

ALEXANDER and PERSIA
Dr. David Hopes
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Hum 124

THESIS 1: That Alexander and his empire can be understood as the moment when Greek civilization went global—and permanent-- and that the Roman Empire may be understood, partially, as phase 2 of that same plan.

- I. The Macedonian State and Greek disarray.**
 - A. Philip II and Olympias**
 - B. Strategies of Philip**

- II. Alexander III (the Great)**
 - A. Hegemony**
 - B. Charonea**
 - C. The Invasion of Asia**
 - 1. Guagemela**
 - 2. The End of the Earth**
 - 3. Babylon**
 - a. Hephaestion**
 - 4. A new World Order (Cosmopolitanism)**

- III. The Successor Kingdoms**
Ptolemy, Seleucus, the Antigonids,
Channukah.

- IV. The Hellenistic World**

Thesis 2: That Persia is the undersung colossus of antiquity, which, in addition to being a vast and successful empire, was the origin of much of what we think of as Christian or “Western” perceptions of the metaphysical.

- I. Cyrus and his empire**
Vocabulary: Darius, Xerxes, Cambyses, satrap

- II. Zoroaster**
Vocabulary: Zuruvan, Ahura Mazda, Ahriman, Zend Avesta, Mithras