

**CLCS 380: ALEXANDER THE GREAT AND THE HELLENISTIC WORLD  
SPRING, 2023**

**MATTHEWS HALL RM 304  
SECT. 1: TTh 10:30-11:45AM  
SECT. 2: TTH 1:30-2:45 PM  
[You are welcome to attend either section]**

**PRELIMINARY SYLLABUS**

Prof. Nicholas K. Rauh  
FLL/SC 211  
OFFICE HOURS: Tues. & Thurs.; 2:45-4:00 PM, and by appt.  
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The PURPOSE of this course is to examine the career of Alexander the Great and to explore the rise of Macedonia and of Hellenistic Civilization in the fourth century B.C. The first third of the course, roughly, will focus on 1) the decline of classical Greece in the 4th Cent; 2) the rise of Macedonia as a military power under Philip II; and 3) aspects of Greek warfare, particularly the development of the Macedonian phalanx; 4) the assassination of Philip II. The second part of the course will focus on 1) the personality (changes) and achievements of Alexander the Great; 2) the path of his campaigns from Asia Minor to the Indus Valley and back to Babylon; 3) the power struggles which occurred within the Macedonian officer staff; and 4) his plans and accomplishments at the end. The remaining (2) weeks will focus on the tumultuous wars of succession that followed his demise, and on a general presentation of economic, social, cultural, and religious life of the times.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Required Readings from online texts and four essential primary sources: (ALL AVAILABLE OPEN ACCESS ONLINE)

1. Rauh, CLCS 181 Website: *Classical World Civilizations*
2. Plutarch, *The Life of Alexander*
3. Arrian, *The Campaigns of Alexander*
4. Quintus Curtius Rufus, *The History of Alexander*
5. "Who Killed Philip II?" On Line [Sourcepack](#)
6. You must purchase *Packback* for weekly homework assignments

I RECOMMEND THAT YOU PURCHASE A BIOGRAPHY OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT. ANY BIOGRAPHY WILL DO. I RECOMMEND A.B. Bosworth, *Conquest and Empire. The Reign of Alexander the Great*. Cambridge, 1988, but there are more than a dozen available. You can check one out at HSSE Library.

**[Library of You Tube Video Lectures \(click here\)](#)**

PLEASE NOTE: I USE BRIGHTSPACE TO POST ANNOUNCEMENTS AND TO POST YOUR GRADES. OTHERWISE, I USE MY COURSE WEBSITE (*Classical World Civilizations*) TO POST THE ASSIGNED READINGS, REVIEW SHEETS, AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS. *FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE WEBSITE:*  
<https://web.ics.purdue.edu/~rauhn/>

GRADING will be based on 2 exams (1 Take-Home Mid-Term Exam and 1 Final Exam, each worth 25% each of total grade), three in-class, multiple-choice quizzes based on the readings (10% each, dates TBA), Packback weekly assignments (10%) and class discussion (10%). The assignment for the Mid-Term Take-Home exam is a 5-page paper on the assassination of King Philip II of Macedonia. The paper must address the questions, "Who did it and with what possible motives," and it must be based on, and rigorously documented with the primary source material assigned in the "Who Killed Philip II?" On Line [Sourcepack](#). Students will work on this project as organized teams and participate in an in-class debate (SEE BELOW). However, each student must write the final draft of his take-home exam independently. The Final Exam will be comprehensive and will comprise a combination of map test, multiple-choice section, and one long essay. *Make-up exams are possible under extraordinary circumstances, but they are also more difficult than the originals.* Late Mid-Term Take Home exams and Honors Papers will be penalized.

FINAL GRADE: Your final grade is determined by averaging your graded assignments, based on their assigned weight (25%, 10%, etc.) out of 100%. 90% and above = A; 80% and above = B; 70% and above = C, etc. I do employ plus/minus grades. A+ = 97% and above, A = 93% and above; A- = 90% and above, etc. There is no curve.

Attendance policy will be determined according to the demand for review sheets for the quizzes and exam: for these to be made available, attendance must be required (4 absences = 4% deduction from final grade, and so on).

### **Packback Assignment, Online Class Discussion (10% of Your Final Grade)**

Participation is a requirement for this course, and the Packback Questions platform will be used for online discussion about class topics. Packback Questions is an online community where you can be fearlessly curious and ask open-ended questions to build on top of what we are covering in class and relate topics to real-world applications.

#### Packback Requirements:

Your participation on Packback will count toward 10% of your overall course grade. There will be a Weekly Sunday at 11:59 PM EST deadline for submissions. In order to receive full credit, you should submit the following per each deadline period:

- 1 open-ended Question every week with a minimum Curiosity Score of 50, worth 33.33% of each assignment grade
- 2 Responses every week with a minimum Curiosity Score of 50, worth 66.67% of each assignment grade
3. Half credit will be provided for questions and responses that do not meet the minimum curiosity score

4. Packback discussion will be available every week of the semester (a minimum of 15 opportunities). Completion of a minimum of 10 out of 15 is required. Additional discussions will be incentivized as extra credit. Do as many as you can.

NOTICE: During the month of February, we will organize your Packback discussion groups according to Debate Teams. You will be required to ask questions and to pose answers to your team mates as part of the debate preparation.

### **How to Register on Packback:**

Note: Only access Packback through Brightspace to ensure your grades sync properly

1. Click the Packback assignment link within Brightspace to access the community
2. Follow the instructions on your screen to finish your registration.
3. In order for your grade to be visible in Brightspace, make sure to click each Packback assignment link as you post your Packback submissions.

Packback may require a paid subscription. Refer to [www.packback.co/product/pricing](http://www.packback.co/product/pricing) for more information.

**How to Get Help from the Packback Team:** If you have any questions or concerns about Packback throughout the semester, please read their FAQ at [help.packback.co](http://help.packback.co). If you need more help, contact their customer support team directly at [help@packback.co](mailto:help@packback.co). For a brief introduction to Packback Questions and why we are using it in class, watch this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OV7QmigrD68>

**FINAL CAVEAT: CLASS DEBATE: on FEB. 28**, Students will participate in an in-class debate as organized teams. To combine both sections in the debate, class on Feb 28 will be scheduled for an evening class in a large lecture hall. (There will be no daytime class that day). To prepare for the debate, class time will be set aside for preparation (two practice sessions) during the week of FEB. 21 - 23. Failure to attend a practice session will result in a 2.5% reduction in your final grade; failure to attend the debate will result in a 5% reduction. **CHECK YOUR SCHEDULES**; if you have conflicts for these days, I recommend that you drop the course.

### **LECTURE AND READING SCHEDULE:**

Jan. 10-26: An Historical Overview of Greece to the Mid-Fourth Century (401-357 B.C.).

Assigned Readings:

Rauh, CLCS 181 Website: *Classical World Civilizations*, Greek History Lectures:

**Archaic Greece and the Rise of Tyranny, External Conflict in the Greek World, Political Trends of the Early Fourth Century BC, Map of Greece at the Time of the Peloponnesian War; Lecture Notes: Peloponnesian War (431-401 BC); Further Note on 4th Century Greece**

OPTIONAL BUT RECOMMENDED: Plutarch's Lives of Pericles, Alcibiades, Agesilaus, and Pelopidas

Useful Video Lectures:

Classics 181: Archaic Greece, Particularism vs. Panhellenism:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZfM9p48KA9U>

Classics 181: The Rise of Classical Greece: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erAfw50C0hE>

Classics 181: External Conflict in Ancient Greece:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VPqmQzEqXwo>

The monuments of classical Athens: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-OOajA6Jn4>  
Periclean building program: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWnF7Pvw7Wg>

TECHNOCENTRIC WARFARE IN ANCIENT GREECE PART ONE -

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uDA8810R\\_6s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uDA8810R_6s)

### **TUES. JAN 31, QUIZ I On 4<sup>th</sup>-Century Greece**

**JAN. 31-FEB. 2: Early Macedonia and Philip II; the Evolution of the Macedonian Phalanx; Philip and Greece to 336 B.C.**

Lectures and Lecture Notes: [Bosworth, Conquest and Empire, Prologue](#) (\*.pdf download - 17 megs); [The Macedonian Royal Line and Constitution](#); [The Macedonian Army](#); [Reasons for Philip's Success](#); [The Chronology of Philip's Conquests](#); [The Authority of Philip II at his Death](#)

Recommended Readings:

[Diodorus Siculus, Book 16](#), Chapters 1-89.  
[Plut. Life of Demosthenes](#), 188-251.

Useful Video Lectures: THE GEOGRAPHY OF ANCIENT MACEDONIA -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kztcc-vFmWI>

TECHNOCENTRIC WARFARE IN ANCIENT GREECE PART TWO –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPYInS333B4>

**Feb. 7-9: The Early Years of Alexander the Great/Prelude to Assassination**

Assigned Readings:

Plutarch, Life of Alexander, chapters 1-15. Arrian, Campaigns of Alexander, pp. 1-64. Quintus Curtius, The History of Alexander, pp.19-22. [Images of Philip and Alexander](#); [Alexander's Youth](#); [Ancient Sources for Alexander](#); Bosworth, Conquest, 1-35, 187-198.

**FEB. 14–16, Greek Sexuality and Gender Relations, an Overview**

Assigned Readings:

Rauh, CLCS 181 Website: *Classical World Civilizations*, [Greek Gender Relations and Sexuality](#)

Available Video lecture:

Classics 181: Greek Gender Relations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NzgWoAJzPoo>

FEB. 21-23: THE ASSASSINATION OF PHILIP THE GREAT (MANDATORY PREP CLASSES)

### **QUIZ II, THURS. FEB. 23**

#### **FEB. 28: "WHO SHOT J.R.?" IN-CLASS DEBATE.**

Class will be divided into teams representing various suspects in the murder of Philip II. Professor will conduct an grand-jury inquest into the murder of Philip by cross-examining the legal counsel of each suspect

Assigned Readings: 6. "Who Killed Philip II?" [On Line Sourcepack](#); Lecture Notes: [Sequence of Events Leading to the Assassination](#); [Who Killed Philip? Factsheet](#); [Fine Points to the Assassination](#); [Reliability of the Source Tradition for the Assassination](#)

Download Published "Assassination Papers" (this material is copyrighted):

N.G.L. Hammond, "The End of Philip."

J. Rufus Fears, "Pausanias, the Assassin of Philip II."

A.B. Bosworth, "Philip II and Upper Macedonia." *Class. Quart.* 1971, 93-105.

J.R. Ellis, "The Assassination of Philip II," in *Ancient Macedonian Studies in Honor of Charles F. Edson*, H.J. Dell, editor, pp. 99-137

#### **MAR 7-9: GREEK RELIGION, AN OVERVIEW; The Campaigns of Alexander, Part I: Securing the Throne; Battle of the Granicus River**

Assigned Readings:

Rauh, CLCS 181 Website: *Classical World Civilizations*, [Polytheistic World Views](#); [Battle of the Granicus River](#), Plutarch, *Life of Alexander*, pp. 268-285; Arrian, *Campaigns of Alexander*, pp.65-154; Quintus Curtius, *The History of Alexander*, pp.22-68; Bosworth, *Conquest*, 35-68, 250-266.

Available Video Lecture: Polytheistic Religious World Views:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WtV3B7juf9w>

### **SPRING BREAK MARCH 14-16**

#### **MID-TERM TAKE-HOME EXAMINATIONS DUE, FRIDAY MAR. 24, 5 PM**

**MAR. 21-23, The Campaigns of Alexander, Part I cont.: Issus - Tyre. Source Tradition, Logistics, Alexander and Parmenio.)**

Assigned Readings:

Lecture Notes: [Battle of Issos \(333 BC\)](#); [Siege of Tyre \(332 BC\)](#); [Summary for the Persian Empire](#); [Textbook Chapter: Ancient Near Eastern Empires](#); [Chronology of Alexander's Campaigns \(334-323 BC\)](#);  
Plutarch, *Life of Alexander*, pp. 268-285. Arrian, *Campaigns of Alexander*, pp.65-154. Quintus Curtius, *The History of Alexander*, pp.22-68. [Diodorus Siculus, Book 17.5-52](#); Bosworth, *Conquest*, 35-68, 250-266.

Available Video Lecture:

[Achaemenid Remains at Meydancik Kale - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hH3OgxOYDvI](#)

TECHNOCENTRIC WARFARE IN ANCIENT GREECE PART THREE –  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09t3D9gXmAc](#)

Recommended:

[Diodorus Siculus, Book 17.5-52](#); Donald Engels, *Alexander the Great and the Logistics of the Macedonian Army*, 1-63 and especially Appendix I. (Wagons issue)

**MAR 28- 30: The Campaigns of Alexander, Part II: Egypt, Siwah (and Divinity), the Battle of Gaugamela, the Death of Darius, and the Conquest of Persia.**

Assigned Readings:

[Conquest of Egypt Notes](#); [Battle of Gaugamela](#); [Conquest of Iran Notes](#)

Plutarch, *Life of Alexander*, pp. 285-301 (ch. 43).  
Arrian, *Campaigns of Alexander*, pp. 154-200 (finish Bk. 3).  
Quintus Curtius, *The History of Alexander*, Books 4 and 5.  
Bosworth, *Conquest*, 68-100, 229-250, 266-290.

RECOMMENDED:

[Diodorus Siculus, Book 17.53-73](#)

Available Video Lectures:

[The Remains of Bronze Age Egypt - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r8yS5cp\\_PD0](#)

[Iron Age Near East - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_6JlhLOsBI](#)

[Mesopotamian Monuments - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AmGtTcI-jOo](#)

[The Iranian Hegemony - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5k7AWITyixo](#)

**APR 4-6: The Campaigns of Alexander, Part III: The March into Bactria, Cabin Fever, Conspiracies (Parmenio again).**

Assigned Readings:

[Afghanistan Notes](#); [Plots and Conspiracies](#)

Plutarch, *Life of Alexander*, pp. 301-314 (ch. 63).  
Arrian, *Campaigns of Alexander*, pp. 200-282.

Quintus Curtius, The History of Alexander, pp. 117-196.  
Bosworth, Conquest, 101-130  
Recommended:  
[Diodorus Siculus, Book 17.73-90.](#)

### **QUIZ III: THURSDAY APRIL 13**

#### **APR. 11-13: The Campaigns of Alexander, Part IV: The Indian Campaign, Battle of the Hydaspes River, More Conspiracies, Mutiny.**

Assigned Readings:

[Ancient India Chapter; India Campaigns](#)

Plutarch, Life of Alexander, pp. 314-324.

Arrian, Campaigns of Alexander, pp. 282-328.

Quintus Curtius, The History of Alexander, pp. 196-232.

Bosworth, Conquest, 130-139.

RECOMMENDED: [Diodorus Siculus, Book 17.86-105.](#)

Available Video Lectures:

ANCIENT INDIA: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=72BNuCBYd0I>

ARCHAEOLOGY OF INDIA: [https://youtu.be/D\\_U9dsIiXwo](https://youtu.be/D_U9dsIiXwo)

#### **APR. 18-20: The Campaigns of Alexander, Part V: Return to Babylon, Reorganization of the Army, Unfinished Plans, Death of Alexander. Wars of Succession: the Ptolemies, Seleucids, and Antigonids.**

Assigned Readings:

[Death of Alexander; Hellenistic Successor Kingdoms;](#)

Plutarch, Life of Alexander, finish.

Arrian, Campaigns of Alexander, finish.

Quintus Curtius, The History of Alexander, finish.

Bosworth, Conquest, 139-181.

Course website:

ON RESERVE:

Diodorus Siculus, Book 17.106-118

Available Video Lectures:

Classics 181: Hellenistic Greece: <https://youtu.be/DOeExFCrIFw>

#### **APR. 25-27: Hellenistic Society -- Religion, Philosophy, Art, Economy, Society, Culture.**

Assigned Readings:

Rauh, CLCS 181 Website: [Greek Philosophy Notes](#); [Greek Rational Thought](#); [Hellenistic Philosophy and Religion](#); [Hellenistic Society and Emergence of Rome](#)

[Available Video Lectures:](#)

Greek Intellectual Developments: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_zOO1Dvv7us](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_zOO1Dvv7us)

Greek Intellectual Influences on Christianity -

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQsGby\\_zZjk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQsGby_zZjk)

ROMAN IMPERIALISM - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2AW--Ls2YSU>

THE ROMAN REPUBLICAN ARMY - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1WHuPTUkz34>

**FINAL EXAM, TBA**