

# CLAS100

## LECTURE 4

September 21, 2015

There was a constitutional enmity(compare capitalism and communism)

- The democratic ideology (Athens)
- The communistic ideology (Sparta)

The Peloponnesian War, 431-404 BCE

- Fear of Athenian imperial(naval power)
- Sparta won the war
- The Classical period contains the high point the high and the low points of Greek civilization.
  - The war vs. Persia was the high point
  - The civil war between Sparta and Athens was the low point

### **After the Peloponnesian War**

- Hostilities continue, with the Corinthian War 395 BC
- There were shifting alliances
- Caused the rise of Macedon(ia)

### **Macedon(ia)**

- Semi-Greek kingdom
- Had a monarchy
  - powerful local elites
  - Instability
  - Interference of south Greece
  - A lot of coups and assassinations
  - Until Philip II of Macedon 359-336 BCE

## **Philip II**

- If not for him, Alexander the Great may have never had the empire he historically had
- Expanded Macedon's borders
- Military reforms
- Diplomat and marriage alliance
- Had a political marriage with Olympias of Epiros
- He was able to manipulate the Greeks to turn the states against one another
- Had a special relationship with Athens
- Once the his army was made Athens was scared
- Philip would have a way to make people feel safe
- Would send messages to Athens telling them he is not planning to attack
- By challenging Athens' ability to gather wheat there was finally a conflict
- The Battle of Chaironeia 338 BC
- Feigned Defeat to trap the Greeks
- The decided to move into Persia
- Was Assassinated in 336 BC
- Alexander The Great takes over

## **Alexander The Great**

- The Battle of Isos defeats Darius III
- Named a town called Alexandria in Egypt
- Created self titled towns in many places
- He instituted Local Greek speaking Government

- Moved to Babylon and begins to take after the eastern Kings
- Crazy with power
  - Greece felt reduced to a small state in a large empire
  - Felt strange to need to drop to their knees, as they only did this for their Gods
- Died or was Killed in Babylon 10 June 323 BC
- Historians are unsure if he died from a wound that got infected during battle, drank too much (very unpopular hypothesis) or was assassinated by a disgruntled General
- The people were not prepared for his death and had no succession plan (which was troubling)

Next Lecture continues with the period following the death of Alexander the Great.