**CL3351 Alexander the Great**

**Summer Reading List and Tips**

**Primary sources**

For this course, I expect you to read **two** primary accounts of Alexander’s reign: you must **all** read **Arrian’s, *Anabasis***(also trans. as *Campaigns of Alexander-* available in various good and affordable translations including Penguin and Oxford World Classics), and **one** of the following:

* Diodorus Siculus, *Library of History* Book 17 (available in the Loeb translation: Founder’s 888 LOE/A
* Plutarch’s *Life of Alexander* (again various good translations including Penguin and Oxford World Classics)
* Quintus Curtius Rufus, *History of Alexander the Great* (Penguin translation)
* Justin, *Epitome of the Philippic History of Pompeius Trogus* Books 11-12.

**I expect you to have read the two primary sources by Christmas, so you are well advised to start reading early.**

**Secondary sources**

A key modern we will be using all along is **A.B. Bosworth, *Conquest and Empire: The Reign of Alexander the Great,* Cambridge 1993**. You will find it useful if you started reading the first part (focused on the narrative of Alexander’s reign) alongside the primary sources.

Plenty of modern biographies of Alexander are available, which you may find useful as introductions to the man and his historical exploit. I would single out the ones by Paul Cartledge (*The Hunt for a New Past*), Robin Lane-Fox (*Alexander the Great*) and Ian Worthington (*Alexander the Great: Man and God*). You don’t *have* to read any of those ahead of the course but you may want to spend some time with a biography of Alexander…. The shortest introduction to Alexander is Hugh Bowden’s, *Alexander the Great: A Very Short Introduction,* Oxford (Very Short Introductions) 2014.

Another volume we will be using for the course, which you may want to invest in is I. Worthington, *Alexander: A Reader*, London: Routledge 2012 (2nd edition).

**Greek History Revision**

Those of you who have already taken Greek History in their first and second years should revise the period from the middle of the fourth century covering Philip and Alexander. Pick any of the general Greek History books you 've used so far. S. Hornblower's *History of the Greek World*, or P.J. Rhodes, *A History of the Classical Greek World* will already be familiar to most of you. If they aren't (esp. if you haven't done much Greek history before), I strongly recommend that you get hold of a copy of either work and go through the history of the Greek fourth century so that you can more easily find your bearings when we start our journey with Alexander. Let me reiterate that the chapters on Philip and Alexander are essential reading but you may want to read further on either side of the chronological range that they cover (pre-mid-4th c. or post-323).

I shall be preparing the "Alexander the Great" **Moodle** site for the start of the new academic year over the next two months or so; try to avoid using it now– I shall let you know when it's ready to go.

If you have any questions about the course, please don't hesitate to contact me

**I am looking forward to meeting you all in late September! I hope you find some time to relax and recharge your batteries in the rest of the summer.**

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