King. Tyrant. Dictator. Hero. Why do people follow a leader? What kind of power do leaders have? Does gender make a difference? How have religious leaders, popular writers, and political theorists used the idea of kingship? This class explores leaders such as Augustus Caesar, Tokugawa Ieyasu, Elizabeth I and Shaka Zulu to deconstruct the meaning of royal power, the circumstances leading to its creation, and its significance to the societies in which it exists.

In the first weeks, we will examine various models for thinking about charismatic leadership. Using this theoretical background, we will proceed to analyze case studies in types of charismatic leadership. Although the cases range from the third century BCE up to the nineteenth century, the units will be arranged thematically: Forceful Personalities, Remaking Society, Owning the Image, Tyrants and Monsters, and Surrogates and Failures. At the end of the course, students will write a paper on a twentieth- or twenty-first-century leader of their choice, using the ideas discussed in class.

Required Texts

Niccolò Macchiavelli, *The Prince*
Ronald Mellor, *Augustus and the Creation of the Roman Empire*
Mark Cruse and Hilde Hoogenboom, *The Memoirs of Catherine the Great*
Michael Walzer, *Regicide and Revolution: Speeches at the Trial of Louis XVI*
Course Reader. Available through ERes. Labeled (R).

Assignments and Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Event Assignment</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Responses</td>
<td>15% (5 responses =3% each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class Presentation</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>35% (5% topic; 5% outline; 25% completed paper)</td>
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Participation: Normally, meetings will be composed of forty minutes of lecture and forty minutes of discussion. During the discussion section, students are expected to be lively and
engaged participants. This means speaking intelligently and on-topic; it also means listening to fellow students. *Note: On “Common Threads” days, the entire session will be dedicated to discussion.

**Current Event Assignment:** At the end of our unit on models of leadership (Part One), you will be asked to bring in a newspaper or magazine article from the past month that illustrates the dynamic between a society and the person who leads it. To accompany it, you will write a paragraph explaining why you chose it.

**Written Responses:** Before each of the sessions labeled “Common Threads,” students will prepare for discussion by writing a six- to ten-sentence response on the unit just covered. You may submit either an original post, or a response to another student’s post. The responses must be submitted to the course Blackboard site at least one and a half hours prior to the class meeting time. The dates for the written responses are 10/7, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20 and 12/9. They will be graded as $\sqrt{\text{-}}$, $\sqrt{\text{ }}$, or $\sqrt{\text{+}}$. These marks correspond to 2%, 2.5% and 3% of the total grade, respectively. Failure to post anything will result in 0 for that response. Late responses will not be accepted, since their purpose is to prepare for discussion.

**In-Class Presentation:** Each student is responsible for becoming a “specialist” in one of the leaders from week 5 onwards. For the presentation, he/she will read one extra book or article about that leader (listed on the syllabus), present the author’s ideas to the class and come up with 2-3 questions to start discussion. The books are on reserve at the library. The ideal presentation should be 10 minutes long and accompanied by a one-page handout. Please bring in a copy of your presentation notes for the instructor.

**Final Paper:** Each student will write a 10-12 page paper on a charismatic leader from the twentieth or twenty-first century, using the ideas and models discussed in class. Choices can range from Hitler to Princess Diana, but must be cleared with the instructor first. Students are required to turn in a topic on 10/16, an outline on 11/25 and the final paper on 12/15. Outside research is expected and necessary. Please give credit to any quotations or ideas that you use from other people or sources. Citations should be given in footnotes; please use the Chicago Manual of Style format (http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/contents.html).

**Late Papers:** For every 24 hours that an paper is late without an extension, it will receive a 1/3 grade reduction (e. g. a B+ paper will drop to a B- if it is two days late). Extensions will be given only for unavoidable emergencies and must be cleared with the instructor.

**Honor Code:** Students should conduct themselves according to the Oberlin College Honor Code, contained in the Student Handbook, available at http://www2.oberlin.edu/students/handbook/. Students should affirm their understanding of the code by copying out the Honor Pledge and signing it at the end of each essay turned in for this class.

**Laptop Policy:** Students are permitted to use laptops in class as long as it does not interfere with the learning and participation of the user and the people around him/her. Should the laptop prove unduly distracting, the instructor may request that the laptop be put away from the remaining duration of the day’s class.
SCHEDULE

Part One: Ideas about Leaders/Idealized Leaders

Week 1
Tuesday 9/2: Introduction
Readings: None

Thursday 9/4: What Came First? Leaders and Societies
Readings:
  • Weber, Part III (pp. 324-423). Concentrate on sec. IV-VI (pp. 358-391).

Week 2
Tuesday 9/9: Divine Intermediaries: Wrestling with Angels and Speaking for God
Readings:
  • Exodus 3-24 (IS)
  • Gilgamesh, Tablets I-VIII (IS)
  • Clifford Geertz, Negara (R)

Thursday 9/11: Might, Right and Mercy
Readings:
  • Tales of the Virgin Mary (IS)
  • Ernst Kantorowicz, The King’s Two Bodies (R)

Week 3
Tuesday 9/16: Natural Order
Readings:
  • Plato, The Republic (IS)
  • Aristotle, Politics, Book I.1, III.14-18, IV.10 (IS)
  • Bartolus of Sassoferrato (IS)

Thursday 9/18: Real Politik?
Readings: Macchiavelli, The Prince (all)

Week 4
Tuesday 9/23: Power to the People: The Social Contract
Readings:
  • 1 Samuel 8-16 (IS)
  • Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan, Part I, ch. 13-15; Part II, ch. 17-22, 29-30; Part III, ch. 40 (IS)

Current Event Assignment Due
Part Three: Forceful Personalities

Thursday 9/25: Alexander the Great
Readings:
• Plutarch, Life of Alexander (IS)
• Mossé, Alexander the Great, excerpts (R)
• Presentation Text: Claude Mossé, Alexander the Great: Destiny and Myth

Week 5

Tuesday 9/30: Charlemagne
Readings:
• Einhard, The Life of Charlemagne (IS)
• The Song of Roland, excerpts (IS)
Presentation Text: Heinrich Fichtenau, The Carolingian Empire

Thursday 10/2: Shaka Zulu
Readings:
• Selections from the James Stuart Archive (R)
• Hamilton, Terrific Majesty, excerpt (R)
Presentation Text: Carolyn Hamilton, Terrific Majesty

Week 6

Tuesday 10/7: Common Threads
Written Response
Readings: None

Thursday 10/9
NO CLASS: YOM KIPPUR

Part Four: Remaking Society

Week 7

Tuesday 10/14: Pax Romana: Augustus Caesar
Readings:
• Ronald Mellor, Part 1 (skim); Part 2, sec. 2-5 (pp. 90-122), 9-10 (pp. 148-172).
Presentation Text: Werner Eck, The Age of Augustus

Thursday 10/16: Uniting Heaven and Earth: Muhammad
Readings:
• Quran, Sura 23 “The Believers” (IS)
• Life of Muhammad (IS)
Presentation Text: Maxime Rodinson, Muhammad: Prophet of Allah
Paper Topic Due
Week 8

NO CLASS—FALL BREAK

Week 9

Tuesday 10/28: Leadership Bureaucratized: Tokugawa Ieyasu
Readings:
  • Marius Jansen, *The Making of Modern Japan*, excerpts (R)
  • Theodore de Bary, et. al., *Sources of Japanese Tradition*, excerpts (R)
Presentation Text: Conrad Totman, *Politics in the Tokugawa Bakufu*

Thursday 10/30: Common Threads
**Written Response**
Readings: None

Part Five: Owning the Image

Week 10

Tuesday 11/4: The Virgin Queen: Elizabeth I of England
Readings:
  • Documents from the reign of Elizabeth I (IS)
  • *Elizabeth I: Great Lives Observed*, excerpts (R)
Presentation Text: Helen Hackett, *Virgin Mother, Maiden Queen: Elizabeth I and the Cult of the Virgin Mary*

Thursday 11/6: The Enlightened Despot: Catherine the Great of Russia
Readings:
  • *The Memoirs of Catherine the Great*, pp. 1-34, 151-216.
  • Simon Dixon, *Catherine the Great*, excerpts (R)
Presentations Text: Simon Dixon, *Catherine the Great*

Week 11

Tuesday 11/11: Common Threads
**Written Response**
Readings: None

Part Six: Tyrants and Monsters

Thursday 11/13: The Number of the Beast: Nero
Readings:
  • Suetonius, *The Life of Nero* (IS)
  • Miriam Griffin, *Nero the End of a Dynasty* (R)
Presentation Text: Jurgen Malitz, *Nero*
Week 12
Tuesday 11/18: The Bloody Tsar: Ivan the Terrible
Readings:
  • Correspondence between Ivan IV and Prince Andrei Kurbskii
  • Andrei Pavlov and Maureen Perrie, *Ivan the Terrible*, excerpts (R)
Presentation Text: Andrei Pavlov and Maureen Perrie, *Ivan the Terrible*

Thursday 11/20: Common Threads
**Written Response**
Readings: None

Part Seven: Failures and Surrogates

Week 13
Tuesday 11/25: The Valois and Joan of Arc
Readings:
  • The Trial of Joan of Arc (IS)
**Paper Outline Due**

Thursday 11/27
THANKSGIVING: NO CLASS

Week 14
Tuesday 12/2: The Stewarts and Cromwell
Readings:
  • James I, A trew law of free monarchies (IS)
  • The Petition of Right (IS)
  • The Execution of Charles I (IS)
Presentation Text: *The Regicides and the Execution of Charles I* (R)

Thursday 12/4: Louis XVI, Marie Antoinette and the French Revolution
Readings:
  • *Regicide and Revolution*, pp. 120-214.
Presentation Text: *Regicide and Revolution*, Part One and Appendices

Week 15
Tuesday 12/9: Common Threads
**Written Response**
Readings: None

Epilogue
Thursday 12/12: Leadership and Society

Monday 12/15: **Final Paper Due 7:00pm**