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HIST 226
Annotated Outline
8/20/2012

TITLE: The Career of Alexander the Great

Thesis: In this paper I shall argue that Alexander the Great was so successful because he used a three-fold plan of military skill, religious propaganda and the elimination of political threats by assassination. By looking at specifically at the writings of the Roman historians Arrian and Plutarch as well coinage and archaeological evidence, this three-fold plan will become clear.

A. Introduction

- a. Open with quote by Peter Green
- b. Lay out the three-fold scheme

B. Military Skill

- a. Battle of Granicus
 - i. Chose terrain well (Arrian I.11)
- b. Battle of Issus
 - i. Went straight for Darius (Arrian II.4)
- c. Battle of Gaugamela
 - i. Attacked in morning, with fresh troops (Arrian III.7)

C. Religious Propaganda

- a. Open with Plutarch 3
- b. Playing Achilles at Troy
 - i. Athena's Shield (Arrian I.17)
 - ii. Satrap statue knocked over (Plut. 12)
- c. Playing liberator of Gordion
 - i. Gordion Knot story 1 (Plut. 18)
 - ii. Gordion Knot story 2 (Arrian I.35)
- d. Playing son of Ammon-Zeus at Siwa
 - i. "You are the son of a god!"
 1. coinage

D. Political Assassination

- a. Phillip II (?) maybe he did-maybe not
- b. Black Cleitus (Plut. (48-49)
- c. Parmenio and Philotas (Plutarch 50)

E. Conclusion

- a. Tie everything together