

Peter Hunt  
Classics 4031/5031, History 4031  
MWF 12:00-12:50  
KTCH 234  
Fall 2006

### Alexander the Great and the Rise of Macedonia

*"... as long as mankind shall continue to bestow more liberal applause on their destroyers than on their benefactors, the thirst for military glory will ever be the vice of the most exalted characters"*  
Edward Gibbon

**Course Description:** The careers of Philip of Macedon and his son Alexander the Great marked a decisive change in the course of Mediterranean history. Philip's victory at the battle of Chaeronia marked the end of classical period of independent Greek city-states. The vast conquests of his son Alexander, extending from Egypt to India, set the stage for more than a century during which Greek monarchs dominated the eastern Mediterranean and Near East. This course will begin with the city-states of Greece, especially democratic Athens, and explore the reasons they were finally overpowered by Macedonia. The extraordinary and controversial career of Alexander will be our second main subject. Whenever possible, we will try to get beneath the surface of events to analyze trends and to examine interpretive issues raised by our evidence. The course will conclude with a brief treatment of the Hellenistic kingdoms, which ruled over most of the conquests of Alexander until the coming of Rome.

**Office Hours:** 406 Woodbury, Monday 3-4, Wednesday 11-11:50, Friday 10:30-11:30. I check my e-mail (peter.hunt@colorado.edu) on most weekdays. My office number is 303-492-6447.

### Requirements and Grading

#### Undergraduate Students

Map Quiz 5%  
Two tests 50%  
Final Exam (December 19<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-4:00) 25%  
Six- to eight-page term paper (due December 8th) 20%  
Four extra-credit reports (optional) up to 10%

#### Graduate Students

Map quiz 5%  
Two tests 40%  
Final Exam (December 19<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-4:00) 25%  
Fifteen- to twenty-page research paper 30%

### Books

Plutarch, The Age of Alexander (trans. Ian Scott-Kilvert).  
Joseph Roisman (ed.), Alexander the Great: Ancient and Modern Perspectives.

#### Course Reader

Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography (optional)

**Web Site** (<http://www.colorado.edu/Classics/clas4031/>): The website will include study guides for the tests, the term-paper topics, study questions for each class, extra credit assignments, assorted advice, and this syllabus. I will be constructing the site during the semester. The pages are not yet all up, but I'll try to keep one step ahead of the class.

**Electronic Reserves:** I have put many of the reading assignments on electronic reserve. You need to access these over the web. On your web browser go to the library's catalogue, Chinook (<http://libraries.colorado.edu/>). Click on Reserve Lists and then Reserve Lists by Course. Type in "Clas 4031". You'll see a list of the reserve readings. Click on the assigned reading. You will need to type in your last name and student I.D. number. The reading will then be downloaded to your computer as an Adobe .pdf file. If you are at home, you may prefer just to read it on the computer. You can also print out a hard copy or e-mail it as an attachment to your home computer. You may want to use the Adobe command "Rotate" in the View menu, if the text is sideways on your computer screen. You can also use the "Zoom In" command if the writing is too small for easy reading. If you have difficulties accessing the

electronic reserves, contact me right away and we'll figure something out. More information is available at <http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/circulation/ereserves/faqstudents.htm>

### CU and Class Policies

**Disability:** If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. (303-492-8671, Willard 322, [www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices](http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices))

**Religious Observance:** Campus policy states that faculty must make reasonable accommodation for such religious observances and in so doing, be careful not to inhibit or penalize those students who are exercising their rights to religious observance. The policy states that 'every effort' shall be made to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance.

**Plagiarism:** Students should note that their work will be evaluated through TurnItIn.com, a plagiarism service provided to all faculty members at CU-Boulder; and that this service retains a copy of the submitted work for future comparisons. All work must be submitted via e-mail attachments. Penalties for plagiarism are at my discretion and vary from an F on the assignment to an F for the course, as well as non-academic sanctions imposed by the honor's council. I discuss proper documentation at some length on the web site page for the term papers.

### Schedule of Assignments

#### August 28: Introduction to the Course

#### August 30: **Spartan Domination of Greece**

Course Reader: Charles Hamilton, "Sparta," 41-65 from Lawrence Tritle (ed.), The Greek World in the Fourth Century.

Grads: Plutarch, The Age of Alexander, "Agesilaus" 25-68.

#### September 1: The King's Peace and Sparta's Attack on Mantinea

Handout: Xenophon, Hellenica V.1.25-V.2.7

#### September 4-No Class, Labor Day

#### September 6:The Athenian Democracy and Its Foreign Policy

Alan Boegehold, "Appendix A: The Athenian Government in Thucydides" (e-reserves)

Grads: Phillip Harding, "Athenian Foreign Policy in the Fourth Century," Klio 77( 1995) 105-125 (e-reserve)

#### September 8: The Second Athenian League

Course Reader: Cargill, The Second Athenian League 189-196

Course Reader: Harding, "Charter of the Second Athenian Confederacy," 148 bottom-152 top.

Grads: Cargill, The Second Athenian League 161-188.

#### September 11: Thebes

Plutarch, The Age of Alexander 69-103, "Pelopidas"

\*\*\*\*Map Quiz\*\*\*\*

#### September 13: Balancing Theory and Fourth-Century Greece

Joseph Roisman, Alexander the Great: Ancient and Modern Perspectives 25-34, "The Macedonian

Background: Macedonia, Philip II, and Alexander"

#### September 15: Philip and Macedonia I

Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography 1-34 "Philip of Macedon" (This is the optional book for the course. This particular section, which is required reading, is on electronic reserve)

#### September 18: Philip and Macedonia II

Course Reader: Eugene Borza, In the Shadow of Olympus: The Emergence of Macedon 231-252, "Political Institutions in the Age of Philip and Alexander."

Grads: Eugene Borza, In the Shadow of Olympus: The Emergence of Macedon 198-230 (electronic reserve)

#### September 20: War with Athens I

Plutarch, Age of Alexander, 188-217, "Demosthenes."

**September 22: War with Athens II**

Course Reader: Demosthenes "First Philippic" and "Second Olynthiac" in Connor, Greek Orations 40-66

**September 25: The Peace of Philocrates**

Handouts: Excerpts from Demosthenes, "On the False Embassy" 315-328 and Aeschines "On the False Embassy" and Diodorus Siculus, Universal History

Grads: Cargill, "Demosthenes, Aeschines, and the Crop of Traitors" (e-reserve)

**September 27: Athens in Decline?**

Optional: Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography 35-73 "Gardens of Midas"

Plutarch, The Age of Alexander, 218-251, "Phocion"

**September 29: Study Session**

**October 2: Test 1**

**October 4: Realism and Reciprocity in Demosthenes**

Grads: Walzer, Just and Unjust Wars, "Against 'Realism'" 3-20 (electronic reserve)

Start on "The Debate on the Crown," the next assignment.

**October 6: The Trial "On the Crown"**

Course Reader: "The Debate on the Crown" from Connor (ed.), Greek Orations 120-150.

Grads: Connor, Greek Orations, "From the Address On the Crown of Demosthenes" 151-209. (on reserve)

**Extra-Credit Paper #1:** Harvey Yunis, "Politics as Literature: Demosthenes and the Burden of the Athenian Past," Arion 8 (2000) 97-118

**October 9: The Assassination of Philip**

Joseph Roisman, Alexander the Great: Ancient and Modern Perspectives 34-51, "The Macedonian

Background: Macedonia, Philip II, and Alexander"

Handout: Passages relevant to the assassination of Philip and family tree of Philip (bring handout to class.)

Optional: Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography 73-110 "From a View to a Death"

**October 11: The Persian Empire**

Joseph Roisman, Alexander the Great: Ancient and Modern Perspectives 77-89, "Alexander's Aims"

Optional: Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography 111-151 "The Keys of the Kingdom"

**October 13: Alexander's Aims**

Course Reader: Selection from "The Address to Philip of Isocrates" from Connor (ed.), Greek Orations 81-90.

Grads: Michele Faraguna, "Alexander and the Greeks" for Brill's Companion to Alexander the Great (e-reserve)

Optional: Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography 152-181 "the Captain-General"

**October 16: Overview of Alexander's Campaigns**

Plutarch, The Age of Alexander 252-278

Optional: Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography "The Road to Issus" 182-235

**October 18 : Film: In the Footsteps of Alexander**

Plutarch, The Age of Alexander 278-304

Optional: Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography 236-296 "Intimations of Immortality"

**October 20: Film: In the Footsteps of Alexander**

Plutarch, The Age of Alexander 304-334

Optional: Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography 297-349 "The Lord of Asia"

**October 23: Greek Land Warfare and the Army of Alexander**

Joseph Roisman, Alexander the Great: Ancient and Modern Perspectives 91-121, "Alexander in Battle"

Optional: Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography "The quest for Ocean" 350-411

**October 25: The Battle of the Hydaspes**

Arrian, The Campaigns of Alexander II 266-283 (electronic reserve)

**Extra-Credit Paper #2:** A. B. Bosworth, Alexander and the East: The Tragedy of Triumph, "The Justification of Terror," 133-165.

**October 27: Siege Warfare**

Course Reader: Arrian, The Campaigns of Alexander 129-143

**October 30: Logistics**

Course Reader: Donald W. Engels, Alexander the Great and the Logistics of the Macedonian army 1-25

**November 1: Study Session**

Optional: Peter Green, Alexander of Macedon: A Historical Biography "How many miles to Babylon?" 412-488

**November 3: Test 2**

**November 6: The Lost Histories**

Joseph Roisman, Alexander the Great: Ancient and Modern Perspectives, "Ancient Sources and Modern Studies" 1-13 (Grads: also 13-23)

**November 8: Administration and Consolidation**

Course Reader: A. B. Bosworth, Conquest and Empire: The Reign of Alexander the Great 229-245, "Alexander and His Empire."

Grads: Eugene Borza, "Fire from Heaven: Alexander at Persepolis," in Makedonika (e-reserve).

**November 10: Ruler cult**

Joseph Roisman, Alexander the Great: Ancient and Modern Perspectives 165-201, "Alexander's Divinity"

Grads: Ernst Fredricksmeier, "Alexander's Religion and Divinity," from Brill's Companion to Alexander the Great. (electronic reserve)

**November 13: Alexander and the Brotherhood of Man**

Joseph Roisman, Alexander the Great: Ancient and Modern Perspectives 203-237, "The Policy of Integration"

**November 15: Alexander and Philosophy**

Course Reader: Arrian, The Campaigns of Alexander 348-353

Reread Plutarch, Age of Alexander "Alexander" sections 7-8, 53-55, 64-65

**November 17: Paranoia and Conspiracy**

Joseph Roisman, Alexander the Great: Ancient and Modern Perspectives 123-143, "Alexander and the Macedonian Generals"

Grads: Ernst Badian, "Alexander the Great and the Loneliness of Power" (electronic reserve)

**Extra-Credit Paper #3:** Lindsay Adams, "The Conspiracy of Philotas: An Insight" in eds. Heckel and Trittle, Crossroads of History: The Age of Alexander, p. 113-126.

**November 27: Alexander's Sexual and Emotional Ties**

Course Reader: Jeanne Reames-Zimmerman, "An Atypical Affair. . ." Ancient History Bulletin 13.3 (1999) 81-95.

**November 29: Formation of the Hellenistic Kingdoms**

W. Lindsay Adams, "The Hellenistic Kingdoms" in The Cambridge Companion to the Hellenistic World (e-reserve)

**December 1: The Royal Macedonian Tombs**

Eugene Borza, "The Royal Macedonian Tombs and the Paraphernalia of Alexander the Great," Phoenix 41 (1987) 105-121 (electronic reserve)

**December 4: Greece in the Hellenistic World**

No Reading

Grads: G. E. M. de Ste. Croix, The Class Struggle in the Ancient Greek World, "The destruction of Greek democracy," 300-326

**December 6: Greeks and Natives**

Course Reader: Walbank, The Hellenistic World 60-78

Grads: Plutarch, The Age of Alexander "Demetrius"

**Extra-Credit Paper #4:** S. M. Burstein, "The Legacy of Alexander: New Ways of Being Greek in the Hellenistic Period," in eds. Heckel and Trittle, Crossroads of History: The Age of Alexander, p. 217-242.

**December 8: Hellenistic Art and Philosophy**

No Reading

\*\*\*Hand in Term Papers\*\*\*

**December 11: Hellenistic Comedy**

Peter Green, Alexander to Actium, "Theophrastus, Menander, and the Transformation of Attic Comedy," 65-79 (electronic reserve)

Grads: Aristophanes, Acharnians and Menander, Dyscolus (Regular reserve or you may find your own translations.)

**December 13: The Coming of Rome**

Walbank, The Hellenistic World 227-251 (electronic reserve)

**December 15: Study Session**