Certain level of Integrity. Teams independent on state control.

### The Money and Fame of Charioteers

- Most Charioteers were Greek or Hellenistic slaves, purchased and trained for a circus faction.
- They received a portion of the prize money and could purchase their freedom and work as free agents.

Juvenal 7.112-114:

“If you really want to get rich, look at Lacerta of the Reds: he’s made as much as 100 lawyers leave to their sons.”

**BD:** charioteers were initially slaves, but some slaves ended up becoming the richest in the society.

### The Charioteer Scopus: Glory and Early Death<sup>[1]</sup> 68-95 CE, Green Team, 2,048 victories

- Charioteers were the most famous in society. Well known.

Martial Epigrams 10.50

“Let Victory in sadness break her Idumaeen palms; O Favour, strike your bare breast with unsparring hand. Let Honour change her garb for that of mourning; and make your crowned locks, O disconsolate Glory, an offering to the cruel flames. Oh! sad misfortune! that you, Scopus, should be cut off in the flower of your youth, and be called so prematurely to harness the dusky steeds of Pluto. The chariot-race was always shortened by your rapid driving; but O why should your own race have been so speedily run?”

**BD:** martial comments on that fact that scopus died early. This has to do with running these races so fast. So his life ended fast too

Martial, Epigram 10.53:

O Rome, I am Scopus, the glory of your noisy circus, the object of your applause, your short-lived favorite. The envious Lachesis, when she cut me off in my twenty-seventh year, accounted me, in judging by the number of my victories, to be an old man.”

**BD:** martial says 2000 victors are equivalent of an old man. We don’t know how he died.

[Lachesis- goddess of fate]



### Gaius Apuleius Diocles: The real “First Billion Dollar Athlete”

- Forbes Magazine 2010- Tiger Woods named the first billion dollar athlete -->first “modern athlete” to reach 1 Billion.
- Diocles- started racing in 122 CE for the Whites, then on to the Greens, and finally the Reds. Died in 146 AD. So maybe he was the actual first billionaire

### Monument to Diocles- stats:

“Grand totals: He drove chariots for 24 years, ran 4,257 starts and won 1,462 victories, 110 in opening races. In single entry races he won 1,064 victories, winning 92 major purses, 32 of them (including 3 with six-horse teams) at 30,000 sesterterii, 28 (including 2 with six-horse teams) at 40,000 sesterterii, 29 (including 1 with a seven horse team) at 50,000 sesterterii and 3 at 60,000 sesterterii. [...] He won a total of 35,863,120 sesterterii.”

How much is 35,863,120 sesterterii? Compare through buying power: 5x higher than highest paid governor. He could buy grain for the entire city of Rome for 1 year or pay the salary of the entire Roman army at the height of empire for a fifth of the year.

### Rooting for Laundry in Rome?

Pliny the Younger (61CE-112 CE), Letter 9.6:

“The Circensian Games were taking place; a kind of entertainment for which I have not the least taste. They have no novelty, no variety, nothing, in short, one would wish to see twice. I am the more astonished that so many thousands of grown men should be possessed again and again with a childish passion to look at galloping horses, and men standing upright in their chariots. If, indeed, they were attracted by the swiftness of the horses or the skill of the men, one could account for this enthusiasm. But in fact it is a bit of cloth they favour, a bit of cloth that captivates them. And if during the running the racers were to exchange colours, their partisans would change sides, and instantly forsake the very drivers and horses whom they were just before recognizing from afar, and clamorously saluting by name.”

**BD:** Diocles switched teams. You love a guy but he switches teams, now you hate that team.

Pliny doesn't enjoy the games. The strangeness of chariot racing. Ultimately is the desire for group identity. Rather than who comes out victorious.

### **Faction Fans: <sup>ISEP</sup>A Non-Class based Social Identity?**

Social Identity:

“refers to the ways in which individuals and collectives are distinguished in their social relations with other individuals or collectives”

(Jenkins, Social Identity, 1996:4).

**BD:** individual in Rome identified by class. Or you can be identified by what team you support. The fact that you have 4 colors. You identify with one color and group yourself, so you don't support any other team.



first half of the 3rd century CE. From the Villa dei Severi at Baccano

## Gladiators, Arenas, and Empire



### Criticism of Roman Violence

Seneca (Stoic Philosopher, Tutor and Advisor to Nero= fail)

- Seneca failed at teaching Nero.

Letter 7.1-5

And nothing is so damaging to good morals as to hang around at some spectacle. There through pleasure, vice sneaks in more easily.

**BD:** Enjoyment that creates problems.

I come back more greedy, more desirous of honour, more dissolute, even more unfeeling and cruel, because I have been among people. By chance I happened to be at the spectacle at noontime, expecting some witty entertainment and relaxation, to rest men's eyes from the gore. It was the opposite. Whatever fighting there was before was comparative mercy. Now there was pure murder, no more fooling around. ...

**BD:** watches the spectacle.

Many people prefer this to the ordinary pairs and the fighters. Why wouldn't they? No helmet or shield pushes the sword away. Where is the defence? Where is the skill? These things are just to delay death.

In the morning men are thrown to lions and bears, at noontime to the audience. "

**BD:** the people actually enjoy the public executions over the beast hunts which actually take true skill. Spectators are implementing the violence rather than the actual participants

### Martial (40 -102 CE) Spectacles 1

Let barbarous Memphis stop talking about the miracle of the pyramids;

Assyrian toil is not to vaunt Babylon

and the soft Ionians are not to garner praise for Trivia's temple;  
let the altar of many horns say nothing about Delos,  
and do not let the Carians lavish extravagant praise on the  
Mausoleum suspended in empty air and exalt it to the stars.

All labour yields to Caesar's amphitheatre:

Fame will tell of one work instead of them all.

**BD:** of all the great structure in the ancient world. Once the colosseum was built, none other would compare.



### **Key Points on the Roman Colosseum**

- Flavian Amphitheater became known as the Colosseum because a colossal statue of Nero as the Sun God stood nearby.
  - o The theatre was called that because it stood next to the colossal.
- Colosseum was located on the site of Nero's lake within his Palace. Flavians declared that they were restoring order by giving the space back to the Roman people.
  - o Former grounds of Nero's palace. They were restoring order to Rome by giving the land back to the Roman people which was originally Nero's.
- Begun by Emperor Vespasian (reigned 69-79 CE)
  - o Building Program begun from spoils of Siege of Jerusalem (First Jewish-Roman War – 66-73 CE- Jewish Revolt against Roman Rule)
- Dedicated by Titus (son of Vespasian) in 80 CE

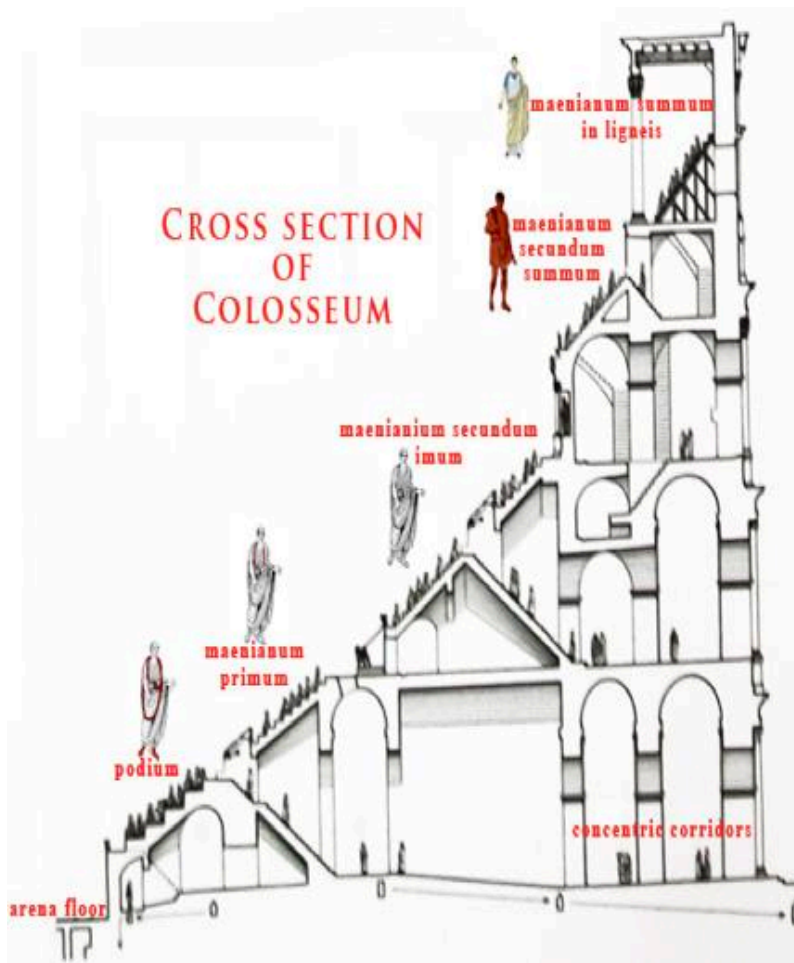
### **Arch of Titus<sup>70-71</sup> (Honorific Arch)**

- Constructed in 82 CE by Domitian, after the death of Titus.
- Served as model for later Triumphal arches, including the Arc de Triomphe in Paris



Depiction from the Arch of Titus

- Depicted From sack of Jerusalem with items From the second temple. Which funded



**Representation of Rome's Hierarchical Society**

### Levels of Seating:

- maenianum summum in ligneis:
  - o wooden seats reserved for women. Women put farthest from violence that can be witnessed
- the maenianum secundum summum: non-citizens (foreigners, slaves, freedmen)
- maenianum secundum imum: second lower level - reserved for Roman Citizens
- maenianum primum Reserved for Knights (equites)
- Podium: Special seating for Emperor, priests, senators.

### Hypogeum of the Colosseum

- Wooden Floor of the Arena covered with sand. Underneath added
- Hypogeum added or enlarged by emperor Domitian (son of Vespasian, ruled 81-96 CE)
- Series of Tunnels and trap doors, for Gladiators and wild beasts to enter the arena.
- Interesting too: Separate Entrance in the Hypogeum for Emperor to enter the Arena. Complex structure



### Gladiatorial Schools of the Empire

- Dangerous because it is a way to own a bunch of armed man without actually being part of the army. So it was banned
- Under the Roman Emperors, Private Gladiatorial Schools of the Republic were banned.
- Emperors established four Imperial Gladiatorial Schools:
  - o Ludus Magnus
  - o Dacicus (For training Dacian Prisoners of War?)
  - o Matutinus
  - o Gallicus. (For Training Gallic Prisoners of War?)

- Each school contained –
  - Armamentarium: Armoury
  - Sanitarium: Hospital
  - Spoliarium place for valuables
  - Choriagium: warehouse for stage properties. Staging for shows
  - Hospital became an important training ground for doctors. A way to address wounds would be going to hospital schools. Galen was first a doctor for gladiators.

### **Ludus Magnus: The Big Gladiator School in Rome**



### **Reconstruction of the Ludus Magnus**

- Three Tiers of cells for Gladiators
- Central Training Area
- Seating around the Training Area- up to 3,000 Spectators
  - Public was just as interested in training of the gladiators than the actual event. They enjoyed the training of these gladiators.
- Begun by Emperor Domitian, restarted by Trajan, and finished by Hadrian

### **Spectacle and the Roman Empire**

Passages: Juvenal "Bread and Games"; Fronto "Bread and Games"

Passage: Suetonius, Caligula- section on abuse of spectacle; section on Caligula's favorite horse- Incitatus

Passage: Suetonius, Nero –Nero's participation in Olympic Games 65/67 CE- victor in chariot race.

Image: House of Nero at Olympia

Passage: Apollonaris Sidonius – Violence of Circus Games.

Charioteer: Scopus; Passages- Martial epigrams

Charioteer: Gaius Apuleius Diocles -35,863,120 sestertii (First Billion dollar athlete?)

Passage: Pliny the Younger, “Cheering for Clothes” - Team Fanatics

### **Gladiators, Arenas, and Empire**

Passage, Seneca (Stoic Philosopher, Tutor to Nero)- criticism of violence of Roman Spectacle.

Passage: Martial, Spectacles 1 on Roman Colosseum

Colosseum = Flavian Amphitheater

Land given back to people by Vespasian and Titus from land of Nero’s palace Domus Aurea

Begun by Emperor Vespasian, dedicated by son Emperor Titus in 80 CE.

Know the levels of Seating for the Colosseum (names of levels and who they were for)

Hypogeum- underground tunnels, added by Emperor Domitian

Gladiator Schools: Ludus Magnus, Dacius, Matutinus, Gallicus

Image: Reconstruction of Ludus Magnus

## **Lecture 18/ Lecture 17 Continuation –**

### **Roman Baths**

- Roman baths were part of fitness as recreation. Not strictly part of military training or Olympics.
- Primary place to train was no longer the Greek gyms but the Roman Baths

### **Mens Sana in Corpore Sano (A Healthy Mind in a Healthy Body)**

**J** **S** **E** **P** *Juvenal, Satire 10:*

*“You should pray for a healthy mind in a healthy body. Ask for a stout heart that has no fear of death, and deems length of days the least of Nature’s gifts that can endure any kind of toil, that knows neither wrath nor desire and thinks the woes and hard labors of Hercules better than the loves and banquets and downy cushions of Sardanapalus. What I commend to you, you can give to*

*yourself; For assuredly, the only road to a life of peace is virtue (virtus)."*

### **Break Down:**

- Willing to endure pain as to seeking pleasure.

**Virtus** – derive from Latin word for “Man”- Vir; **Virtue** = manliness

### **First Roman Baths**

- **Balnea:** Small privately owned facilities, open to the public for a small fee.
- 1st Century BCE- 170 Balnea in Rome
- By end of Roman Empire- 1,000 Balnea in Rome
- **Primary function:** Hygiene, since most people did not have private access to running water. Started as private and soon became public facilities

### **Large - Scale Public Baths: Thermae**

- From the Greek thermos = hot
- Romans began building Thermae on a grand scale, due to advances in engineering that made warm water possible. No longer cold showers but warm baths.
- The first hot-water swimming pool given to the Roman people by Gaius Maecenas, patron of the arts during the Augustan era.

### **Gardens of Maecenas (Precursor to Thermae?)**

- Built over a graveyard on the Esquiline hill in Rome.
- Included Swimming Pool, auditorium (pictured), library, and tower.
- After the death of Maecenas, the Gardens of Maecenas became property of the emperors.



### **How to Heat the Baths: Hypocaust**

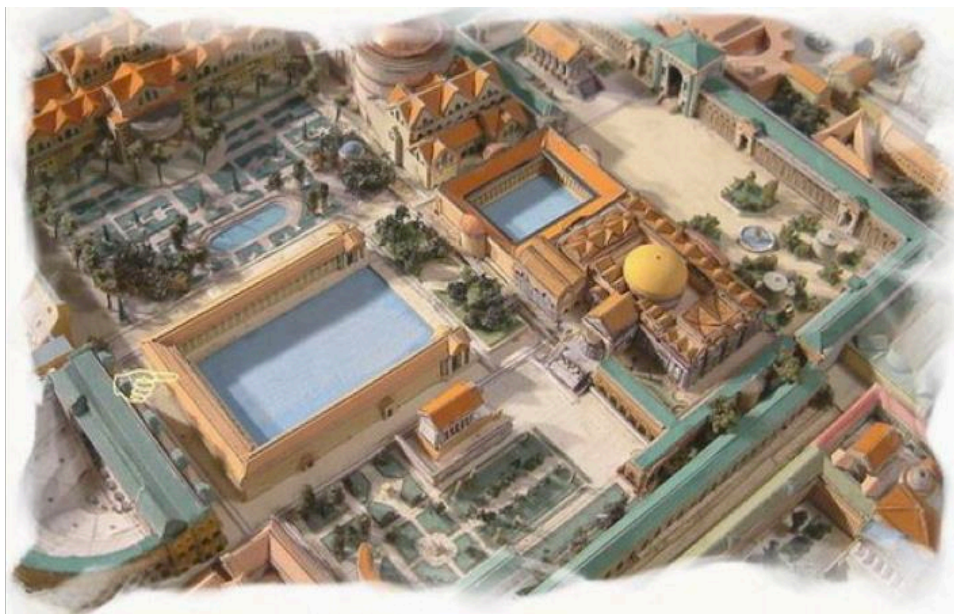
- From Greek Hupo= under and caust= burn
- Floor was raised above the ground, supported by 'pilae stacks'- layers of tile and concrete.
- Hot air supplied from a furnace would circulate under the floor and rise through tunnels in the walls, and out of flutes in the roof.



Hypocaust from a Roman villa

### First Thermae in Rome: Baths of Agrippa

- First notable ones: Built by Agrippa, general to Augustus and responsible for most of Augustus' military victories.
- Originally had a "hot air bath" i.e. Sauna, and cold plunge.
- 19 BCE: Roman Aqueduct, Aqua Virgo, completed by Agrippa.
- Aqua Virgo supplied water for Baths of Agrippa.
- Agrippa died in 12 BCE, and he left the Baths to people of Rome.
- Damaged in fire (80 CE), and rebuilt- {not the great fire in Rome from the time of Nero}



The Baths of Agrippa- Reconstruction

## The Apoxyomenos <sup>[SEP]</sup> of Lysippos

- Greek Sculpture made around 330 BCE in Bronze
- Stood in front of the Baths of Agrippa.

*Pliny the Elder (NH 36.42):*

*"It was dedicated by Marcus Agrippa in front of his Baths. [The emperor] Tiberius, admired this statue [...] and removed the Apoxyomenos to his bedroom, substituting a copy. But the people of Rome were so indignant about this that they staged a protest in the theater, shouting "Bring back the Apoxyomenos!" And so despite his passion for it, Tiberius was obliged to restore to its place the original statue."*

**Break Down:** athlete scraping sweat from his body. Admired the sculpture so much that it was put into his room. Shows desire or high value put on Greek athletics. They weren't satisfied having a roman copy, they wanted the original.



The Apoxyomenos <sup>[SEP]</sup> of Lysippos

## Baths of Titus

- After Baths of Agrippa you have.. Built in 81 CE by Emperor Titus, son of Vespasian, who also completed the Colosseum.
- Like the Colosseum, Baths of Titus were built in the park area of Nero's Domus Aurea.
- Baths, like the Colosseum, served as gift to the people. Trend of emperors donating to the people

*Martial, On Spectacles 2<sup>11-17</sup>*

*"Where now the Sun's Colossus has its closer view of the stars  
And towering scaffolds loom above the street,  
The hated entrance halls of that wild king once gleamed  
And a single dwelling stood in all the city.  
Where now the venerable mass of the Amphitheater rises  
High above Rome, the pond of Nero spread.  
Where now we gaze in wonder on the sudden Baths of Titus,  
A haughty estate deprived the people of homes.  
Where now the Claudian colonnade unfolds its spreading shade  
The furthest part of the palace came to an end.  
Rome has been restored to Rome, Titus, with you as her defender,  
And pleasures grabbed by a tyrant returns to the people."*

**Break Down:** public works have replaced the area which was once occupied by the golden house. All the wealth was used for the emperor and now instead it was distributed to the people of the city for entertainment. Public works given back to the people in place of Nero. Things have changed but things are going back to the people. Pleasures for the sake of the larger population, not just one person.

### **Baths of Trajan**

- Built 104-109 CE, by the Emperor Trajan
- Largest Baths in Rome at the time
- May have included a library, with section for Greek Literature and separate section for Latin.
- Does model an expanded gymnasium. Education itself is categorized under leisure.



### Baths of Caracalla

- Emperor Septimius Severus, 193 CE – 211 CE (Born in Libya, of Roman and Punic descent)
  - A general of the Roman army
  - Seized power in 193 CE, Year of Five Emperors
  - Severus has two sons- Caracalla and Geta
- 211 CE, Caracalla has brother Geta killed and takes power for himself.
- 211- 217, Caracalla reigns as sole emperor



Severan Royal family, with Geta's face erased



Caracalla

### Philostratus' Criticisms of Caracalla after the murder of Geta:

Lives of the Sophists, 607

Caracalla “now had but one eye and one hand, and that those whom he had taught to take up arms for one another had now taken them up against one another.”

Break Down: he forget his education

Letter 72

Caracalla now inhabits a “house, which he himself destroyed and acted as though the gods of his household did not exist.”

Break Down: idea of killing one's own family is wrong. Caracalla is military sided while Geta is focused more on athletics and leisure



Bust of Caracalla



Bust of Geta

### Baths of Caracalla

- Constructed between 211-217 BCE; perhaps started during the reign of Septimus Severus.
- Designed as propaganda to win favor with the people.
- Not just baths: gymnasias, shops; Library (2nd Bath with Library in Rome)
- Build them an ever bigger bath so he can win favor with the people



## Baths of Caracalla Today



Baths of Caracalla: Two levels: people in charge of heating, and above are citizens. Gave roman people a chance to live like emperors.

### The Art of Athletics at the Baths of Caracalla

- Exedrae from the Palaestra
- Realistic portrayal of actual victorious Roman Athletes. Hall of Fame. More realistic and proportions are different, unique to each body type.



The Art of Athletics at the Baths of Caracalla <sup>SEP</sup> Gymnasium with mosaic of actual athletes



**Baths of Caracalla: From Palaestra to Frigidarium <sup>SEP</sup> Roman Copies of Greek Sculpture**

- From training into cool down area, you get into Greek athletics. After finishing work out, you are going backwards in time. Images from realistic into idealized images.



Myron's Discobolus

Polyclietus' Doryphorus

Polycleitus' "Heracles"?

Heracles Torso

**Centerpiece of the Frigidarium of Caracalla: <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> Heracles at Rest**

- Known as the Farnese Heracles
- First sculpted by the Greek Sculptor Lysippos
  - A lot of muscle, departure from Greek ideal
- Originally cast in Bronze, by Lysippos in the 4th century BCE.
- Major Departure from "Classical Ideal" found in other Greek statues such as Doryphorus.
- At the Baths of Caracalla, there would have been two copies of the Farnese in the Frigidarium
  - Emphasizes double vision, double production.



**Farnese Heracles- Apples of Hesperides**

- Pole, with lion skin, and apples of Hesperides behind his back
- Apples are considered last of the labor, then leading to Heracles becoming a God
- Move from historical real-life athletes to mythical Heracles having completing his labors.  
About to become immortalized by Gods



Right: Olympia Metope, Temple of Zeus Atlas brings apples of Hesperides To Heracles

### Heracles/Hercules and Roman Imperial Propaganda

- Commodus had himself depicted as Hercules, first roman emperor to depict himself as Heracles.



Commodus as Hercules  
Holding Apples of Hesperides



Farnese Heracles  
Baths of Caracalla



Coin from Perinthos, depicting Caracalla receiving the apples of Hesperides From Heracles.

### **Roman Baths and Public Daily Life**

- The Construction of Baths are an alternative means for perpetuating Imperial Ideology, similar to Spectacles.
  - Alternative to circus or combat fights, it is obviously for entertainment. Everyone enjoyed hygiene and taking care of themselves even though they didn't have access.
  - People were able to mingle.
- Baths were part of Roman Daily Life: uniquely egalitarian practice in highly stratified society.
- Baths also posed moral problems: "The Bath is nothing but a road to luxury"- Artemidorus.
  - To be roman is to endure hardship. Does hygiene make romans soft?
- Baths represented a unique combination of Roman Technology and innovation, with Ancient Greek traditions of public exercise (and nudity).
  - Roman and Greek culture coming together in those baths

### **Greek Athletics in Imperial Rome SEP Moderation or Excess?**

- Exercise part of Roman culture from the Greeks. Yes, Romans participated in Olympics.
- Representation of moderation or excess?
  - Sweat scraper falls under moderation, and the Heracles falling under excess of the Greek attitude towards sport. Dying for the sake of your endeavor. Romans admire greek but they want to be distinct from it.

## "Captive Greece"

- Rome officially conquered Greece in 146 BCE, during era of the Republic

Rome's Anxiety of Influence:

Horace (Poet of Augustan era), Epistles, 2.1.156ff:

Graecia capta ferum victorem cepit. Translate to

"Captive Greece captured, in turn, her uncivilized Conquerors, ..... and brought the arts to rustic Latium"

Break Down: Greece was captured by Romans but in turn Romans became obsessed with Greek culture.

## The Distractions of Greek Culture

*Horace, Epistles 2.1.93 [Horace Roman Poet 65 BCE-8 BCE]*

*"As soon as Greece ceased fighting, she started fooling, And when better times had come, lapsed into error, One moment hot with enthusiasm for athletes, Then horses, mad for workers in ivory, marble, bronze: Mind and vision enraptured by painted panels, Crazy now for flute-players, now for tragic actors: Like a girl-child playing at her nurse's feet, Quickly leaving when sated what she's loudly craved."*

Break Down: Criticizing the Greek obsession with art and other forms of entertainment like athletics and tragedy. Horace considered them to be a play and not very Roman.

## Roman Attitudes Against Greek Athletics

*Plutarch, Roman Questions 40.274D*

*"The Romans used to be very suspicious of anointing, and they believed that nothing has been responsible for the slavery and softness of the Greeks as the gymnasia and palaestra, which give rise to a great deal of leisure and idleness, mischief, and pederasty, and the ruin of young men's bodies by sleeping, strolling about, performing rhythmic exercises, and following strict diets. Influenced by these things, they have unconsciously left behind their weapons and prefer to be called not good warriors and knights, but rather nimble and beautiful athletes."*

Break Down: contrast between warrior and athlete. Romans used to be suspicious of Greek athletics as it didn't tie into war, but eventually they adopt Greek culture

## The First Greek Games in Rome- <sup>111</sup><sub>SEP</sub> Sulla's Olympics

- 86 BCE, Sulla sacks the treasuries at Olympia and Delphi in order to pay for his military campaigns. Act of sacrilege

- In 80 BCE, Sulla moves the Olympics to Rome, where all events take place except for the Stadion.
  - o Tried to move the center of power

*Appian, Bellum Civile, 9.99:*

*“This was in the 175th Olympiad according to the Greek calendar, but there were no Olympic games then except races in the stadium, since Sulla had carried away the athletes and all the sights and shows to Rome to celebrate his victories in the Mithridatic and Italian wars, under the pretext that the masses needed a breathing-spell and recreation after their toils.”*

- After the death of Sulla, the Olympics returned to Olympia

### **Individual Greek Games in the Late Republic and Early Empire**

- 46 BCE – Caesar has first Greek stadium built in Campus Martius for his Triumphal Games
  - o Began to adopt Greek style of athletics
- Augustus: spectaculum athletarum in Rome. Spectacle of athletes
  - o 28/27 BCE Actian Games (Equestrian, Gymnic, and Gladiators)
  - o 2 CE Augustalia/Sebasta Games in Naples
    - In honor of Augustus
    - Iso-Olympic Event
    - Wreathes of Wheat as prize (cash for musical contests)
    - 30 Day Training period beforehand.

### **Nero: In imitation of the Greeks**

- Neroneia Games Began by Nero in 60 CE
  - o Lover of Greece

*Suetonius, Nero, 12.3-4:*

*“Nero was the first who instituted, in imitation of the Greeks, a trial of skill in the three exercises of music, wrestling, and horse-racing, to be performed at Rome every 5 years, and which he called the Neroneia.”*

Break Down: tried to create greek equivalent.

- Took place only 1 more time, in 65 CE
- After Neroneia, Nero went on to compete in Greece. Participated in Olympics, failed but still declared victor



Nero as Apollo Citheroedus Fresco from near Pompeii

*Tacitus, Annales 14.20* <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> Tacitus – Roman Historian (56-120CE) <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> On Nero's Hellenizing influence

*“As it was, the morality of their fathers, which had by degrees been forgotten, was utterly subverted by the introduction of a lax tone, so that all which could suffer or produce corruption was to be seen at Rome, and a degeneracy bred by foreign tastes was infecting the youth who devoted themselves to athletic sports, to idle loungings and low intrigues, with the encouragement of the emperor and Senate, who not only granted license to vice, but even applied a compulsion to drive Roman nobles into disgracing themselves on the stage, under the pretense of being orators and poets. What remained for them but to strip themselves naked, put on the boxing-glove, and practice such battles instead of the arms of legitimate warfare?”*

Break Down: contrast between a warrior like roman ethos and greek athletics which is non war like. But also athletics could seem like a preparation for war.

### Athletics vs. War: An Old Debate

*Iliad 23 694ff: Epeius boasts-*

*“Anybody want the cup as his prize? Because no Greek alive is going to beat me in boxing and lead away this mule. I'm the best there is. Isn't it enough I come up short in war? A man can't be good at everything. But let me tell you this, and it's a sure thing: Anybody fights me, I'll bust him wide open and crush his bones. Better have his next of kin standing by To carry him out when I'm through with him.”*

Break Down: fighter in combat sports who actually acknowledges he is not a good warrior. Athletics and war are not correlated. And this is why Romans were critical in greek athletics



Boxer, Olympia ca 320 BCE

### The Capitoline Games

- Instituted in 86 CE by Roman Emperor Domitian (reigned 81-96 CE)
- Honored capitoline Jupiter and, like the Olympics, took place every 4 years.
  - o Jupiter, roman equivalent of Zeus.
- In imitation of Neroneia, Capitoline Games had a tripartite structure: Gymnic, Equestrian, and Musical events.
- Capitoline Games also included footraces for women.
  - o Women were participated in public festival, considered progressive

### Capitoline Games: Campus Martius

- Domitian constructed the first permanent Greek stadium in the Campus Martius and a music hall (odeum) for the Capitoline Games.
  - o Ceasar has the first built but it got taken down. This one was the first permanent



Piazza Navona- location of ancient stadium



Reconstruction of Campus Martius

### Were the Olympic Games in decline during the Roman Empire?

- Olympic games gained popularity
- Problems: Sulla's Olympic Games in Rome, 80 BCE; Nero's visit to Olympia 65/67 BCE.
- Renaissance of Growth in Roman Imperial Period. The Ancient Olympic Games become more International:
  - o Competition at Olympia opened to non-Greeks, with dramatic increase in participants from Asia Minor, Egypt, and Africa.

### Construction at Olympia <sup>11</sup> in Roman Imperial Period

- August started Emperor Cult at Olympia, by rededicating the Metroon and including a statue of himself.
  - o Metroon is a half-circle labeled #6 on the map
- Leonidaeum- Built in 4th century BCE remodelled in 1st century CE
- Served as hotel for distinguished guests, especially Romans.

### Professional Athletes in the Roman Empire

- Synods/ Greek – Synodoi: Official, Professional Athletic Guilds began in the 1st century BCE

- Synodoi meaning coming together

*33/32 BCE Mark Antony gives exemption from a Greek synod of Greeks in Asia:*

*"I willingly grant the earlier appeal to me in Ephesos by Artemidoros, my friend and aleiptes, who was acting in concert with Charopeionos of Ephesos, the eponymous priest of the Synodos of Worldwide Winners of Sacred Games and Crown Games."*

Break Down: negotiation for this group who calls themselves the world-wide winners. Getting paid through imperial funding.

### **Stipends for the Iselastic Games**

- Iselastic Games:
  - Greek Iselastic: Formal entry into the city, through the wall. (Perhaps by ritually tearing down part of the wall.)
  - (Tradition- When a city has such victors, there is no need of walls to be protected)

*Emperor Trajan to Pliny the Younger:*

*"The stipend appointed for the victor in the Iselastic games ought not, I think, to commence till he makes his triumphant entry into his city. Nor are the prizes, at those combats which I thought proper to make Iselastic, to be extended backwards to those who were victors before that alteration took place"*

Break Down: when is the athlete going to get paid? Not until they return to the city/ home. List of games considered iselastic. Not gonna back pay people

### **Example: Inscription for Professional Athlete, 2nd Century CE**

- The Council and the Assembly have honoured Marcus Aurelius Abas, citizen and councillor, amazing running victor in the sacred games, a long distance runner, the first and only Adadan of all time to win the following sacred, iselastic contests:
  - Olympic games not listed first. These athletes paid not thru prize money but addition to those. Some are traditional, some are not.

The Capitolia in Rome (Began by Domitian)

The Eusebeia in Puteoli

The Sebasta in Naples (Began by August)

The shield games of Argos, without competitors

The Asklepeia of Epidauros

The Olympia in Pisa (Why not listed First?)

The Ourania (?) in Sparta

The festival of the Bithynian league in Nikomedia

The long-distance race and the diaulos (400 metres) in the Artemisia at Ephesos

The Hadrianeia in Ephesos twice

The Balbilleia in Ephesos

The festival of the Asian league in Kyzikos

The victory games in Ephesos

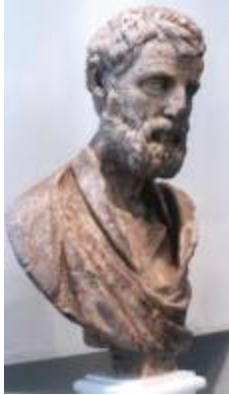
The Panhelleneia in Athens.

### Civic Games in the Greek East

- 4 Types of Games in the Greek East:
  1. Stephanitic/ Crown Games
    - o 7 total Crown Games in Roman Periodos:
      - i. Captioline Games
      - ii. Actaian Games
      - iii. Sebastan Games in Naples
      - iv. Olympic Games, Olympia
      - v. Pythian Games,
      - vi. Nemean Games
      - vii. Isthmian Games
  2. Iselastic Games
  3. Ecumenical Games/or “Iso-Games”; i.e. Iso-Olympics-Alexandrian Games in Egypt, etc. Equivalent to the “scared games”.
  4. Private Games put on by wealthy patrons.

### Greek Athletics and Elite Status: Paideia

- Greek “education”/ Paideia became a major source for Elite Roman identity in the Imperial period.
  - o Only Greeks had access to Greek education.
- Second Sophistic: 1st-3rd Centuries CE, Revival of Greek Intellectual tradition of 4th Century BCE.
- **Sophism** – From Greek Sophia, Wisdom.
  - o Knowledge and Virtue could be taught (oratory, rhetoric) and allow for social mobility.
    - Thru proper education you can make your way to a position of power
  - o Roman elites employed Second sophistic Teachers.
  - o Important Second Sophistic Intellectuals in Rome:
    - Polemo of Smyrna taught the son of Trajan
    - Herodes Atticus: Marcus Aurelius would write to him 3x per day.
    - Antipater taught the Severan emperors
    - Philostratus (author of Gymnasticus) part of the Severan circle
      - Used greek style education to cult



**Herodes Atticus**

### **Athletics as part of Greek Paideia**

- Septimius Severus (Emperor): Positive Model of Greek Influence. Typical Daily Routine (Cassius Dio 77.17.2):
- Full embraced the Greek model of Paideia
  - Take a walk at dawn
  - Hold court and listen to litigations until noon.
  - Ride his horse “as much as his strength would permit”
  - Practice “Gymnastic exercise” and take a bath.
  - Lunch
  - Remaining duties
  - Engage in discussion in both Greek and Latin.



**Septimius Severus**

### **Athletics as part of Greek Paideia**

- The Education Geta and Caracalla (sons of Severus Septimius)

*Geta (Herodian 4.3.3.)*

*“Geta showed some sign of goodness by acting with moderation and mildness to those who approached him. He also had more serious interests, including in his circle distinguished men of learning and devoting his enthusiasm to wrestling school and athletic activities of free citizens.”*

**Break Down:** Greece itself is a model of freedom. But Geta being interested in Greek athletics is a positive, but in case of Nero being interested in Greek athletics is negative. Can see how times are changing



**Geta**

### **Athletics as part of Greek Paideia**

*Caracalla (Herodian 4.3.3):*

*“Antoninus (Caracalla) was always a man of grim and violent action who had absolutely nothing to do with these activities mentioned above and made himself out to be an enthusiast for a soldier’s life of war. A man of violent temper in all he did, he made his friends by threats and intimidation rather than persuasion and favor.”*

**Break Down:** persuasion and favor to the practice of rhetoric is in favor of Greek athletics but Caracalla uses force instead of persuasion. Not interested in athletics but interested in war. Civility vs uncivility.



Caracalla

### Athletics as Paideia: <sup>11</sup>SEP Death of Geta and his Athletes

*Herodian 4.6.2:*

*“But then straight away there began a general slaughter of Geta’s household and friends and members of his palace staff....Not a person survived who was even casually associated with Geta. Athletes and charioteers and performers of all the arts and dancing– everything that Geta enjoyed watching or listening to- were destroyed.”*

**Break Down:** Caracalla killed Geta and Geta’s entire friends.

### Athletics as part of Greek Paideia

- Caracalla forgot his Greek education.

*(Cassius Dio 78. 11.3-4):*

*“Severus trained Caracalla in all the pursuits that tended to excellence (arete), whether of body or of mind, so that even after he became emperor he went to teachers and studied philosophy most of the day. He used to be rubbed dry with oil and would ride horseback as much as 100 miles per day, and he had practiced swimming even in rough water. In consequence of these pursuits, he was vigorous enough in a fashion, but he forgot his intellectual training as completely as if he had never heard such a thing.”*

**Break Down:** it's not that Caracalla wasn't education in the Greek model, but he forgot it. Accusations for the failure of the education system. Value and significance of education and whether or not it makes a difference.



Farnese Heracles At Baths of Caracalla

### Roman Emperors and Nudity Adopting Greek Visual Paradigms

- Nudity in athletics was discretely Greek. We see a transition of emperors being portrayed as athletes (in nude). From clothed to naked, following the Greek way. Reconfirms ways in which Greek athletics was incorporated into roman culture as the roman empire progressed.



Augustus Roman Emperor 27 BCE- 14 CE



**Septimius Severus Roman Emperor 193-211, CE**



**Alexander Severus Roman Emperor 222-235 CE Institued Agon of Hercules**

**Lucian's Anacharsis:** <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> Mockery of Ancient Athletics, while explaining its logic  
The Strangeness of Sport

- Volunteer decided to fight each other. Its irrational to do so if there is no incentive.

**Lucian**

- Rhetorician and Satirist
  - Prided himself in the ability to write and speak. Never clear if he is sincere about the things he writes.
- Ethnically Assyrian, wrote in the Greek language
- Lived in the 2nd Century CE (125-after 180 CE)
- Traveled throughout Ionia, mainland Greece, Italy, and Gaul giving rhetorical performance of his work.



Lucian

**Characters in the Anacharsis: Solon**

Who is Solon? Book is about a conversation between two people, Solon and Anacharsis

- An Athenian Statesman, lawmaker and poet
- 638-558 BCE
- Responsible for major constitutional reforms in the city of Athens.
  - Example: Abolished all debts for Athenian citizens (including debt slavery)
  - Divided Athenian citizens into 4 classes based on wealth and production of agriculture: pentakosiomedimnoi (500); Hippeis (300); Zeugitai (200); Thetes (less than 200)
  - Prevented export of all agricultural products, except olive oil.
- After Solon's Reforms, he left Athens and traveled as a wise man. Solon's Laws could not be changed for 10 years (according to the historian Herodotus)
  - In order to have those laws he implemented would not change.

**An Outsider's Perspective on** <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> **Ancient Athletics**

Who is Anacharsis:

- “Scythian Philosopher” who traveled to Athens to become friends with Solon.
- Supposedly the first foreigner who received the privileges of Athenian citizenship.
- Introduced the “outsider’s perspective” on native habits and customs.
- First foreigner who received Athenian citizenship.

The beginning of the Anacharsis - The Strangeness of Greek Athletics:

“Now I want to know what is the good of it all. To me it looks more like madness more than anything else. It will not be very easy to convince me that people who behave like this are not wrong in their heads.”

**Break Down:** Anacharsis who doesn't practice sport seeing the ancient Athenians practice sport. Says it looks like the practice of insane people. Foreigner perspective it seems crazy.

### Ethnographic Surrealism

- Perspective offer a surreal aspect to that practice, a disconnect and a lack of reality.
- A heterogeneous mixture of cultures and concepts held at a point of irreconcilability, patched together with a collage of materials,
  - Two things fitting together but they don't actually fit
- Represents the principle of cultural relativism and a fundamentally anthropological impulse
  - Cultural values are not relative.



Picasso drawing of African Mask

### Cultural Relativism

*Solon's Response:*

*“It is quite natural it should strike you that way, being so novel, and so utterly contrary to Scythian customs. Similarly you have no doubt many methods and habits that would seem extraordinary enough to us Greeks, if we were spectators of them as you now are of ours.”*

**Break Down:** Scythia known for practices are that strange compared to Greeks and romans. Solons response is stating that feelings are mutual, Strangeness happens on both sides.



**Territory of Scythia 1st Century BCE**

**Location of the conversation between Solon and Anacharsis: Gymnasium of Apollo Lykeios**

*“The place is called a gymnasium and is dedicated to the Lycean Apollo. You see his statue there; the one leaning on the pillar, with a bow in the left hand. The right arm bent over the head indicates that the God is resting after some great exertion.”*

**Break Down:** posture of Lykeios is described by Solon. We have a God at rest after exercise. Similar to Hercules when he is at rest after exercise. Imitation of how humans can rest just like Gods. Gods have super bodies, capable of great. Do the Gods ever get tired? Perhaps not but it is depicted this way. Apollo may be resting as choice.



**Statuette of Apollo Lykeios Museum of ancient Agora of Athens**



Roman copy of Apollo Lykeios Louvre

### The Prizes and Purpose of Athletics

*Solon:*

*“At Olympia a wreath of wild olive, at the Isthmus one of pine, at Nemea of parsley, at Pytho some of the God's sacred apples, and at our Panathenaea oil pressed from the temple olives. What are you laughing at, Anacharsis? Are the prizes too small?”*

***Break Down:** Solon is describing the prizes in the panhellenic circuit.. And Anarchasis is laughing.*



### Questioning the value of the athlon

*Anacharsis:*

*“Oh dear no; your prize-list is most imposing; the givers may well plume themselves on their munificence, and the competitors be monstrous keen on winning. Who would not go through this amount of preparatory toil, and take his chance of a choking or a dislocation, for apples or parsley? It is obviously impossible for any one who has a fancy to a supply of apples, or a wreath of parsley or pine, to get them without a mud plaster on his face, or a kick in the stomach from his competitor.”*

**Break Down:** a logic of economics to the prizes, if people are going thru pain, it must have great value. The prizes given are not of significant value. Someone who undertakes labour assumes to be compensated for it thru prize of extreme value. Although in this scenario the prize has no economic value. So, Anarchasis laughs.



**Pankration**

### The Symbolic Value of Victory SEP No Pain, No Fame

*Solon:*

*“My dear sir, it is not the things’ intrinsic value that we look at. They are the symbols of victory, labels of the winners; it is the reputation (doxa) attaching to them that is worth any price to their holders; that is why the man whose quest for fame (eukleia) leads through toil (ponos) is content to take his kicks. No pain, no fame;*

*he who covets fame must start with enduring hardship; when he has done that, he may begin to look for the pleasure and profit his labours are to bring.”*

**Break Down:** reputation(doxa) and kleos is what these athletes compete for. Social capital. No pain, no fame. Idea of labor, equated to social capital.

### Against the Odds: Only 1 Victor

*Anacharsis:*

*“And do you mean to say such a number can be found to toil for a remote uncertainty of success, knowing that the winner cannot be more than one, and the failures must be many, with their bruises, or their wounds very likely, for sole reward?”*

**Break Down:** another claim, immaterial prize which is fame, only one person is declared victor. Chances of failure is immense, certain. Likelihood of success is very small. Why take labor for immaterial prize when the chance of getting it is slim. You just go through pain and suffering for nothing. Why do it when chances of failure are so great?

### Solon: Athletic Training as Political Education SEP

*Solon:*

*“Our view is not bounded by the contests, and directed to their carrying off prizes there--of course only a small proportion of them ever reach that point; no; the indirect benefit that we secure for their city and themselves is of more importance. There is another contest in which all good citizens get prizes, and its wreaths are not of pine or wild olive or parsley, but of complete human happiness (eudaimonia) , including individual freedom and political independence, wealth and repute, enjoyment of our ancient ritual, security of our dear ones, and all the choicest boons a man might ask of Heaven. It is of these materials that the wreath I tell you of is woven; and they are provided by that contest for which this training and these toils are the preparation.”*

**Break Down:** Through general practice of athletics education, you get something more than economic prizes. You gain a beneficial spirit. You become blessed. A feeling of happiness.

### **What do dust and somersaults accomplish for virtue (arete)?**

*Anacharsis:*

*“As soon as the youth attain to a knowledge of good and evil, when reverence and shame and fear and ambition spring up in them, when their bodies begin to set and strengthen and be equal to toil, then we take them over, and appoint them both a course of mental instruction and discipline, and one of bodily endurance. We are not satisfied with mere spontaneous development either for body or soul; we think that the addition of systematic teaching will improve the gifted and reform the inferior.”*

**Break Down:** this is a practice and virtue. Getting accustomed to the idea of excellence. Excellence requires hardship, you have to endure pain. Athletics does this. THIS QUOTE MIGHT BE SAID BY SOLON instead of Anacharsis... NOT SURE THO

### **Anacharsis: Poetic Education for the sake of Emulation**

*Solon:*

*“Then, as they get on, we versify, for the better impressing their memories, the sayings of wise men, the deeds of old time, or moral tales. And as they hear of worship won and works that live in song, they yearn ever more, and are fired to emulation (mimesis), that they too may be sung and marvelled at by them that come after, and have their Hesiod and their Homer.*

**Break Down:** introduced to poetry, story of Achilles. Introducing these stories it teaches them a desire to be greater than more than they currently are. Desire to be like someone else, in this case it is a half god.



Didaskalso at the Gymnasion

### **Anacharsis: Athletic Aspects of Greek Paideia**

*“When their first pithless tenderness is past, we strip them and aim at hardening them to the temperature of the various seasons, till heat does not incommode nor frost paralyse them. Then we anoint them with oil by way of softening them into suppleness. It would be absurd that leather, dead stuff as it is, should be made tougher and more lasting by being softened with oil, and the living body get no advantage from the same process.”*

**Break Down:** you make leather soft by applying oil. Same with the body. Combination of toughness and fluidity.

### **Anacharsis: The Purpose and Effect of Training**

*“Accordingly we devise elaborate gymnastic exercises, appoint instructors of each variety, and teach one boxing, another the pancratium. They are to be habituated to endurance, to meet blows half way, and never shrink from a wound. This method works two admirable effects in them: makes them spirited and heedless of bodily danger, and at the same time strong and enduring.”*

**Break Down:** in other words, there's a moral quality being endured in pain. They develop courage by being exposed to physical sports.

### **Anacharsis: <sup>ISEP</sup>Training- Harder than Competition**

“Further, we accustom them to running, both of the long distance and of the sprinting kind. And they have to run not on hard ground with a good footing, but in deep sand on which you can neither tread firmly nor get a good push off, the foot sinking in.”

**Break Down:** getting accustomed to running at young age, pain and endurance. Form of mental training too

### **Anacharsis' Criticism: <sup>ISEP</sup>Athletics ≠ War**

*Anarchasis:*

*"I see, Solon; when an enemy invades, you anoint yourselves with oil, dust yourselves over, and go forth sparring at them; then they of course cower before you and run away, afraid of getting a handful of your sand in their open mouths, or of your dancing round to get behind them, twining your legs tight round their bellies, and throttling them with your elbows rammed well in under their chin-pieces. It is true they will try the effect of arrows and javelins; but you are so sun-burnt and full-blooded, the missiles will hurt you no more than if you were statues; you are not chaff and husks; you will not be readily disposed of by the blows you get; much time and attention will be required before you at last, cut to pieces with deep wounds, have a few drops of blood extracted from you."*

**Break Down:** athletics is not the same thing as war Anacharsis says. Time for war, army is marching at you, what are you going to do try to box with them? Criticizing you aren't training for war. Athlete vs sword, no comparison there.

### Anacharsis: Theories of Energy- Conservation or Use. Depriving of water?

*Solon:*

*"I fancy you conceive of force as something similar to wine or water or liquid of some sort. You are afraid of its dribbling away in exercise as those might from an earthenware jar, and by its disappearance leaving the body, which is supposed to have no internal reserves, empty and dry."*

**Break Down:** Anacharsis doesn't like to exercise because he doesn't want to use up energy. Solon offers a separate theory of energy.

### Anacharsis: Fire- Greek Theory of Energy

*Solon:*

*"That is not the case; the greater the drain upon it in the course of exercise, the greater the supply; did you ever hear a story about the Hydra? cut off one of its heads, and two immediately sprang up in its place. No, it is the unexercised and fibreless, in whom no adequate store of material has ever been laid up, that will peak and pine under toil. There is a similar difference between a fire and a lamp; the same breath that kindles the former and soon excites it to greater heat will put out the latter, which is but ill provided to resist the blast."*

**Break Down:** air, your breath and stoke a fire but it can put out a candle. Those who exercise have more energy than those who don't. Solon has scientific basis to his claims.

## Lecture 20 – Athletes and Medicine

### Ancient Medicine and Athletics

- Naked with robe off. Jacked, has abs but also leaning on a cane.



Vase - Physician and Patient, 480-470 BCE, Louvre

### Ancient Greek Medicine

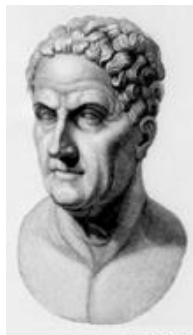
- Hippocrates of Cos – “The Father of Western Medicine;” Most famous ancient Greek doctor. 460-370 BCE.
- First major physician who attributed diseases primarily to natural causes rather than “the gods.”
- First to describe many diseases and medical conditions;
- Characterized illnesses as “acute, chronic, endemic, epidemic.”
- Hippocratic school of Medicine stressed importance of professionalism and discipline.
- “Hippocratic Oath”: Written after the death of Hippocrates

Example:

Beginning:

- I swear by Apollo the Healer, Asclepius, Hygeia, and Panacea, and I take to witness all the gods, all the goddesses....
- I will prescribe regimens for the good of my patients according to my ability and my judgments and never do harm to anyone.
- Hippocratic Corpus: combination of works of Hippocrates along with those that followed his work (no distinction is made). A lot of text contributed.

### Galen of Pergamon



Library of Congress

- 129-200/216 CE.
- Greek Physician, Surgeon, Philosopher in the Roman Empire. Most famous doctor of antiquity and only doctor to attempt to improve upon Hippocratic medicine.
- Galen's understanding of anatomy and medicine based on the theory of the humors.
  - (Sanguine, choleric, melancholic, phlegmatic)
  - Body has four humors, which vary in quantity in the body and
  - Determine levels of health and mental disposition.



- Galen's primary interest was in anatomy, but human dissection was banned from 150 CE onwards, so he used monkeys and pigs.
- In his work *De motu musculorum*, Galen explained the difference between motor and sensory nerves, discussed the concept of muscle tone, and explained the difference between agonists and antagonists.
- Major link between Medicine and Philosophy:

Example, title of one of his works: That the Best Physician is also a Philosopher.

- Intense opposition to Athletics coach (Gymnastikês):
- "Who knows the body better? The doctor or the coach?"
- You could not be a doctor without being a philosopher. Argument between coaches and team physician of what's best for the athlete.

### Galen's Protrepticus: <sup>SEP</sup>An exhortation to study the arts/skills

- Ancient Greek term: Technê
  - Skill, craft, form of expertise in knowledge of a given subject.

*Galen, Introduction to the Protrepticus:*

*"The crucial difference between animals and humans, is seen in the great variety of technai which this latter animal (human) performs, and from the fact that the human alone has the capacity for knowledge: he can learn whichever technai he wishes."*

**Break Down:** distinction that animals have certain skills and they are born in them. While humans can learn, they have greater capacity for knowledge so they can learn these skills.

### Tuchê vs. Technê<sup>SEP</sup> (Chance vs. Skill)

Tuchê – the blind helmswoman

“On a ship that is fiercely tossed by a storm and flooded by waves that threaten to sink her, you would be a fool to hand the rudder over to a blind person.”

“Those who follow Tuchê you will find to be idle and ignorant of technai; they are born by hopes, they run with the spirit as she runs, some near her and some further away...”

Break Down: why do you have a blind helmswoman as chance, why give yourself to chance? Galen refers to certain practices of trade for being being dedicated to chance, (stock market).

### Techne

- The other group is a band of fine humans: the practitioners of technai. They do not run, nor do they shout, nor fight each other. In their midst is the god, and about him they are all arranged in order.

**Break Down:** this god is Hermes god of technes, there's different ranks.

### Levels of Technê around “the god.”

Those nearest the god:

Geometers, mathematicians, philosophers, doctors, astronomers, and scholars.

2nd Level:

Painters, Sculptors, grammarians, carpenters, architects.

3rd level: All others forms of technai

### Skill (Technê) over Beauty

*Galen, Protrepticus:*

*“Beauty is not even useful for the acquisition of money, as some wretches maintain. All free, respectable, reliable money-making comes about by Technê.”*

*Galen quotes Odysseus says, Book 8. 169-73:*

*“That man might be more feeble of body, but when the god bestows on him words, all delight as they see him. Surely he speaks, And softly, with grace, and wins out among them. As he goes through the town they think him a god.”*

**Break Down:** idea of skill shouldn't be valued over all else. The idea of beauty, techne is more valuable than beauty. Odysseus gets insulted, Gods haven't given equal amounts of skill and beauty to people. Galen is using arguments the relative value of beauty in comparison to techne.

### A call to Technê, except Athletics (Gymnastikê)

“Come then, my children, you have heard my words: dedicate yourselves at once to Technê!

- **Break Down:** Argues against athletics. Galen suggests athletics is attractive because it is highly valued, but athletics isn't a valid form of knowledge. If Galen argues athletics isn't technê, then the assumption is majority of people think it is.

And you must guard against those charlatans who would deceive you by teaching “technai” which are useless or wicked.

“The only Technê that worries me is athletics (Gymnastikê). Athletics holds out the promise of strength, brings with it popular fame, and is rewarded by our elders with financial payments— as if the athletes were some kind of public heroes. There is a danger that it may deceive some young men into supposing it a Technê.”

### Earlier “Anti-Athletic” Traditions<sup>[1][2]</sup> In Greece

*A play by Euripides (480-406 BCE) Autolykos (lost play)*

*“Of every evil in this land of Greece, There is none worse than the tribe of athletes. First, they are ignorant of how to live, unable, too – for how could such a man, attain a living to support his life, [who is] The slave of his mouth, victim of his stomach? Yet ill prepared for chance and poverty, trained in bad habits from the first, such men are lost and helpless when they suffer change.”*

**Break Down:** Is offering two points of critique. Group of athletes are slaves to their belly's. Concern consumption for the sake of proving energy. When the exercise provides nothing. Second, their high regiment life can't deal with circumstance, and they are accustomed to a certain level of wealth. They don't adapt.

### Earlier “Anti-Athletic” Traditions<sup>[1][2]</sup> In Greece

*Athletics – Anti-War; Euripides says' Autolykos:*

*“What wrestler, or what man of nimble foot, What discus-thrower, striker of the jaw, Defends his city with his laurel crown?”*

*“Will they then fight the enemy so armed With discus, or will running on the shields Scatter the country's mortal enemies? None when he sees the iron close at hand will rave so.”*

**Break Down:** Euro suggest training for war is not the same as training athletics, no overlap. Anacharsis had a similar argument.

Which famous Greek athlete did “defend his city with his crown”?

- In Sparta, a king had an entourage of former Olympic victors They were valued.

### Galen's Attack of Athletics: <sup>[1][2]</sup>Anti-Intellectual

Galen:

*“Now that athletes have never, even in a dream, enjoyed the goods of the soul is clear to everyone. To begin with, they are unaware that they have a soul, so far are they from understanding its rational nature. Because they are always occupied in the business of amassing flesh and blood, their souls are as it were extinguished in a heap of mire, unable to contemplate anything clearly, mindless as beasts without reason.”*

**Break Down:** they don't have social skills. Brain versus brawn. Modern science says exercise there's a positive correlation. Two arguments, athletics is a distraction, and the other is exercise compliments. Galen argues against popular assumption, brain versus brawn, they believed there were some correlation. And Galen is arguing against this.

### The Excessiveness of Athletics

Hippocrates:

*The peak of good condition, which athletes pursue is “dangerous.” “Practice for health: moderation in food, confidence in labour.” (Epidemics vi. 4.18)*

Galen:

*Athletes overexert themselves, overfill themselves with food, and completely ignore the great man's advice (Hippocrates), just like drunken revellers. Hippocrates; prescription for the healthy life was: “Labour, food, drink, sleep, sex– moderation in all” (Epidemics vi. 6.2). These people daily exceed the proper measure.*

**Break Down:** whole aim of performance is to achieve peak. But health is all about moderation. Training to become the best athlete is not the same as being healthy. To be an athlete means to go beyond physical abilities. Which this is not healthy. Point of diminishing returns.

### There is nothing “healthy” about Athletics

Galen:

*“Athletics is not the cultivation of health, but of disease. And I think Hippocrates is of this opinion too, as shown by his statement: “The Athletic state is not natural; better the healthy condition.”*

.....

*A condition is a stable state, which is not readily changed; that of athletes is a peak, and is dangerous and liable to change.”*

**Break Down:** stable and flat condition versus peak. Meaning after peak there is a fall. Injury or degeneration of physical condition.

### The Afterlife of the Athlete

Galen:

*“Athletics admits of no improvement precisely because it is a peak, and, since it cannot remain the same, it is bound to succumb to deterioration. Such is the state of the practicing athlete’s body; when he gives up it is even worse.*

*Some die after a short time, some live for a little longer; but none actually reach old age. Or, if they do, they are as bad as Homer (said):*

*“Limping, all shrivelled up, deprived of sight.”*

*(Homer, Iliad 9.503)*

**Break Down:** athletes don’t live for very long. Argument that certain amount of exercise is good but excessive is just as bad as none at all.

### Early Aging in Greek Athletes?

- Athletes exercising on top half. And same athletes are on the bottom. Injured athletes. Depicts what happens to athletes after. Because they cant compete themselves, they get animals to do it for them.



Base of a Funerary Kouros, 510-500 BCE, National Museum of Athens

Book by Nate Jackson “Slow Getting Up”

Excerpt from "Slow Getting Up":

"People often asked me how bad it hurt to get hit by those huge dudes. The truth is that it doesn't hurt at all. The switch is on. I can't feel a thing."

"My body is a machine and my emotions are dead."

"But the years of abuse are taking their toll. Misaligned joints, stretched ligaments, bruised bones, overworked muscles, and a jangled brain keep pace with an ambitious football mind. One play at a time: one day at a time. My football mind is stronger than my human body."

**Break Down:** ability of the mind to overcome the body even though the body is getting injured. Speaks to basic problem of athletics.

### **No Pain No Gain?**

*Galen, Protrepticus:*

*"In terms of health of the body, then, it is clear that no other breed of men is as badly off as that of the athletes. One might, in fact surmise that athletes had been well named- from the word athlios – or that this word for 'miserable' had derived from the word 'athlete'- or perhaps that both take their name from a common source, the term athliotês, misery."*

**Break Down:** it is true that anyone that does athletics understands pain is a given. Galen is against the level of pain one endures. There is a fine line between this.

### **The Stupidity of Milo of Croton.**

GALEN:

"Milo's death bore witness to his stupidity. One day Milo saw a youth chopping wood lengthwise by the application of wedges. He laughed at the fellow and pushed him aside, reckoning to split it with his bare hands...In the end, failing to move quickly enough, Milo got his hands stuck as the two parts of the wood came together again. First of all, his hands were crushed; later they were the cause of Milo's won miserable end. Much good his lifting of the dead bull in the stadium did to prevent his suffering!"

**Break Down:** accuses athletes of being stupid. Milo died when he tried to split the trunk of a tree open with his hand. Then got ate by wolves. In the statue, the wolves was switched with lion Hercules. Intelligence and physical ability. Milo only had physical,



Milo of Croton, Puget 1682 CE, Louvre

## Two Types of Techné<sup>SEP</sup>: Mental vs. Manual

*Galen:*

*“There are the high technai which are associated with reason, and there are the less respected technai which are performed by bodily labour- the technai generally known as banausic or manual. The latter tends to give out when its practitioner reaches old age.”*

**BD:** Certain forms of expertise that depend on mind, and some depend on manual forms of techne like carpentry. People can keep the mind fresher longer, they can practice math longer. Unlike carpentry. Stating one should study techne of the mental. Designed to help the body flourish, so people should study medicine he says.

## Lecture – 20

### Philostratus' Gymnasticus<sup>SEP</sup>: The “Art of Athletics”

- Our only surviving handbook of Ancient Athletic Training.
- Written during the 3rd Century CE
- Philostratos, 172-250 CE

Part of the “Second Sophistic” Movement

- What is the First Sophistics? Gorgias, Critias and others, who performed declamations on abstract philosophical themes. “Make the Weaker Argument the Stronger.”
  - What you said was not as important as how you said it. Socrates and Plato associated with these sophistic figures.
- What is the “Second Sophistic”?
- Display of oratory beginning in 4th century BCE through the Roman imperial period.
- What you said was not as important as how you said it. Socrates and Plato associated with these sophistic figures.
  - Return to classical period. Some people don’t take this text literally. There is a basis for kinesiology in the text. Same time Philostratus making rhetorical comments about athletics.

### Galen’s Categories of Technai<sup>[SEP]</sup> (Valid Pursuits of Expertise)

Galen, Levels of Technai:

- Level 1: Those nearest the god: Geometers, mathematicians, philosophers, doctors, astronomers, and scholars.
- 2nd Level: Painters, Sculptors, grammarians, carpenters, architects.
- 3rd level: All others forms of technai
  - Athletics? “There is a danger that gymnastikê may deceive some young men into supposing it a Technê.”

Galen’s Arguments:

- a) Not healthy, but dangerous (Practice in excess rather than moderation)
  - b) Does not cultivate the mind (example: Milo)
  - c) Manual Technai, ones that depend on the body are not sustainable.
- Philostratus responds to this by stating athletics is a valid form of expertise and knowledge about the body.

### Introduction to Philostratus’ Gymnasticus<sup>[SEP]</sup> Not just Technê (Skill), but Sophia (knowledge)

*Distinction between Techne and Sophia. Philo responds to Galen:*

*“Let us consider sophia the following, namely philosophy, rhetoric, as well as an understanding of poetics, music, and geometry, and even astronomy, as long as it is within reason. But sophia is also the ordering of an army, and still also such things as all forms of medicine and painting and sculpture, including the forms of statues both as shaped stone and hollow iron. But concerning physical crafts, let technê be given to them also, a technê by which some instrument (or) object fulfills its purpose correctly. But still let sophia be reserved for those practices alone, which I have named. But concerning athletic training (gymnastikê), let us consider it a sophia less than no other technê, in so far as it has been established in treatises for those wishing to practice athletics.”*

**Break Down:** Philostratus reclassifies those Labour into Sophia. Athletics is both Sophia and techne.

## The Technê of Gymnastikê Between Trainer and Doctor

*Gymnasticus, 14:*

*“What should one know about gymnastikê? What else other than that it be considered a sophia composed from the crafts (technai) of medicine and paidotribikê, being more complete than the latter and a portion of the former.”*

**BD:** Gymnasticus is both a sophia and techne made up of two parts medicine and paidotribike. Medicine and gymnasticus are of the same practice according to Philostratus.

### Paidotribes?

- Greek literal translation: the one who wears out the child (i.e. through exercise).

Part of the staff in the Gymnasion:

- Gymnasiarchos – Leader of the Gymnasion (between 40 and 60 years old elected annually)
- Paidonomos – Decides who “graduates” Over 40 years old
- Didaskalos – Teacher
- Paidotribês – Physical Trainer
- Kitharistes – Kithara Player/Instructor



### The Gymnastês vs. paidotribês and iatros (Philostratus, Gymnasticus 14)

“However many wrestling moves there are, the paidotribês will demonstrate, establishing the right moments and the attacks and the distances and how one should guard oneself or overcome one who is guarding himself, but the gymnastês will also teach the athlete that which he does not yet know.” But to cleanse the bodily humours and to take away the excess and to soften the rigid and to fatten or change or soften them by heat, this constitutes sophia for the Gymnastês. Doctors stop diseases by injections or plasters, but the Gymnastês will restrain such things through regimen and massage.”

**BD:** Paidotribe teaches moves, Gymnastes teaches higher level of training and management of the body. Gymnastes has knowledge of medicine and physical exercise, their approach is a hellestic one

### The Hellanodikês vs. The Gymnastês: Evaluating the athlete

### *Gymnasticus, 25:*

*"A judge at Olympia or Delphi judges the child athlete based on certain criteria: if he has a tribe (phule) and fatherland, if he has a father and genos, if he is born from free parents and not a bastard, and above all if he is young and not beyond the age of a youth. But if he is strong or weak, if he is a drunkard, if he is a glutton, if he is brave or cowardly, they do not recognize, nor, if they should recognize it, they have no laws/custom that pertain to such matters, but is it necessary that the gymnastes know such things thoroughly, being a type of judge of nature (kritês phuseôs)"*

**BD:** the athlete is always under critical eye of the coach. Philostratus wants to say the coach has a power or capacity that is superior to the Olympic judges. Do they belong to the city of Greece? Determined through heritage. Olympic judges on superficial criteria. Do they have legit father? Age? But the coach must also be a judge and evaluate athletes of ethical concern. If the athlete is brave or a coward, does he drink too much? Calls the coach a judge of nature.



### Viewing Sculpture and Building Bodies: The Athlete as Copy or Model?

"The nature of the parts of the body [of the athlete] is to be observed in the following manner, as in sculpture: that the ankle correspond with the wrist, the forearm with the shin, and the arm matches with the thigh and the buttocks with the shoulder, the back be seen in relation to the stomach, and that the chest project similar to the area below the hip, and the head, being the benchmark of the whole, be commensurable with all of these."

**BD:** one should look at athlete as one looks at sculpture. Rather than the other way around. The principal of symmetry and proportion.

### Sculpture and Symmetria

*Galen says, quoting Polycleitus, De placitis Hippocratis et Platonis v. 448*

*"Beauty...lies in the proportion of its members: of finger, obviously to finger, of all the fingers to palm and wrist, of these to the forearm, of forearm to upper arm and of all to all, as it has been written in the Canon of Polycleitus."*

**BD:** Principal of perfect balance. Sculptors sculpted these figures using mathematics, not from looking at real life athletes.

Quintilian, Institutio Oratoria, 12.10.8:

For he (Polyclitus) added beauty to the human form beyond what is real (supra verum)



**Polycleitus, Doryphorus**

Why does Philostratus suggest that athletes be viewed in relation to an impossible physical standard represented in sculpture?

- Beauty of proportion does not base on mathematics

### **An example of ancient training science - The Tetrad -**

*Gymnasticus 47*

*“And let us consider the tetrad a cycle of four days, doing one thing on one day, and another on another. The first day prepares the athlete, the second increases intensity, the third relaxes, and the fourth mediates. The preparatory day involves short, intense exercise and quick movement rousing the athlete and preparing him for the coming hardship. The [day of] intense exercise is an inexorable test of stored strength of the athlete in his bodily state; the day of ease is movement regaining top form in a rational manner, the mediating day [teaches] how to escape one's opponent and how not to release one escaping.”*

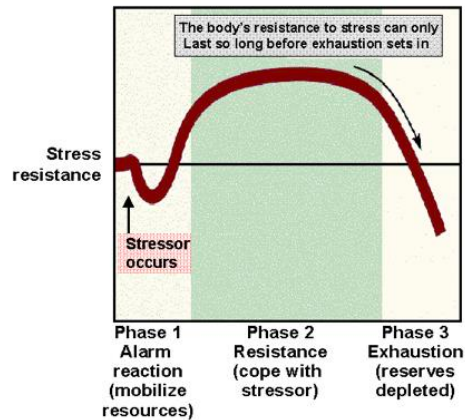
**BD:** Tetrad is a 4-day training cycle.

### **The Logic of the Tetrad? - General Adaptation Syndrome**

- First discovered by Austro-Canadian endocrinologist Hans Selye, between 1928-1956.

Theory of G.A.S.

- When subjected to stress, the body goes through three phases: alarm, reaction, exhaustion.
- Injected mice, biological marker improved after getting injected with poison. Cornerstone for training of athletes



### Periodization and the “Supercompensation Cycle”: Tetrad Cycle

Day 1. Preparation (short, intense) [causes athlete to enter alarm phase, And begins resistance phase of GAS]

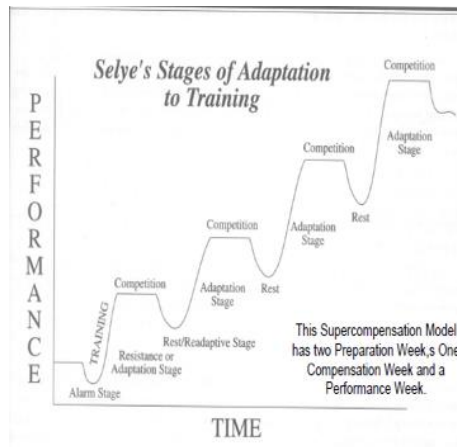
Day 2. Intensity (Long, intense) Testing the athlete’s capacity. [causes athlete to move from Resistance phase to exhaustion phase]

Day 3 Recovery [allows for recovery from exhaustion Phase]

κίνησις ἀκμὴν ξὺν λόγῳ ἀνακτωμένη

(Gym. 47 [K287.32-288.1]).

Day 4 Middle Day [establishes new base line of Performance work capacity greater than previous baseline.] Skill acquisition in a recovered state



### The Problem of the Tetrad <sup>L</sup><sub>SEP</sub> Gymnasticus 47

- Philostratus hates the Tetrad. Tetrad has modern scientific basis to it.

“No attention should be given to the Tetrads of the training experts (gymnastai), because of which all aspects of gymnastikê have been destroyed.”

**Problem:** Why does Philostratus dismiss a method of training that is well grounded in modern physiological science?

### The Problem of the Tetrad: The Death of Gerenus<sup>[1]</sup> Gymnasticus 54

- Gerenus won the ancient Olympics in wrestling
- After his victory, he drank, ate and partied for several days before returning to training

*Philostratus*

*“Coming into the gymnasium on the next day, he conceded to his coach that he was raw and badly disposed. But the coach was annoyed and listened with anger and, because the athlete relaxed and interrupted the tetrads, the coach was harsh with him until he killed him in his ignorance of training.”*

**BD:** tells coach he doesn't feel good. Coach tells him to stick to training program. And the athlete dies.

*Selye, The Stress of Life p.37*

*“If the body is confronted with an agent so damaging that continuous exposure to it is incompatible with life, then death ensues....”*

**BD:** Too much stress. Partying is a form of stress. Dehydration. Training is another form of stress.

– Selye, The Stress of Life p.37

What about the case of the coach killing the athlete with a strigil? Why is it okay to die for athletics in some cases and not in others?

### Yuri Brokhin, The Big Red Machine (1978)

*Victor Lonski, Track and field Honored Coach of the Soviet Union:*

*“Our athletes are dying young. I can mention facts, staggering facts; I can name names, cheered not so long ago in stadiums throughout the world. But the important thing isn't the name or any cheap sensationalism.”*

**BD:** athletes dying young.



**“USSR is a mighty sports power!” - 1962**

*Victor Lonski, Track and field Honored Coach of the Soviet Union:*

*“What’s important is that a well known weightlifter becomes a serious heart case as a young man, a famous runner is in need of constant treatment, and outstanding gymnast is dying at thirty three, and a renowned boxer has become an invalid. You won’t find anything about them in the press. But can their fate not help but force us to rethink our slogan ‘Sport is Health’?”*

**BD:** problem with tetrad is the coach adhering to the system too strictly. Instead of being flexible with the athletes.

#### **Training before the Judges:** SEP **Gymnasticus 54**

*“And those who are passionate about the Tetrads, how will they make use of them once they have come to Olympia...The Olympic judge trains not by prescription, but all things improvised at the right time (ἔπεσχεδιασμένα πάντα τῷ καιρῷ).*

**BD:** as soon as you get to Olympia they put you thru random tests, so your prescribed training goes thru the window.

*Philostratus, Lives of the Sophists 1.485*

*“The People of Athens came to this, being united because Leon wisely improvised at the right time.”*

#### **Kairos in Olympia**

- Kairos meaning timing

Pausanias, 5.14.9:

“Quite close to the entrance to the stadium are two altars; one they call the altar of Hermes of the Games (Enagonios), the other the altar of Kairos. I know that a hymn to Kairos is one of the poems of Ion of Chios; in the hymn Kairos is made out to be the youngest child of Zeus.”

### The Personification of Kairos

- Sculpture is speaking

*Posidippos. 142 A-B:*

*Who is the sculptor- The Sikyonian.*

*What is his name? Lysippos.*

*Who are you? Kairos- the all conquering.*

*Why do you stand on your toes?*

*I am always running.*

*Why do you hold a razor in your right hand? As a sign that I am sharper than any edge.*

*Why is there hair over your face? For one meeting me to seize it, by Zeus.*

*For what reason is the back of your head bald?*

*No one will grasp me from behind though desiring to, once I have run by with my winged feet.*

*Thus the artist made me for your sake stranger, and placed me at the gates as a lesson.*

**BD:** Holds a razor, and on the razor is a scale. Scale is balancing on the razor edge. Everything must be precise in timing. Long hair in the front of his face. The poem says if you're confronted in the right time, grab Kairos when it's in your face. And the back of his head bald because if you don't grab his hair in time, you lose the opportunity.



**Roman Relief, Turin, modeled on Lysippus sculpture**

## The “Kairotic Body”

*Bourdieu, Outline of a Theory of Practice, p.20 (1977)*

*“The pedagogy of Sophists, forced, in order to realize its aim, to produce systems of rules such as grammars or rhetorics, came up against the problem of the rules defining the right way and right moments—kairos— to apply the rules, or, as the phrase so aptly goes, to put into practice a repertoire of devices and techniques.*

**BD:** series of rules, and how and how you apply them cannot be taught. The body knows what to do but great athletes are ones who know when to apply them.

*Hawhee, Bodily Arts, p.148*

*“No system of knowledge can teach kairotic response; rather such response emerges out of repeated encounters with difference...”*

**BD:** Tetrad doesn't account for improvised timing. Coach realizes a certain training isn't correct for a specific time. And some coaches refuse to improvise which may cause harm to athletes.

## Victory and Violence, Sword or the Strigil?

*Philostratus, Gymnasticus 18:*

*“Some say that a coach at Olympia once killed his athlete with a sharp strigil, because he did not strive for victory (μη καρτερήσαντα ὑπὲρ τῆς νίκης).....So then, may the strigil serve as a sword against bad athletes and let the coach take precedence over the judges at Olympia.”*

**BD:** Coach praised by Philostratus for killing the athlete. athletes willing to die for the sake of victory. This is part of the problem. Dying in training is a waste, dying in competition is worth praise.

*Nagy, Pindar's Homer, page 122:*

*“More fundamentally, the combat in such instances [i.e. athletic festivals] is a kind of special ordeal— where you fight for your “life” or run for your “life” or struggle in whatever other form of competition for your “life”....[In Greek athletic festivals] one person “lives” by winning a ritual contest, while the one or ones who competed with this person “die” by losing.”*

**BD:** loss itself is a virtual death which may have real life implications.



### A Desire for Death?

*Philostratus, Gymnasticus 21, Arrichion*

*And then there is Arrichion, the pancratist, who had already won two Olympic victories. When he was contending for the crown as a third Olympic victory to add to these and was growing weary, Eruxias the coach inspired in him a desire for death (erôs thanatou), shouting from outside the ring how beautiful (kalon) it would be that his epitaph say that he did not give up at Olympia.*

**BD:** Coach is aspiring Arrichion to push past his limits. Pushing him to the point of death for the sake of victory.

*Vernant, "A Beautiful Death":*

*Vernant, Mortals and Immortals (1991), p.51*

*"Through a beautiful death, excellence no longer has to be continually measured against someone else or tested in combat. Rather excellence is actualized all at once and forever in a deed that puts an end to the hero's life."*

**BD:** if there is a peak of an athlete's performance, and he dies, then there is so downfall. Only peak. Tetrads bad because they are systematic.

Do modern athletes' possess a "desire for death"?

### Goldman's Dilemma:

Robert Goldman; Ronald Klatz (1992). *Death in the locker room: drugs & sports* p. 24

*"If I had a magic drug that was so fantastic that if you took it once you would win every competition you would enter from the Olympic Decathlon to the Mr. Universe for the next five years but it had one minor drawback, it would kill you five years after you took it, would you still take the drug?"*

**BD:** majority of athletes said yes. They would take the drug. Athletes are so willing to pursue victory in the consequence of death. The idea of limitless performance.

### Philostratus' Solution to the Athletic Paradox: SEP Kairotic Training as Sophia

*Gymnasticus 54: Philostratus says:*

*"So much for the Tetrads, and if we follow the advice I have given, we will demonstrate that athletics (γυμναστική) is a form of knowledge(σοφία), and we will strengthen athletes and the stadiums will grow young (ἀνηβήσει) from training well.*

**BD:** too much stress to the body will kill you. A certain amount of stress is good. Kairos is the solution. More flexible form of knowledge, improvisation. More like musical performance. Instead of treating like military camp. A return of golden era of athletics.

### Embodying the Greek Past

*Gymnasticus 1*

*"For the old athletic training used to make Milos and Hippotheneses, and Pouludamases, and Promachoses and Glaukos son of Demulos, and also athletes before them, Peleus and Theseus and Herakles himself. And athletic training in the time of our fathers knew lesser men, but still amazing and worthy of recollection. But the training that has been established now has harmed the affairs of athletes so much that many are burdened by those who take delight in athletics."*

**BD:** we are going through a period of dis evolution. Past is superior to the present. Re introduce past culture to embody this in the present. When we are competing. We are competing with our fathers and previous generous just as much as our future generations. This is what philostratus is arguing for in Gymnasticus.

### Philostratus' Gymnasticus

- Why pursue Ancient Athletics as a Sophia a form of knowledge, and not just as a technê
- Why Attempt to imitate the impossible ideal of ancient Greek sculpture?

Answer: Nostalgia

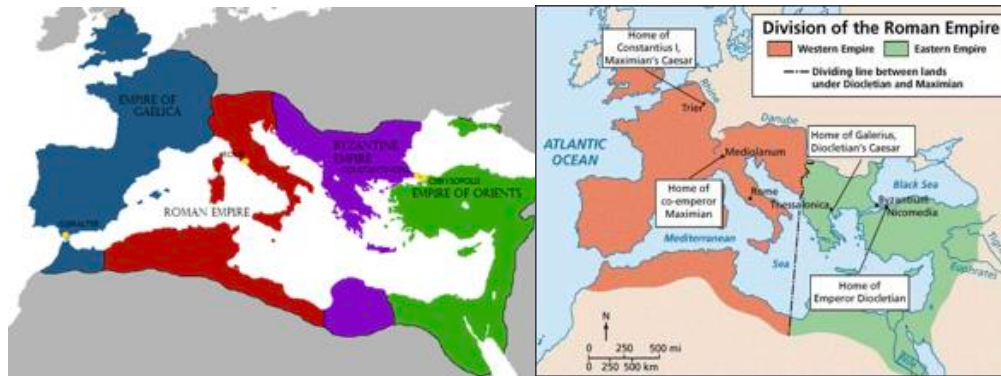
- Desire for a return to the past. Return to an idealized Greek past which was lost during the roman era. We think the greeks were superior, we idealize them and this is what Philostratus is doing. Comparing past to present which is always present in discussions.

Greek nostos = Return

## Lecture 21 – End of Ancient Athletics

### Roman Empire: 3rd Century CE

- 235-284 CE = “Crisis of the Third Century”
- 25 different emperors ruled Rome (“soldier emperors”)
- Diocletian gains power as Emperor, reigned 284-305 CE
- Appointed co-emperor, Maximian in 285 CE (position of “augustus”),
- plus two “junior co-emperors” (position of “caesar”) in 293 CE: Calerius and Constantius
  - No longer rule by emperor but rule by Tetrarchy. Empire getting too big for one emperor to handle. Split between western and eastern empire.
- Tetrarchy: Each emperor, co-emperor and junior emperor ruled over 1/4th of the Empire



### Roman Empire and Christianity, 4th Century

- During Diocletian's reign= most severe persecution of Christians.
  - 303 CE “Edict Against the Christians”: destruction of Christian scriptures and places of worship across the empire, and prohibited Christians from assembling for worship.
- 313 CE Two Emperors, Constantine (East), Licinius (West) create the “Edict of Milan” to end persecution of Christians.
- Constantine became sole Ruler of Eastern and Western Empires in 325 CE
- Christianity becomes the dominant Religion of the Roman Empire, and Constantine officially converts to Christianity. (Constantine is the First Christian Emperor of Rome)
- Constantine moves the capital of the “Roman” Empire to the Greek city of “Byzantium” and renames it “Constantinople” (Present day Istanbul)
- Christians enjoyed going to Roman spectacles.



Emperor Constantine

### How do you reconcile Early Christianity with Roman Spectacle?

- Roman Spectacle was a major venue for Christian persecution; Damnatio ad Bestias
  - Persecution began in 1st century CE with Nero.
    - Tunica Molesta, people wrapped in animal skins thrown to dogs.
    - Persecution moved to Arena, where punishment of Christians was equivalent to the worst criminal offenders.
    - Context to martyrs

*Example: Ignatius of Antioch (107 CE) "Letter to the Romans":*

*"I am writing to all the Churches and I enjoin all, that I am dying willingly..., if only you do not prevent it. I beg you, do not do me an untimely kindness. Allow me to be eaten by the beasts.."*

BD: Part of suffering in the Christian religion with imitation through martyrdom.



## Ignatius of Antioch

### How does Early Christianity reconcile with Roman Spectacle?

- Tertulian, 2nd century CE Christian author, De Spectaculis (“On Spectacles” or Why Christians should not attend spectacles).
  - “The entire apparatus of the spectacles originates from idolatry.”
  - “No one ever approaches a pleasure such as this without passion; no one experiences this passion without its damaging effects.”
- Convince Christians not to enjoy or participate spectacles. The pleasure one derives from watching violence. This blood lust that has developed even though they don’t participate, they are watching it. And it has its effects. It will make you guilty in the same way you are committing the act. Damage to ones psyche. One enjoyed it, watching violence, they should avoid it all together.
- Ancient Olympic Games and other athletic events were, fundamentally, **Religious Festivals**
  - Olympics, Nemean Games – for Zeus; Isthmian Games for Poseidon; Pythian Games for Apollo.
  - If you watched or participated in Olympics, you were part of someone else's religious practice.
- Not only were they in honor of “pagan” gods; i.e. polytheistic; but Athletics was itself a religious practice in imitation of Anthropomorphic Gods with “Superbodies”
- Ancient Athletics seems fundamentally against early Christian sentiments of “asceticism”: i.e. renunciation of “worldly flesh.”
  - Idea of contrast between ones soul and body. Christian put themselves as the sacrifice, complete opposite of the Greek.

#### *Tertulian, On Spectacles (18):*

*“Strength which is harmful or useless will never please you, and neither will body-building that goes beyond God’s creation...And wrestling is the work of the devil: he was the first to strike at men. He has the moves of a snake, he is tenacious at holding on, good at twisting and binding up, but fluid at slipping away.”*

**BD:** problem with wrestling and physical activity. What is the point of being strong? It is to inflict physical harm, now this is not part of Christian identity. God created humans, why would you want to enhance the body beyond god given body. Wrestling is synonymous with the devil's work. Anti christian. Athletics should be considered anti christian.



### Athletics as Positive Metaphor in Early Christianity

*Apostle Paul- writing in the first century CE: (I Corinthians 9: 24-7)*

*“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that is imperishable. Therefore, I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”*

**BD:** effort and struggle and pain, ability to endure pain as a model to all Christians. Paul referencing running for a prize, but only one person wins the prize. Christianity is like a race, but the prize is heaven. And anyone who participates gets the prize.

Aesthetic practices. Competing against yourself. Being tough on oneself is part of athletic training as being a Christian. Athletics opposed but used by Christian authors.

### Athletics as Positive Metaphor in Early Christianity

*John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople (4th Century CE) (Homilies on Matthew 33.7)*

*Ought we not every day to wrestle and fight and run? Do you not see those that are called pentathletes, when they have no antagonists, how they fill a sack with much sand, and hang it up and try their full strength on it? And they that are still younger practice the fight against their enemies upon their companions. These you must also emulate and practice the wrestling moves of philosophy. For indeed there are many that provoke to anger, and incite to lust, and kindle a great flame. Stand therefore against your passions, bear nobly pains in the mind [dianoia] in order to endure also those of the body [sōma].*

**BD:** athletics is the work of Satan. It is hostile to Christianity. Although it works as a great metaphor. Competing training and practicing. Something you can learn from these athletes. Idea that the mind and body is connected. Endurance and ability to suffer is the idea of christianity.

### Games Continued, even after Christianity became the popular religion of the Empire.

Question: Would games (Greek and Roman) change to accommodate Christian Doctrine or did Christians learn to accommodate the games?

Christian spectators or the games itself changed? Answer is both changed.

### **Religious Dimension and adaptation of Ancient Athletics: Intolerance of Polytheistic Worship**

- Constantine orders all gold, silver, and other precious metal to be removed from “pagan temples.” Destruction of religious roman worship.

*Eusebius, Life of Constantine, III.54*

*“Lastly, whatever part of the material appeared valuable they scraped off and melted in the fire to prove its worth, after which they secured and set apart whatever they judged needful for their purpose, leaving to the superstitious worshipers that which was altogether useless, as a memorial of their shame.”*

**BD:** transfer of value regarding religious sentiment. Stripped from original religious context.

### **394/393 CE: Popular Date for end of the Olympics (USUALLY THE DATE)**

How do we know?

*Credenus, Byzantine Historian, writing in the 11th century CE (What does he actually say):*

*“Then the festival of the Olympics ceased, which it was customary to celebrate at the end of every fourth year. [P327A] It was instituted at the time when Manasses was king.. and continued until the reign of Theodosius. ...”*

*“Likewise Theodosius overturned all the temples of the fictitious ‘gods’, which Constantine the Great ordered <XXXXX>. He died at Milan aged 60 from illness, after reigning 16 years, leaving two sons.”*

**BD:** Olympic festival ended with the death of Theodosius. Emperor Theodosius died in 394 CE, but it does not say that Theodosius ended the Games, only that they “ceased.”

### **Further attacks against Polytheistic Worship**

*Proclamation of 408 CE (Under Theodosius II):*

*“If any images stand even now in the temples and shrines, and if they have received, or do now receive, the worship of the pagans anywhere, they shall be torn from their foundations, since we recognize that this regulation has been very often decreed by repeated sanctions. The buildings themselves of the temples which are situated in cities or towns or outside the towns shall be vindicated to public use. Altars shall be destroyed in all places, and all temples situated in our landholdings shall be transferred to suitable uses. The proprietors shall be compelled to destroy them.”*

**BD:** polytheistic was continuing. Back and forth fighting. Polytheistic was part of athletics worship.

### **But do the Games go on without Zeus?**

*Proclamation in 399 CE (Theodosian Code 16.10.17):*

*“Just as we have already abolished profane rites by a salutary law, so we do not allow the festal assemblies of citizens and the common pleasure of all to be abolished.*

*Hence we decree that, according to ancient custom, amusements be furnished to the people, but without any sacrifice or any accursed superstition, and they shall be allowed to attend festal banquets, whenever public desires so demand.”*

**BD:** Yes, the games go on without Zeus. We will abolish the religion part but not the common pleasures of Olympics. People still want to gather and participate in sports. Simply means that all religious aspects of festivals stop but the core assembly gathering and sport competition continues.

### **What happened to Zeus?** SEP **Moved to Constantinople**

*From Cedrenus (Byzantine historian):*

*“In the [palace] of Lausus was ... the image of Athena of Lindos, of emerald stone, four feet high....which was originally given by Sesostris, tyrant of Egypt, as a gift to Cleobulus, the tyrant of Lindos. And the Aphrodite of Cnidos, from white stone, nude, hand over the pudenda, the work of Praxiteles of Cnidos. And the Hera of Samos, the work of Lysippus and Bupalos of Chios. ... And the ivory Zeus of Phidias, which Pericles dedicated in the Olympic temple.”*

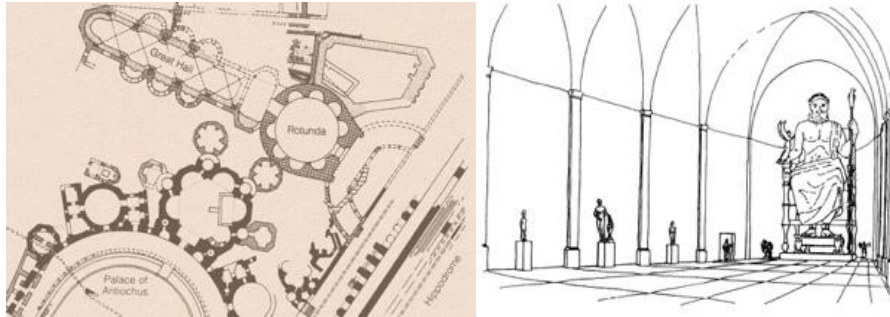
**BD:** figure Lausus, in his palace, major statues all moved to Palace of Lausus. He became a collector



**Phidias's Zeus at Olympia 430-422 BCE**

### Palace of Lausus, Constantinople

- Becomes first Museum. Decontextualize of religion for art
- Lausus: Eunuch at the court of Theodosius II
  - Theodosius reigned 408-450 CE; Lausus named "guardian of our godly and religious empire"
  - Lausus collected "art" i.e. religious statues from Greek temples for his private collection.
  - The Palace of Lausus burned down and Statue of Zeus from Olympia was destroyed



### Alternative End Date for the Olympics

450 CE (Death of Theodosius II) (Scholia to Lucian)

“And the Olympics endured in first place down from the judges of the Hebrews until Theodosius the Younger. For a fire having broken out in the temple of Olympia, the assembly of the Eleians abandoned it.”

BD: assemblies were happening normally up 450 CE until there was a fire.



**Olympia threatened again, Fire 2007**

### Christianity at Olympia

- Evidence that this was the site of Pheidias because of the single bowl/ cup.



**Byzantine Church on site of Pheidias' Workshop**

### **Earthquakes at Olympia: 522, and 551 CE**

- 5ft. Function of earthquake. Entire thing collapsed. Then Olympia was finally abandoned.



**Fallen Pillars at Temple of Olympian Zeus**

### **Continuation of Roman Spectacle?**

- During the Fifth Century CE (400's), the Circus (Chariot Races) increased in popularity
- Gladiatorial Games decreased in popularity. Based on murder and violence. Christian official roman religion
- Greek Style Athletic events incorporated into Chariot Racing:

- Oxyrhynchus Papyrus 2707:
  - First Race; Procession and Singing Rope Dancers (?);
  - Second Race; Singing Rope Dancers
  - Third Race; Dogs chasing gazelle
  - Fourth Race; Mimes
  - Fifth Race; Athletes
  - Sixth Race.

### **Empire Wide State-Sponsored Factions**

- Factions from Roman Circus Maximus spread to other major cities of the Empire, especially Constantinople.
  - Chariot racing became statewide sponsored event
- Private Contractors for public spectacle became civil servants. (I.e. factions no longer private business).
- 426 CE: Treasure Official in Constantinople in charge of festivals and horses
- 465 CE: presidency of major provincial games transferred to imperial officials.

### **Famous Byzantine Charioteer: Porphyrius**

- Born in 480 CE in Libya, raised in Constantinople.
- First Charioteer to have victory monument erected for himself, while still living.
- Abused his popularity (for politics?):
- 507 CE: Slaughter of Antioch: Lead the Greens to a synagogue and slaughtered many of the worshippers. (Why?) Not sure
- 515 CE: With the Greens he prevented a riot against the Emperor Anastasius. He had a lot of influence.



**Victory monument for Porphyrius**

### Chariot Racing in Constantinople

- Because Chariot Racing was linked to Imperial Power, the Church did not attack chariot racing.
- Hippodrome of Constantinople: Symbol of Roman Empire:

Tripod of Platea from Delphi; Obelisk of Thutmosis III

(Luxor); Seven Statues of Porphyrius

- Hippodrome at Constantinople remained in use until the “Sack of Constantinople” in 4th crusade of 1204 CE.



**Ruins of the Hippodrome in Constantinople, Engraving from 1600**

### Long End of an Era

- Did Christianity End Ancient Sport and Spectacle?
  - Christianity was not the primary cause for the end of the olympics. They adopted the language of sport.
- No real official date for “end of Olympics”
  - Sometime between 394 and 450 CE. Slowly ended
  - Olympia ceased to be a “sanctuary of Zeus”
  - Olympia was ultimately abandoned after earthquakes of 522 and 551 CE
- During the Byzantine Empire, Gladiatorial Games fell out of Popularity.
- Circus (Chariot Racing) became an Imperially Sponsored event and continued until 1204 CE (Crusades).

### Lecture 22 – The Olympic Revival

#### Greek War for Independence, 1821-1833

- War waged by Greek Revolutionaries in order for Greece to gain independence from the Ottoman Empire.
- Greece was aided by Russia, United Kingdom, France, and others.

- Greek War of Independence facilitated
- Promoted a concept of Philhellenism: “Love of Greece”
- Back then Greece was considered foundation of European and western civilization because of the introduction of democracy and politics. War of independence is europe to get behind greece in their own struggle
- 2021 Greece is celebrating independence



**Battle of the Greek War of Independence by Georg Perlberg**

### Philhellenism

- Many European and North American Aristocrats took up arms in the war for independence.
- Example:

*Lord Byron, English Poet from Romantic Movement (1788-1824)*

*Poem, “Isles of Greece”:*

*“Must we but weep o'er days more blest? Must we but blush? – Our fathers bled Earth! render back from out thy breast a remnant of our Spartan dead! Of the three hundred grant but three to make a new Thermopylae.”*

**BD:** suggesting war for independence, we need 3 ancient Spartans. Mapping it onto the modern struggle, ancient past onto the present which will inspire the modern olympic movement as well.



## Byron at the Parthenon

### First Calls for Olympic Revival: Panagiotis Soutsos

- Panagiotis Soutsos, Poet and Reporter.
- 1833 Poem: Dialogue of the Dead.
  - Ghost of ancient Greek path coming to life speaking about greeks past

Plato: "Where are all your theaters and marble statues? Where are your Olympic Games?"

1833, Ruins of Sparta

**BD:** making everybody aware of the historical past which needs to be emulated in the present.

*Leonidas:*

*"you have matched us ancients in bravery of battle. Now match the old times in education and culture. Bring back to your land the days of Miltiades and Themistocles. Bring back the glorious days of Pericles.. And let the only contests that you have be those national games, the Olympics, to which the olive branch once summoned the sons of Greece in ancient times."*

**BD:** after Greek war of independence. The modern Greeks have now matched the ancient Greeks in. Athletic competition, Leonidas says bring back the Olympic games. Primary calls to bring back the Olympics in modern history.

*Leonidas:*

*"1851, Another call for Olympics by Panagiotis: "England has made its influence known on the two hemispheres through its industrial expositions. Greece happens to have no power for that competition. But if Greece would reestablish the Olympic Games...then the peoples of the world would respect Greece."*

**BD:** classic problem. Time. Soutsos claims Greece has entered the world stage for independence but it doesn't have enough recognition. Cannot compete with England as powerhouse because England has taken up the industrial evolution. But there are other ways to compete for recognition. Through pursuit of cultural practices. What Greece is known for could be cultural powers instead of economic.

### The Zappas Olympics (1859-1875)

- Evangelos Zappas (1800-1865)
  - Albanian of Greek Descent, business man
  - Hero in Greek War for Independence
  - 1831, earned his fortune in land and agriculture in Romania.
- Inspired by Soutsos, Zappas offered to completely fund the revival of Olympic Games (including cost of facilities and prizes).

- Initial Rejection by Rangavis (Greek foreign minister), “Today, nations do not become distinguished by having the best athletes and runners, but the champions in industry, handiwork, and agriculture.”
- **BD:** Only way to become famous/time is through real capital. Be champions in industry. Real focus on Labour. Not sports. Currently in 2021 sports are just as important. The complete opposite happened.
- Zappas Persists...  
Zappas Olympics of 1859: First Official revival of Olympic Games not in 1896 by the IOC
- 1870, Second Zappas Olympics: in restored Panathenaic Stadium in Athens.
- Third Zappas of Olympics of 1875: Controversy, only “University Students” i.e. Upper class (at the time) allowed to participate. Myth of amateurism. University students were wealthy. Prevented the lower class from participating. Olympics for Greeks put on by Greeks. Increasing their own symbolic status.

### Olympic Inspiration in England

- William Penny Brookes, Dr. in Wenlock England
- 1850 established local “Olympian Class”:
  - Olympic inspired event. Including all working class.

*“for the promotion of the moral, physical and intellectual improvement of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood of Wenlock and especially of the working classes, by the encouragement of outdoor recreation, and by the award of prizes annually at public meetings for skill in Athletic exercise and proficiency in Intellectual and industrial attainments”.*

**BD:** idea of improvement in moral and physical through competition. Leading to self-improvement. Idea of Olympics was the best way to introduce this notion. Sport was more part of aristocrats.

**First Games of the “Olympian Class” held in 1850.**



### Olympic Revival and Internationalization

- 1858 Brookes reads about revival of Olympic Games in Greece, inspired by Soutsos and Zappas.
- Brookes writes to the British Ambassador in Athens, suggesting that Greeks adopt his program of events (they did not).
  - This begins international communication on revival of Olympics
- 1865 Brookes establishes International Olympian Association in Liverpool (But only English competed)
- 1866 London “Olympics”: minor success
  - Protests due to “professionals” participating, i.e. working class. --> (Origins of rule for participation of Amateur Athletes). Compete in sport for the love of the sport, not for money. Justifying not competing for money since the Greek didn't. If you lose and you are wealthy, then you are losing your status. Now if you are working class and you want to participate, you also need to put food on the table.
  - Similar ban on non-aristocrats in Greek Olympics of 1875.
- 1880, Brookes formally proposes International Olympics:
- Athletes of various nations “contending in a generous rivalry with athletes of other nations in the time-consecrated stadium at Athens”
- **BD:** Zappas designed so the world would recognize Greece making them part of the known powerhouses. But Brookes wants to make it international. Taking away some of Greece's significance.

### **Pierre De Coubertin and “Physical Education”**

- Primarily interested in Pedagogy (education)
- In 1883 he visited England to study the Physical Education Programs of England.
- When viewing the playing fields of England, he noted: “organized sport can create moral and social strength.”
  - Saw organized sport as primary means. Sport extremely important.
- 1888, Coubertin visited Brookes, but did not support the Olympic Revival.
  - “There was no need to invoke memories of Greece”
    - Did not appreciate the ancient greek culture and what that can do for sport. And changes his mind quickly, by focusing on Greek culture to introduce sport.



## Pierre de Coubertin 1863-1937

### Coubertin and Olympic Revival

- 1892, Coubertin does call for a revival of the Olympic Games.
  - Clearly had a change in mood from 1888 to 1892. Jumped on the bandwagon for the calling of revival of Olympic Games.
- 1894, Congress of Paris, framed as a call for reform:

“Human imperfection tends to always transform the Olympian athlete into a circus gladiator. One must choose between two athletic methods which are not compatible. To defend oneself against the spirit of lucre and professionalism which threatens to invade them, the Amateurs have created complicated legislation full of compromises and contradictions.”

**BD:** Making an ancient distinction between ancient athlete and gladiator. One competes without monetary exchange; circus gladiators are slaves. Aristocrat and working class. He saw two different historical trends, amateurism and Olympic. Bring together two operating trends

### Decisions of the 1894 Congress of Paris:

- Creation of International Olympic Committee
- Argumentation on where the Olympics should take place. Coubertin proposes Paris 1900 for the first Olympic Games
- Decision for London 1896 (Coubertin opposes and supports Athens)
  - Takeaway first Olympics taking place in London. Athens was the 3<sup>rd</sup> choice. No need to have separate Olympic committee. Robbed Greece of firepower.
- Final decision: Athens 1896 for first official Olympic Games.
- Demetrios Vikelas of Greece elected first president of IOC.



Some Members of 1894 Congress of Paris

### The First Modern Olympics: <sup>1896</sup> Athens Greece 1896

- Greece center stage
- Held April 6th (March 25 in Julian Calendar), Greek Day of Independence) until April 12<sup>th</sup>
- 80,000 in attendance

- Opening Ceremonies in newly renovated Panathenaic Stadium
  - Original location of Ancient Panathenaic Stadion
  - first excavated and re-built for 1870, 1875 Zappas Olympics.
  - refurbished a second time in 1895 for IOC Olympics. Zappas part of pre history



Panathenaic Stadium today

### The First Modern Olympics: <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> Athens Greece 1896

- 14 Countries Competed (Canada did not compete)
- Competition in 9 Sports:
  - Athletics (12 events) Track and Field
  - Cycling (6 Events)
  - Fencing (3 Events)
  - Gymnastics (8 events)
  - Shooting (5 events)
  - Swimming (4 events)
  - Tennis (2 Events)
  - Weightlifting (2 events)
  - Wrestling (1 event)



## Map of Participating Countries

### “Athletics” at the 1896 Olympics

#### Most Notable Men’s Athletic Event:

- Men’s Marathon (From Marathon to Athens)
- Introduced by Michel Bréal
- Inspired by Robert Browning’s poem, Pheidippides.

#### Ancient Greek Tradition:

- Pheidippides ran from Athens to Sparta to announce victory of Marathon (150 miles)[Herodotus]
- Thersippus or Eucles ran from Marathon to Athens,

“Rejoice! We are victorious!” (Chairete, Nikômen). And then right away breathed his last breath.

- Winner Spyridon Louis, Greek Water Carrier by profession. Major Victory and Symbol of Greek Identity and “Freedom”
  - Crowning moments in early Greek sporting history
- Another runner Spyridon Belokas (3rd place finisher)- disqualified for travelling part of the course by carriage. Cheating was done in this race but it doesn't takeaway the victory



**Spyridon Louis, 1873-1940**



**Marathoners on the road To Athens**

### Spyridon Louis- “Mental Training”

*Pierre de Coubertin’s report of Spiridon Louis’ victory:*

*“Spiridon Louis was a magnificent peasant dressed in the popular kilt and quite unfamiliar with the finer points of scientific training or in fact the modern notion of training at all. He prepared himself for the event by fasting and prayer, and it was said, spent the night before the race praying by the light of candles in front of icons. His victory was magnificent in its brilliance and simplicity. ..I shall never forget the scene and it left me convinced that psychic forces play a much more active role in sport than is generally believed.”*

**BD:** the powers of the mind over the body



### **An Unacknowledged Female Athlete**

- Women were not allowed to compete in the 1896 Olympics
- On April 11th, day after the official Marathon:
- Stamata Revithi ran the Marathon course (5 hours and 30 minutes)
  - She was prevented from entering the Panathenaic Stadium.
  - She had witnesses that verified and signed for her start and stop times in order to present documentation so that the Hellenic Olympic Committee would acknowledge her achievement.
- Violet Percy (UK) – First female to officially compete in a timed marathon in 1926 (3 hours and 40 minutes)
- Women not part of the official Olympic Marathon until 1984 Los Angeles Olympics – Joan Benoit (USA) wins ; 2 hours, 24 minutes)
- **BD:** In the first Olympics women are prevented even though they try. People never train for a marathon in their life, there's no known way of training for it. Politics getting in the way of physical process. Took 100 years for policy to catch up.

### **“Athletics” at the 1896 Olympics<sup>SEP</sup> (Track and Field)**

- Track Events: 100m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 110 hurdles

- Field events: Long Jump, Triple Jump, High Jump, Pole Vault, Shot Put, Discus Throw.

#### Discus Throw:

- First ever International Competition in Discus
- Robert Garrett (USA, Princeton Student) – 1st place
- (Trained with 10kg discuss and gave up b/c it was too heavy)
- Entered the competition when he discovered that competition discus was only 2kg. He won despite the lack of grace in his performance



**Thomas Burke, USA 1st Place (2nd from left) 100 meters**



**Robert Garrett**

#### Other Events at the 1896 Olympics

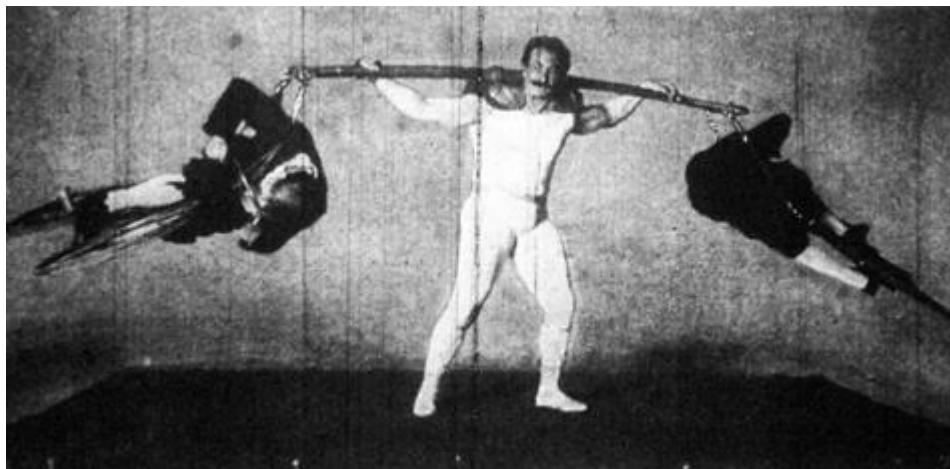
- An Exception to principle of Amateurism: Fencing
- Professionals allowed to compete in separate event;
- Why? Coubertin: "Professors of Military Fencing hold the rank of officers."
- i.e. They are still upper-class aristocrats.
  - Lower-class competing not for money, but otherwise. We don't want people of upper-class competing with lower-class. Alexander the Great didn't compete because if he competed and he lost, the winner would get boasting rights. But if he won, it was expected.



**Fencing at the Zappeion In Athens**

### **Other Events at the 1896 Olympics**

- Gymnastics- Dominated by Germany (11 man team) History of German military
- Swimming- took place in Bay of Zea (off Piraeus)
- Tennis
- Wrestling
- Weightlifting: Launceton Elliot (England) wins the one-handed lift; (71 kg = 156 pounds)
- 2 hand lift: Vigo Jensen (Denmark) and Launceton Elliot tie (111.5 kg = 245lbs)



**Launceton Elliot as professional Strongman**

### **The Medal Ceremony of 1896 Olympics**

- Victors did not receive Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals
- International Olympic Committee retroactively awarded Gold, Silver and Bronze to winners of 1896 Olympics for the sake of consistency.
- 1896 Victors received Silver Medal, Olive Branch, and Diploma;

- 1896 2nd place: Copper Medal, Laurel Branch, and Diploma
- Medals: Zeus holding Nike, goddess of Victory; imitation/recreation of Zeus at Olympia.  
reverse side: Athenian Acropolis



### Pierre De Coubertin Closing Thoughts on the Games: From Panhellenism to Internationalism

*1897, Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine:*

*"The Olympic Games which recently took place in Athens were modern in character, not only because of their programs, which substituted bicycle for chariot races and fencing for the brutalities of pugilism, but because in their origin and regulations they were international and universal, and consequently adapted to the conditions in which athletics have developed to the present day."*

**BD:** Olympics brought all of Greece together, and now there's something that brings the entire world together. Why aren't these simply about Greece? The world is now international, and should be spread beyond the borders of Greece.

### Pierre De Coubertin Closing Thoughts on the Games:

*"On the world at large the Olympic Games have, of course, exerted no influence as yet; but I am profoundly convinced that they will do so. May I be permitted to say that this was my reason for founding them?"*

*"Modern athletics need to be unified and purified....Every country has its own rules; it is not even possible to come to an agreement as to who is an amateur, and who is not...."*

*It is my belief that no education, particularly in democratic times, can be good and complete without the aid of athletics; but athletics, in order to play their proper educational role, must be based on perfect disinterestedness and sentiment of honor."*

**BD:** claiming the Olympics are not that vital. Relatively irrelevant. Felt the need to create an idea of an international stage. Sport become a median for countries to connect with one another besides politics.

## Why Ancient Greece as inspiration for modern Physical Culture?

*Pierre de Coubertin, Müller, Olympism, p.202*

*“It was Hellenism above all else, that advocated measure and proper proportion, co-creators of beauty, grace, and strength. We must return to these Greek concepts to offset the appalling ugliness of the industrial age through which we have just lived.”*

**BD:** ancient Greece became the poster child for sport. Ancient Greece philosophy of beauty. Symmetry. Ancient Olympics is an antidote to industrial revolution. Athletics separate from these economic modes. Disconnected from mechanization of humans.



**Sächsische Maschinenfabrik in Chemnitz Germany 1968**



**Panathenaic Amphora, 520 BC**

## **Olympism: SEPA Modern Religion of the Body**

- Transform Olympics into a type of religion.

*Coubertin, The Philosophic Foundation of Modern Olympism, 1935*

*“The primary, fundamental characteristic of ancient Olympism, and of modern Olympism as well, is that it is a religion. By chiseling his body through exercise as a sculptor does a statue, the ancient athlete “honored the gods”. In doing likewise, the modern athlete honors his country, his race, and his flag. Therefore, I believe that I was right to restore, from the very beginning of modern*

*Olympism, a religious sentiment transformed and expanded by the internationalism and democracy that are distinguishing features of our day. Yet this is the same religious sentiment that led the young Hellenes, eager for the victory of their muscles, to the foot of the altars of Zeus."*

**BD:** idea of imitation that athletes should imitate sculptor. Athlete works on body like sculptor on the statue. Wants to have modern Olympics can be the foundation of a new religion. Athlete honors country, race and flag. Political religion. Can lead to issues with peace etc. Modern IOC as a large and powerful organization rather than religion

### Beyond Olympism: Hellenism and Bodybuilding in the 19th and 20th Century



- Eugen Sandow- "Father of Modern Bodybuilding" (1862- 1925)
- Originally a Strongman Performer.
- With Manager, Flo Zigfield, Eugen Sandow introduced ""muscle display performances."

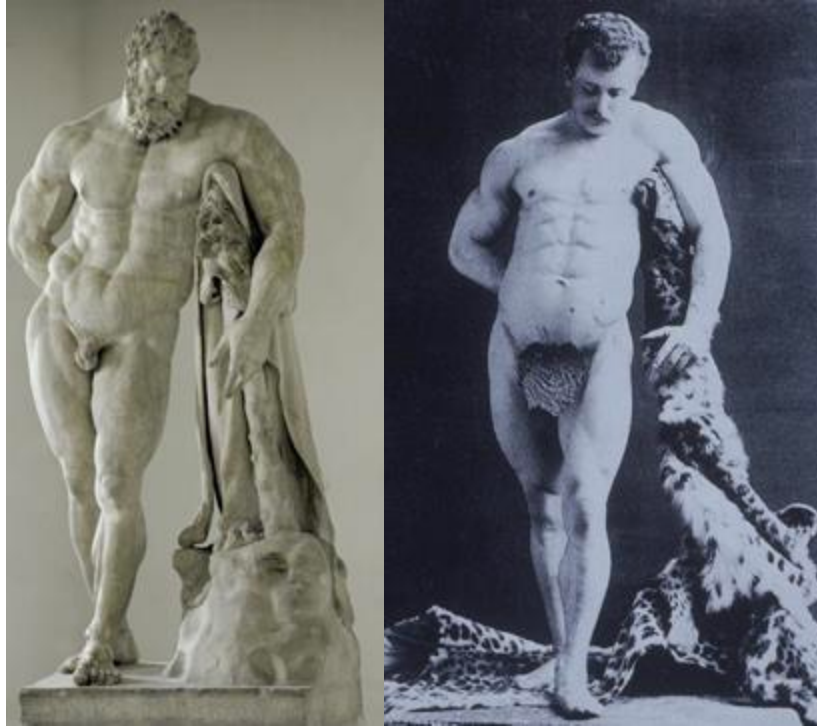
*Kenneth Dutton, The Perfectible Body,*

*"Sandow's posing introduced a revolutionary concept: that of the live display of a male body in the public arena, as an object to be admired solely by virtue of its advanced muscular development."*

**BD:** admire the body as one admires sculpture

### Eugen Sandow- "Living Greek Sculpture"

- Eugene Sandow poses as actual statues. Sequence of imitation.
- Advent of photography. Static posture. Influence of Greek sculpture.



Farnese Heracles

Sandow as the Farnese Heracles, 1893

### Sandow on Physical Training (1894)

*“My notion about the ancients— and remember, their wrestling is just as we have it in all results—is that they were not a bit better men than there are now living, but that occasionally they found a man incomparably better than his fellows. The classical statues are all idealized— the complete dream of the artist who found in individuals some perfect parts, and shaped a form in which no ingenuity could pick a flaw. Of course, that a Hercules or Venus may have been is not impossible: in beauty or strength nothing is impossible, but we don't see such men or women everywhere.”*

BD: completely aware that Greek statues are on unreal proportions. Even though these aren't real, Sandow still aims to look like them. He is one of those lucky athletes to look close to it.

### Body Culture at the Turn of <sup>1900</sup>the Twentieth Century

- Two Separate Body Culture Movements:
- Olympism and Bodybuilding
  - Both are informed by artistic notions of “Hellenism”: “beauty, eurythmia, symmetria”
  - Both movements understand the “impossible ideal” of Hellenism but continue to pursue it anyhow.

Difference:

Dynamic (Olympism) vs. Static (Bodybuilding)

- Bodybuilding is all about physical display.

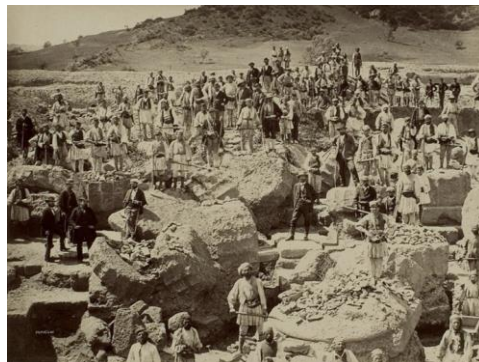
## Hellenism and the Most Controversial Olympic Games

### XI Olympiad, Berlin 1936



## Germany and Olympia

- From 1875-1881, Major Excavations of Olympia began by the German Archaeological Institute at Athens.
- Excavated Temple of Zeus, Temple of Hera, Metroon, Bouleuterion, Philippeion, Echo Stoa, Treasuries and Palaestra. Over 14,000 objects discovered and inventoried.
- Normally these displays are sent to different museums. This time the artifacts were displayed right where they were excavated.
- Museum set up on site to hold the artifacts (rather than “looted”)



## Berlin 1936, XI Olympiad: The “Nazi Olympics”

- Berlin was selected as the host city in 1931.

- Many countries boycott or attempted to boycott the Berlin Olympics.
- Spain organized a parallel, “People’s Olympiad” for boycotting countries.
- Outbreak of Spanish Civil war (1 day before) happened instead
- Soviet Union had not yet competed in Olympics, and had the “Spartakiad” instead.
- Why is it named “Spartakiad”?
  - Named after Spartacus gladiator rebel. Spartacus was the peoples favourite.

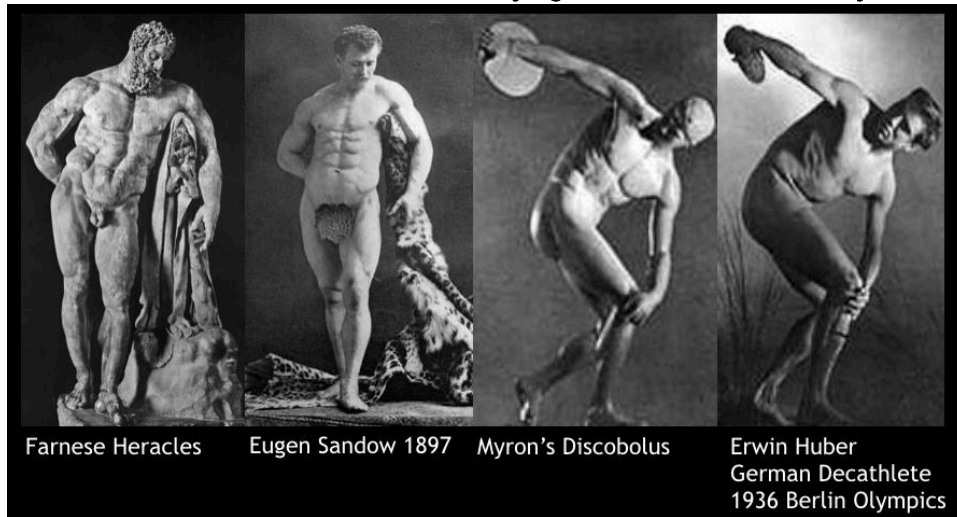
### Leni Riefenstahl's Olympia

- Leni Riefenstahl (1902-2003)
- German film director and photographer
- Responsible for Nazi party propaganda
- “Triumph of the Will” –films the 1934 Nazi Party Congress in Nuremburg.
- Commissioned to film the 1936 Olympics
- Released 1938
- Riefenstahl claims that Olympia was for the sake of “beauty” not propaganda....but what kind of beauty? Capture beauty without politics is impossible. Starts in Greece, then these statues turn to real life athletes. Jesse Owens stole the show. Fully portrayed his victories



**Leni Riefenstahl (1902-2003)**

## From Marble into Flesh<sup>SEP</sup> Embodying the “Greek Ideal” Today



Myrons Discolous, Erwin Huber

### Olympic Torch Relay-<sup>SEP</sup> Invention of Berlin Olympics

- There was no Torch Relay at the Ancient Olympics.
- Early Torch Relay in the festival, Prometheia
- Torch Relays did occur in the Panathenaic Festival, which traveled from the Altar of Eros to the Alter of Anteros (On the Acropolis)
- First oLYMPICS with torch relay



### International Olympic Committee:<sup>SEP</sup> Olympic Torch Relay

- Berlin 1936 Olympics- First Torch Relay for the Olympics.
- IOC Factsheet: *“Like the messengers who proclaimed the sacred Olympic truce, the runners who carry the Olympic flame carry a message of peace on their journey.”*
- First Olympic Torch Itinerary:
  - Greece, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Austria, Czechoslovakia. These happened to all be countries that were taken over by Germany. Path of Peace to path of conquest.

- Berlin 1936 Torches manufactured by the Krupp Corporation. Krupp is the major company responsible for Germans artillery. Those responsible for making the bullets are also responsible for making the torches.



Berlin Olympic Torch, Torch Lighting Ceremony Today

### The First Olympic Torch Relay <sup>SEP</sup> The Nazi Interpretation

*Dr. Theodor Lewald, Chair of German Olympic Organizing Committee:*

*“In a few minutes the torch bearer will appear to light the Olympic fire on his tripod, when it will rise flaming to heaven, for the weeks of the festival. It creates a real and spiritual bond of fire between our German fatherland and the sacred places of Greece founded nearly 4,000 years ago by Nordic immigrants.”*

**BD:** MYTHOLOGY that Nordic people invaded Greece and established Greek culture. Another propaganda from Germany. According to Germany the torch race is a connection between Germans and Greek

### The First Olympic Torch Relay <sup>SEP</sup> Coubertin's Interpretation

*Coubertin 1936*

*“The route begins, moreover, in the most illustrious of all places, under the sign of the eternal Hellenism that continues to shine on the path of the ages, whose ancient solutions still apply today to many a present-day problem.”*

**BD:** looking to Greece as a way to solve modern problems. Despite Nazi origins, the torch race still ended up connecting the countries

But what constitute “Ancient Solutions”?

## Jesse Owens

- Major Athletic (and Ideological) victories in Berlin 1936 Olympics
- 1st place 100 meters- 10.3 seconds
- 1st place 200 meters- 20.7 seconds
- 1st place- Long Jump 26.5 feet
- 1st place 4x100m relay (USA)
- “Snubbed” by Hitler-
- (1st day: Hitler shook hands with German victors but no one else) – IOC demanded he greet all or none.

Jesse Owens:

“Hitler didn't snub me – it was FDR who snubbed me. The president didn't even send me a telegram.”

BD: Hitler shook hands with only German winners. Although from Jesses point of view, the US president didn't acknowledge Jesses wins. Instead, Hitler did actually shake hands with Jesse.



## Athens 2004 Olympics: Reclaiming Hellenism

- Member of the European Union since 1981, and joined the Eurozone in 2001.
- 2004, Olympics return to Greece for the first time since 1896, the 1st (IOC) Olympics.
- Athens and the Debt
- Debt burden from Olympics that they took on is the cause for the financial crisis for Greece.

*Jacques Rogge, IOC President:*

*“You can fairly say that the 2004 Games played their part. If you look at the external debt of Greece, there could be up to 2 to 3 percent of that which could be attributed to the Games.”*

**BD:** tipping point that caused many of the problems. Extreme financial burdens it placed on the hosting country.



### **Pierre de Coubertin – SEP If you build it.....? SEP**

“Stadiums are being built unwisely all over the place ... once seats for forty thousand spectators are built, you have to fill them, and that means drawing a crowd. To draw that crowd, you will need a publicity campaign, and to justify the publicity campaign you will have to draw sensational numbers ... Almost all the stadiums built in recent years are the result of local and, too often, commercial interests, not Olympic interests at all. Now ... people are on the attack against the athletes, accusing them of the corruption that has been forced on them for the past twenty years. ... In my view, these oversized showcases are the source of corruption at the root of the evil. (1928)”

**BD:** bittersweet relationship with modern Olympics. International level of it undermines it.



Athens Olympic Venue shut down

### **SEP Redesigned SEP Gold Medal of 2004 Olympics, Athens**

*Pindar:*

*“Mother of Gold-crowned games, Olympia, queen of truth....Where men who are seers interpret burnt offerings And test the mind of Zeus of the flashing thunderbolt, to see if he has any word for men who struggle in their hearts to win the rewards of excellence and respite from their labors.”*

**BD:** We don't know the future. Telling the future at Olympia. We don't know who will win. And somehow Olympia is the test of truth. Olympia is the Queen of truth contest.



### The Modern Olympics and the contests over Hellenism

- Contest for Hellenism.
- Hitler standing with the statue. Nazi ideology. Discopulus.
- Big Ben symbol. Big ben is still standing.
- Who has the right to Hellenism.
- Russia used the Discopulus. Relationship between sport and Labour. Communistic ideology.
- 2008 Beijing Olympics. Body enclosed with a political ideology clothing. No discrete idea of Hellenism. Continual desire and need to return to that ancient Greek past

### Pierre de Coubertin and Olympism

1914: Purpose of the Modern Olympics. 8 different claims for its actual purpose.

1. As a cornerstone for health and cultural progress.
  - a. Does promote health and fitness. On the other hand, pursuit of excellence at such a high level may not actually benefit your health. Disease actually
2. For educational and character building.
  - a. True. Sametime, one wonders to what extent is it an exclusive practice. Education and character building not available to lower class

3. For international understanding and peace.
  - a. Promote peace yes. No violence. But on other hand it can cause war
4. For equal opportunity.
  - a. Issues of equality
5. For fair and equal competition.
  - a. Cultural expression. Standard universal sports
6. For cultural expression.
7. For beauty and excellence.
  - a. Can be used for political purposes.
8. For independence of sport as an instrument of social reform rather than government legislation.
  - a. Helped as a social reform

How successful has "Olympism" been in the modern era?

How consistent is it with the Ancient Athletic Tradition?

Do we even want it to be consistent???

(These are open ended questions to allow further thought without specific answers)