



Course	HONS 3199.HN15
Course Title	Collegium V Honors Readings - How to Conquer the World
Professor	Joshua Montgomery
Term	Fall 2024
Meetings	Friday 10:00am - 10:50am Erik Jonsson Academic Center – JO 3.536

CONTACT INFORMATION

Professor Name	Dr. Joshua Montgomery
Office Location	Physics Building (PHY) 1.702
Email Address	Joshua.Montgomery@utdallas.edu
Office Hours	1:15 – 2:15 MWF and by appointment.

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Course Objectives

“If you know the enemy and you know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles.”

- Sun Tzu

So, you’re thinking you might like to take over the world? Well, before embarking on such a project, it is probably prudent to heed the advice and warnings of those who have attempted, witnessed, and imagined similar efforts. After all, as the above quote from Sun Tzu suggests, the triumph of grand campaigns may well hinge on a few surprising prerequisites. What does it mean to know one’s self? What does it mean to know one’s enemy? In this course we will consider fundamental principles of human nature and psychology in the context of ruler and subject, conqueror and conquered. The careful admonitions of thoughtful thinkers spanning millennia offer insights into how failure might be averted and, perhaps more importantly, why success may not be as worthwhile as it seems.

Required Books and Materials

All materials are available for purchase or rent from a large variety of sources.

The texts for the course are:

- Xenophon. *The Education of Cyrus* (Agora Editions). Trans. Wayne Ambler. Cornell University Press (2001).
- Machiavelli. *The Prince*. Trans. Harvey C. Mansfield. University of Chicago Press (1998).
- Orwell, George. *1984: 75th Anniversary*. Penguin Random House (2023).

Modality: In-Person

The course is set to be taught as an in-person course meaning students are expected to attend class. If university policy requires the modality of course instruction to be adjusted, students will receive an email from the instructor with updated course information.

Course Schedule

Week	Book	Assignments
Week 1: Aug 23	Course Introduction	
Week 2: Aug 30	Education of Cyrus	Introduction, Book 1 & Book 2
Week 3: Sep 6	No Class	
Week 4: Sep 13	Education of Cyrus	Book 3 & Book 4
Week 5: Sep 20	Education of Cyrus	Book 5 & Book 6
Week 6: Sep 27	Education of Cyrus	Book 7 & Book 8 & Epilogue
Week 7: Oct 4	The Prince	Introduction, Note on Translation, Chronology, and Chapters 1-4
Week 8: Oct 11	The Prince	Chapters 5-11
Week 9: Oct 18	The Prince	Chapters 12-17
Week 10: Oct 25	The Prince	Chapters 18-26, Appendix, and Letter of December 10, 1513
Week 11: Nov 1	1984	Part 1
Week 12: Nov 8	1984	Part 2
Week 13: Nov 15	1984	Part 3
Week 14: Nov 22	Course Conclusion	
Fall Break & Thanksgiving Holiday – Nov 25 to Dec 1 – NO CLASS		
Week 15: Dec 5	3-Page Essay Due at 11:59pm	

ASSESSMENT

Assignment	Weight
Attendance & Participation	60%
Discussion Posts	20%
3-Page Essay	20%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Consistent with UT Dallas policy, students are graded on a plus/minus scale. *Grades will not be rounded in this course.*

UNIVERSITY STANDARD GRADING SCALE

Grading Schema and Grading Criteria: The grading scale is the standard undergraduate scale, with the point scale outlined below: A+ = 97 and above A = 94-96, A- = 90-93, B+ = 87-89, B = 84-86, B- = 80-83, C+ = 77-79, C = 74-76, C- = 70-73, D+ = 67-69, D = 64-66, D- = 60-63, and F = below 60.

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS

Attendance and Participation – 60%

An important requirement for this honors seminar will be active participation in class discussion. Be prepared to talk. Regular class attendance is expected.

Discussion Posts – 20%

For each week of the semester, I will open a discussion board with a question over that week's reading. Each student is required to post one response the day before class (Thursday at 11:59pm). All of the requirements for in-person civility also apply to online conversations. Everyone is expected to demonstrate a respect for the thoughts, opinions and beliefs of others – this does not require agreement, but civility.

3-Page Essay – 20%

Students are required to write a three-page essay which will require you to think critically about the assigned novels and integrate their material. I will provide additional information in class.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

The following link details all key UTD policies, including: confidential information, student conduct, academic integrity, email, grievances, accommodations for disabilities and religious observance, along with student resources. <https://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>

Academic Integrity

Every student at UT Dallas is expected to exercise independent thought and expression as he or she strives for academic achievement. Incorporated in the quest for intellectual growth are the expectations of honesty, originality in written and oral expression, a respect for the exchange of ideas, and acknowledgement and recognition of the abilities and contributions of others. Please see the university's academic integrity page for details and tips: <https://conduct.utdallas.edu/integrity>

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable under any circumstances. This includes but is not limited to plagiarism, collusion, cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, failure to contribute to a collaborative project, and sabotage. If a student is thought to be engaging in academic dishonesty, they will be referred to the Office of Community Standards and Conduct. For additional details on what may constitute academic dishonesty, please refer to the university's webpage: <https://conduct.utdallas.edu/dishonesty>

Generative AI

Students may not use generative AI tools to produce any content that is turned in for a grade. This includes, but is not limited to discussion posts and papers. The use of generative AI is permissible during in-class discussions as long as such use is immediately disclosed. Generative AI may be consulted for idea generation and research – but I strongly recommend independently verifying any results obtained through such tools. Any unauthorized use of Generative AI will be considered plagiarism.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The University of Texas at Dallas is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. The syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. If you are seeking classroom accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (2008), you are required to register with the AccessAbility Resource Center (ARC), located in the Administration Building, Suite 2.224. They can be reached by email, calling 972-883-2098, or at their website. To receive academic accommodations for this class, please register and request services by completing the Request for Services form with the proper documentation and meeting with the Director of ARC at the beginning of the semester.

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the AccessAbility Resource Center (ARC) has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. **Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an accommodation approved by the AccessAbility Resource Center (ARC).** Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students. Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>.

Please review the catalog sections regarding the [credit/no credit](#) or [pass/fail](#) grading option and withdrawal from class.