

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

POLITICAL SCIENCE 485H1F/2027H1F

TOPICS IN POLITICAL THOUGHT II

**THE POLITICS OF GLOBAL CONQUEST: XENOPHON'S
EDUCATION OF CYRUS.**

WINTER SESSION 2017-2018

Professor C. Orwin (clifford.orwin@utoronto.ca)

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.

Xenophon, *The Education of Cyrus*. Translated and Annotated by Wayne Ambler (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2001).

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

Nadon, Christopher. *Xenophon's Prince: Republic and Empire in the Cyropaedia*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001

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

Azoulay, Vincent. *Xénophon et les grâces du pouvoir: de la charis au charisme*. Paris : Publications de la Sorbonne, 2004. PA4497 .A96 2004

[Due, Bodil. *The Cyropaedia: Xenophon's aims and methods*](#). Aarhus: Aarhus University Press, 1989. PA4494 .C9 D94 1989

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

[Gray, Vivienne. *Xenophon's Mirror of Princes: Reading the Reflections*](#). Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011. ELECTRONIC RESOURCE

_____, ed. [Xenophon. *Oxford readings in classical studies*](#). Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010. Includes five chapters on the *Education*. PA4497 .X45 2010

_____. *Xenophon. Oxford Classical Bibliographies/ Oxford bibliographies On Line*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012. 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

Pangle, Lorraine S. "Moral indignation, magnanimity and philosophy in the trial of the Armenian king." In Andrea Radasanu, ed., *In Search of Humanity. Essays in Honor of Clifford Orwin*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2015, 101-113. BJ1533 .H9 I528 2015X

Sandridge, Norman B. *Loving Humanity, Learning, and Being Honored: the Foundations of Leadership in Xenophon's Education of Cyrus*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2012. PA4494 .C9 S26 2012X

Tatum, James. *Xenophon's Imperial Fiction: on the Education of Cyrus*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1989. PA4494 .C9 T38 1989

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.