

HISTORY 413: WINTER 2010
California State University, Los Angeles
PROFESSOR S. BURSTEIN

Professor: S. Burstein

Office: KH C4024

Class Hours: MW 1:30-3:10

Office Hours: MW 12:30-1:15

Final Examination: March 15, 2010: 1:30-4:00

Phone: 323-343-2032

Email: sburste@calstatela.edu

Texts:

REQUIRED:

Francois Chamoux, *Hellenistic Civilization* (Wiley-Blackwell)

Sarah Pomeroy, *Women in Hellenistic Egypt* (Wayne State Univ. Press)

Theocritus, *Idylls* (Oxford)

Plutarch, *The Age of Alexander* (Penguin)

Course Pack

RECOMMENDED:

Stanley Burstein, *The Hellenistic Period in World History* (American Historical Association); URL is: <http://www.historians.org/pubs/Free/BURSTEIN.HTM>).

Requirements: Two examinations--a midterm held on the last day of the sixth week of the quarter and the final. The midterm is a short answer identification examination in which students are required to identify ten of twenty items. Identification items are drawn from both lectures and readings but with the emphasis being placed on the lectures. Term lists will be provided prior to the mid-term and the final. The final examination consists of two sections: a set of identifications drawn from the second half of the course and an essay question. The essay questions for the final examination will be distributed at the midterm. Students will choose one question to answer and complete it as a take home paper 4 to 6 pages in length due on the day of the final examination. The identification portion of the final examination will be completed in class. The essay counts 70% of the final examination grade.

Grading: This course will be graded on a Plus/Minus basis in accordance with the information provided in Winter Class Schedule. The examinations are weighted as

follows: the midterm counts 35% and the final examination 65% toward determining the course grade.

Graduate Students: Graduate students will also do a book report on a book chosen from a list provided by the instructor. For graduate students grades will be determined as follows: Midterm: 25%; Book Report: 15%; Final Examination: 60%.

Withdrawal from class will be in accordance with the guidelines published in the Schedule of Classes.

I. COURSE OUTLINE:

1. Significance of the Hellenistic Period of Greek History: Hellenism and the Decline of Ancient Near Eastern Civilization.

Reading:

Chamoux: 1-6

Course Pack: Fourth Century: B4A, C7, D 1-7

Recommended: Burstein, *The Hellenistic Period in World History*

2. The Reign of Alexander the Great (336-323 BC): Destruction of the Ancient Near Eastern State System.

Reading:

Chamoux: 7-38

Plutarch, Alexander.

Course Pack, Fourth Century: E-I

3. From Babylon to Lysimachia: The Wars of Alexanders' Successors and the Emergence of the Hellenistic Kingdoms (323-276 BC).
 - A. Phase I: The Failure of Perdiccas (323-321 BC).
 - B. Phase II: The Rise and Fall of Antigonus the One-Eyed (321-301 BC).
 - C. Establishment of the Three Great Kingdoms: Macedon, Egypt, and Syria(301-276 BC).

Reading:

Chamoux: 39-65

Plutarch, Phocion, Eumenes (Handout), Demetrius.

Course Pack, Hellenistic Age A 1-2, C 2.

4. Asia under Macedonian Rule to 223 BC.
 - A. Egypt under Ptolemy II and Ptolemy III.
 1. Foreign Policy: Security through Empire.
 2. Internal Policy
 - a. Organization: A Managed Economy?
 - b. Society: Cooperation or Coexistence in a Mult-Ethnic State?

Reading:

Pomeroy, *Women in Hellenistic Egypt*

Theocritus, Idyll 14, 15, 17

Course Pack, Hellenistic Age B 1-4.

B. Seleucid Asia

1. Holding the Line: The Reign of Antiochus I (281-261 BC)
2. Disintegration: From Antiochus II to Seleucus III (261-223 BC)
 - a. Secession in the West: Foundation of the Kingdom of Pergamon.
 - b. Secession in the East: Foundation of the Kingdoms of Parthia and Bactria.

Reading:

Chamoux: 66-98, 165-254

Course Pack: Hellenistic Age D 1-6, G 8

MIDTERM

B. Hellenistic Greek Culture: Cosmopolitanism and Professionalism.

- a. Art, Literature, and Scholarship: The Importance of Patronage
- b. Science
 - i. Geography: An Expanding World
 - ii. Astronomy and Astrology: West Meets East—Assimilation of Babylonian Science.
 - iii. Medicine: Study of Human Physiology and the Alexandrian Doctors.
 - iv. Technology: Theoretical Progress, Practical Stagnation.
- c. Hellenistic Philosophies: Strategies for Personal Survival.
- d. Hellenistic Religion
 - i. The Cult of Deified Kings.
 - ii. Mystery Cults: Ancient Near Eastern Wine in Greek Bottles.

Reading:

Chamoux: 255-393

Theocritus: Idyll 1, 2, 11

Coursepack, Hellenistic Age C 1-2,

C. Restoration and Collapse in Asia: From Antiochus III to Antiochus IV (223-164 BC)

- a. A New Alexander: Antiochus III and the Restoration of the Kingdom of Seleucus I (223-196 BC).
- b. A New Factor: Rome (200-188 BC).
- c. The Reign of Antiochus IV (175-164 BC)
 - i. Antiochus IV and Egypt: The Limits of Independence.
 - ii. Antiochus IV and the Jews: The Limits of Hellenization.

Reading:

Chamoux: 99-138

Coursepack, Hellenistic Age E-F.

D. Rome and the Destruction of the Hellenistic State System.

- a. Europe: The Failure of Greek Freedom (196-146 BC).
- b. Asia: From Pelusium to Actium (168-31 BC)

Reading:

Chamoux: 139-64

Coursepack, Hellenistic Age H 1-3; Plutarch, Flaminus,.

- 8. Epilogue: The Triumph of Hellenism in the East.

II. Hints on Reading an Historical Document

Reading an historical document and understanding its implications requires that the reader complete a step-by-step analysis of the document and its contents. The steps involved in the analysis can be thought of as a set of questions that the reader has to answer. The possible questions that can be asked of any document are endless, but most can be reduced to the following three groups.:

Group One: Basic Facts

- A. Who wrote this document?
- B. When and where was written?
- C. What kind of document is this?

Group Two: Contents

- A. What is this document about? What is its story?
- B. Who was it written for?
- C. Why was it written?
- D. What are its author's underlying assumptions?

Group Three: Evaluation

- A. Is this document credible?
- B. What does this document tell me about the topic I am studying (for

example, the society that produced it, a war, law, etc.)?

- C. What impression does this document make on me? Does it persuade me to adopt its point of view or not? In either case, why does it have this effect on me?

III. TAKE HOME FINAL PAPER

- A. Word Processed
- B. 4-6 pages in length, not including notes or title page
- C. Material from the lectures or textbook need not be footnoted
- D. All material from other books or quotations need to be footnoted =

IV. BOOK REPORT (Graduate Students)

GUIDELINES

- A. Word Processed
- B. 4-6 pages in length, not including notes or title page
- C. A book report is not a summary but an critical evaluation of a book.
- D. The following questions should be answered in your report:
 - i. What is the thesis of the book?
 - ii. What evidence the author use to prove the thesis?
 - iii. Are the author's arguments convincing or not and why?
 - iv. What is your evaluation of the book?

BOOKS FOR BOOK REPORT

Badian, Ernst. 1968. *Roman Imperialism in the Late Republic*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Bagnall, Roger S. 1995. *Reading Papyri, Writing Ancient History*. London and New York: Routledge.

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Bickerman, Elias. 1947. *From Ezra to the Last of the Maccabees. Foundations of Postbiblical Judaism*. New York: Schocken Books

Borza, Eugene N. 1990. *In the Shadow of Olympus: The Emergence of Macedon*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.

Bosworth, A. B. 1988. *Conquest and Empire: The Reign of Alexander the Great*. Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge University Press.

Bosworth, A. B. 1996. *Alexander and the East: The Tragedy of Triumph*. Oxford: The Clarendon Press.

Carney, Elizabeth Donnelly. 2000. *Women and Monarchy in Macedonia*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press.

Carney, Elizabeth, *Olympias: Mother of Alexander the Great*. London, Routledge, 2006

Cartledge, Paul. 2004. *Alexander the Great*. New York: Overlook Press.

Cawkwell, George. 1978. *Philip of Macedon*. London: Faber & Faber.

Chaniotis, Angelos, *War in the Hellenistic world*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2005.

Cribiore, Raffaella 2001. *Gymnastics of the Mind: Greek Education in Hellenistic and Roman Egypt*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

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Ellis, J. R. 1976. *Philip II and Macedonian Imperialism*. London: Thames and Hudson.

Engels, Donald W. 1978. *Alexander the Great and the Logistics of the Macedonian Army*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

Errington, R. M. 1972. *The Dawn of Empire: Rome's Rise to World Power*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Fox, Robin Lane. 1974. *Alexander the Great*. New York: The Dial Press; repr. Penguin Books.

Grainger, John D. 1990. *Seleukos Nikator: Constructing a Hellenistic Kingdom*. Routledge.

Grainger, John D. 2007. *Alexander the Great Failure*. Hambledon Continuum.

Grant, Michael. 1972. *Cleopatra: A Biography*. New York: Dorset Books.

Green, Peter. 1991. *Alexander of Macedon, 356-323 B. C.: A Historical Biography*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

Holt, Frank L. 2003. *Alexander the Great and the Mystery of Elephant Medallions*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

Holt, Frank L. 2005. *Into the Land of Bones: Alexander the Great In Afghanistan*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

Lewis, Naphtali. 1986. *Greeks in Ptolemaic Egypt*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Lloyd, G. E. R. 1973. *Greek Science After Aristotle*. New York, Norton.

Momigliano, Arnaldo. 1975. *Alien Wisdom: The Limits of Hellenization*. Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge University Press.

Onians, John. 1979. *Art and Thought in the Hellenistic Age: The Greek World View 350-50 BC*. London: Thames & Hudson.

Saunders, Nicholas I., *Alexander's Tomb*. New York, Basic Books, 2006.

Sherwin-White, Susan and Kuhrt, Amelie 1993. *From Samarkand to Sardis: A New Approach to the Seleucid Empire*. London: Duckworth.

Thompson, Dorothy J. 1988. *Memphis under the Ptolemies*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Worthington, Ian. 2004. *Alexander the Great: Man and God*. London: Pearson.

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Worthington, Ian, 2008. *Philip II of Macedonia*. New Haven: Yale.