Our theme this semester will be world conquest, or rule in the highest degree. We will explore this theme through the only extant classical work devoted to it, Xenophon’s *Education of Cyrus*. If his teacher Socrates represented one pole of Xenophon’s thought and writing, the legendary (and therefore largely fictional) Cyrus represented the other. In the enigmatically named *Education* (a title that appears appropriate only to the first of the eight books of the work as we have it) Xenophon depicts the inexorable rise of the princeling Cyrus to dominion over not just Persia (whose quasi-republican regime he must begin by subverting) but a vast empire.

A WARNING: CLASS SESSIONS WILL BE GRUELING AS THEY WILL RUN FOR THREE HOURS OR MORE. ALTHOUGH ALSO LISTED AS A 400-LEVEL COURSE, THIS COURSE IS A GRADUATE SEMINAR AND WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE GRADUATE LEVEL.

OUR CLASS MOTTO IS THAT OF THE OREGON TRAIL: THE COWARDS NEVER STARTED, THE WEAK DIED ALONG THE WAY

RECOMMENDED EDITION OF THE *EDUCATION OF CYRUS*, AVAILABLE AT THE BOB MILLER BOOK ROOM.


RECOMMENDED COMMENTARY, ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE BOB MILLER BOOK ROOM.

OTHER RECOMMENDED SECONDARY READINGS, AVAILABLE IN THE COURSE RESERVE ROOM ON THE FOURTH FLOOR OF ROBARTS LIBRARY OR AS ELECTRONIC RESOURCES.


Flower, Michael A. *The Cambridge Companion to Xenophon*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017. Includes a chapter on the *Education* by Fiona Hobden and several others that bear on it. ELECTRONIC RESOURCE


Hobden, Fiona, and Christopher Tuplin, ed. *Xenophon: Ethical Principles and Historical Enquiry*. Leiden; Brill, 2012. Includes several chapters on the *Education*. ELECTRONIC RESOURCE


Course Assignments and Marking Scheme

POL 485H1F (the undergraduate course). Two essays, one of 1375 words due Friday, October 12, one of 2750 words, due December 5; a take-home final exam (to be distributed the afternoon of Friday, November 16, due at 11 AM on Monday, November 19). The first essay will be worth 10% of the final mark, the second will be worth 40%, the take-home exam will be worth 40%, and there will be 10% for participation.

POL 2027H1F (the graduate course). An essay on a topic of the student's own devising, due January 5; a take-home exam (to be distributed the afternoon of Friday, November 16; due at 11 AM on Monday, November 19); each assignment worth half of the final mark. Essays must not exceed 5500 words and will not be read beyond the 5500th word. (There will be a much lower word limit for the take-home exam.)

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ESSAYS ELECTRONICALLY, THEREBY SPARING CANADA’S FORESTS.

N.B. In the graduate course as in the undergraduate one, no extensions will be granted on written work except for good cause. In keeping with Nietzsche’s theory of punishment, however, according to which every crime has its price and punishment was originally nothing more than an exaction of that price (cf. On the Genealogy of Morals, Second Essay), extensions will be readily available to those willing to purchase them. The price will be 3 points, plus 2 additional points per day beginning with the first, off your mark for that assignment. (If you are one day late you will lose 5 points; two days late, 7; etc.). This proviso does not apply to the take-home exam, which will not be accepted if late.

You are responsible for informing yourself of and abiding by the University's policies on plagiarism and other academic offenses. These are available at the Department of Political Science or from the instructor.

MR ORWIN'S OFFICE HOURS

Thursdays, 4-6, at Carr Hall 312 (926-1300, ext. 3277) (Or by appointment.) Voice mail messages can be left at this number, where I have voice mail, or you can e-mail me at clifford.orwin@utoronto.ca.