

## World Religions in Greater Indianapolis Teaching Module

**Teacher Name:** Courtland Blade

**Humanities Discipline:** Art History

**Date:** December 9, 2016

**World Religion:** Buddhism

**Teaching Module Title:** Buddhism, Early art, and architecture

### Teaching Module Goals:

1. Introduce students to Buddhism's origins as a religion.
2. Explore how Buddhist beliefs, doctrine, and history are reflected in Buddhist art and architecture.

### Assigned Readings and/or Websites:

1. Bowker, World Religions pg. 60-81.
2. Art History Volume 1 pgs. 302-305, 344-345

### Study Questions and/or Discussions Prompts for Students:

1. What are the four noble truths?
2. Was the Buddha, depicted in art in its earliest phase?
3. What does arhat mean?
4. What is a stupa?
5. What is a Bodhisattva?

### Written Assignments and/or other Assessment Instruments:

In this paper, you will discuss "The Great Stupa" at Sanch and the "Seated Buddha, cave 20" at Yungang. How does this art reflect the culture, beliefs, and history of Buddhism? What shifts do we see in the subject matter and how are the teachings of the Buddha, and Buddhist culture reflected in the architecture and design of these architectural structures? Address these questions in a word document in MLA, APA, or Chicago style format--with a minimum of two pages.



Stupa 1 (The Great Stupa) At Sanchi. Founded 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE and enlarged 150-50 BCE



Seated Buddha, Cave 20, Yungang. 460 CE