EUH 4408 (U01) The Age of Alexander

**Course Outline Fall 2020**

Course Provider: **Prof. Gwyn Davies**

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Office Hours: TBA

**Summary**

This course will trace the rise of the Macedonian Kingdom and the overshadowing of the *polis* system by a new dynastic superstructure. The extraordinary achievements of Philip of Macedon will be discussed and the wide-ranging political and military reforms instituted by Alexander the Great’s father will be explored. The overthrow of Persia and its replacement by a new Macedonian empire as a result of the extraordinary campaigns of Alexander leading to the dawn of a new Hellenistic world order will be outlined. Thematic issues that will be traversed will include *inter alia*: Macedonian military achievements in the context of ancient warfare; the adoption of autocratic governance and the erosion of local independence; the forging of a Hellenistic cultural overlay in the conquered territories and the mechanisms envisaged to achieve a Greco-Persian synthesis. There are no prerequisites for this course!

**Course Details**: EUH 4408 will be taught be means of one weekly lecture on Wednesdays 11.00–13.45 in Room TBA . Attendance at class is compulsory and attendance will be monitored throughout the semester. If you are unable to attend for any reason, please advise the course provider in advance. Absenteeism is likely to mean that your grade in the assessed work and in the examination will be adversely affected and regular absenteeism may result in the award of a lesser grade overall.

**Course Assessment**: This course will be assessed by means of the following elements: **ONE assessed essay** of 2,000words which will be worth 40% of the overall grade; **TWO in-class tests** EACH worth 10% of the overall grade; a **final examination** to be held in the last week of the semester (subject to confirmation by college authorities) which will comprise the balancing 40% of your total marks.

Please NOTE that any failure to complete any of these component elements will result in the awarding of an automatic F grade for the course as a whole. The deadlines (to be announced) for essay submission are absolute. Late submissions (defined as any work submitted to the course provider after 5pm on the due date) will be penalized with an automatic deduction of 5% per day (so, for example, if you hand in an essay 3 days late, 15% will be subtracted from your grade). NOTE: no work will be accepted for marking more than 7 days after the due date. Requests for extensions based on legitimate medical/other grounds must be made in advance of the submission date and must be supported by appropriate documentation. NO ‘make ups’ OR ‘re-writes’ will be permitted. **ALL essays must be submitted through BOTH Turnitin.com and a hard copy to the course provider.**

**Turnitin Information**:

Class #: **25182795**

Enrolment key: **daviesg**

**Plagiarism**: Written work should be properly referenced throughout. Please ensure that you restrict yourself to the quotation where relevant of single sentences or short passages only as these are relatively short assignments. Any work that is not the result of your own thought processes should be credited to the original source and any failure to observe this basic rule of academic discipline will be treated as plagiarism. Any student undertaking plagiarism of this nature will receive an automatic FAIL and will be reported to the appropriate authorities for further sanctions which may include the option of expulsion. Do not take a chance of copying another’s work…it is likely that you will be discovered and dealt with appropriately.

*Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and to honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Student Conduct and Honor Code procedures and sanctions as outlined in the FIU Regulation 2501 and the Student Handbook*

**Course Objectives**:Participants will understand the process whereby a relatively insignificant state in northern Greece came to dominate not only the *poleis* to its south but also overcame the grand Achaemenid Empire of Persia. The impact of the sweeping reforms initiated by Philip II and continued by Alexander the Great will be identified and the impact of the resulting military revolution appreciated.

**Course schedule**: The course will cover these subjects in the following order

1. Macedonia and the Greek World
2. Early Macedonian History
3. The Accession of Philip II and his early successes
4. The Expansion of Macedonia and Philip’s reforms
5. A Balkan Empire
6. The Submission of Greece
7. The Death of Philip and the Rise of Alexander
8. War against Darius
9. Alexander the ‘Great King’

During the lectures, students will be assigned readings from the required textbooks as appropriate.

**Required Reading**:

Renault, M. 1979. *The Nature of Alexander*. Random House. ISBN 9780394738253

Worthington, I. 2008. *Philip II of Macedonia*. Yale UP. ISBN 9780300164763

# Recommended Reading

Morkot, R. 1996. *The Penguin Historical Atlas of Ancient Greece*. Penguin. ISBN 9780140513356

Wood, M. 1997. *In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great*. BBC Books. ISBN 9780520231924