DESCRIPTION: Magic is a significant part of the integrated cosmologies of world cultures. The study of magic provides unique insight into aspects of contemporary world medicine, psychology, religion, art, literature, music and film.

TEXTS:
Magic in the Middle Ages, Kieckhefer
Magic, Witchcraft and Ghosts in the Greek and Roman Worlds, Ogden
Doctor Faustus, Marlowe
The Tempest, Shakespeare
Ghost Stories of an Antiquary, M.R. James
One Hundred Folktales, Stith Thompson

Course Requirements
(40%) Eight quizzes on reading (30%) Midterm (30%) Final.

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND READINGS

8/29 Survey of magic

8/31 Survey results; Excerpts and Definitions of Magic
Eglise Madeleine in Troyes
Kieckhefer 1, Introduction: Magic as a Crossroads

Cosmological Magic: Creation of world and soul
9/2 Creation by word: Genesis, Egypt, Maya. Destruction of World: Apocalypse
Deferred: Flood in Genesis, Gilgamesh, Metamorphosis, Mayan

9/5 Creation by sacrifice: destruction of monster: Babylonian, Norse, Aztec

9/7 Immortality of the Soul: Egypt and Osiris. Introduction of Theurgy.
Kieckhefer 2 The Classical Inheritance

9/9 Creation by order and emanation: Chinese, Greek, Plato’s Timaeus; Myth of Afterlife: Macrobius Ascent of the Soul

Descent to the Underworld
9/12 Katabasis: Persephone, Hekate, Pythagoras, Orpheus, Japanese
Ogden 6. Witches in Greek Literature.

9/14 Katabasis: Hercules, Odysseus (Ogden 144) Theseus and Minotaur, Virgil, Buffy (Cumae, Reims, Chartres, Sunnydale)
9/16 Katabasis: Christ and Harrowing of Hell, St. Marthe, St. Margaret (Alyscamps, Tarascon)

9/19 Katabasis: Dante (Dore)
9/21 Katabasis: Inanna and UR
9/23 Ram in the Thicket

Pharmakopia
9/26 Witches: Pharmacology: Circe (Ogden 72), Calypso (73) Medea, (66, 68, 69, 71) Erictho (96) Thessalian (107) MacBeth

9/28 Witches: Hekate (Ogden 66-69) Iynx, (224) Curse tablets, Apuleius (104 and 107)

9/30 Witches: Persecution in Europe
Kieckhefer 8. Prohibition, Condemnation and Prosecution

Natural Magic: Weapons and Amulets
Kieckhefer 3 The Twilight of Paganism: Magic in the Norse and Irish Culture

10/5 Apotropaic Magic: Theurgy, Medusa, Evil Eye (Ogden 192-196), Romanesque demons
Ogden 13 Amulets

10/7 Apotropaic Magic: Relics, Danse Macabre
Kieckhefer 4 The Common Tradition of Medieval Magic

10/10 Magic Gems: Dragons and Gems: Cherokee, Japan, Norse
Kieckhefer 5 The Romance of Magic in Courtly Culture

10/12 Magic Gems: Breastplate of High Priest, Solomon, Revelations, Reliquaries (Ogden 274, 276)

10/14 Magic Gems: Theurgy, Arabic Picatrix, talismans, Medici collection, poison detecting gems
Kieckhefer 6 Arabic Learning and the Occult Sciences

10/17 Natural Magic: Ficino

10/19 Saturn and Melancholy: Four humors, Durer

10/21 Midterm exam
10/24 Divination: Hellenistic (Ogden 163, 166, 167), Crystal Gazing, Orthanc, Cherokee, Geomancy

10/26 Divination: Signs in the Bayeux Tapestry

**Ceremonial Magic**
10/28 Sorcerers: Abramelin the Mage and Ars Notoria
Kieckhefer 7 Necromancy in the Clerical Underworld

10/31 Samhain and Sorcerors  Doctor Faustus
11/2 Sorcerors: Doctor Faustus
11/4 Sorcerors The Tempest

**Transformation**
11/7 Initiation: Cupid and Psyche, East of the Moon, Beast
Thompson: 113-122

Thompson. 143-147

11/11 Werewolves: Ovid’s Metamorphoses

**Restless Dead**
11/14 The Restless Dead: Ghosts: Greek Ghosts: Marathon, Elpenor
Ogden 8 Ghosts

11/16 The Restless Dead: Victorian Ghosts
James 1-68

11/18 The Restless Dead: Zombies: Romero and Social Critique
James 69-153

11/21 The Restless Dead: Vampires: Nosferatu, Dracula, Buffy

**Apocalypse**
11/28 Apocalypse: Maya, Hopi, Environmental

11/30 Apocalypse: Revelations and West Portals of Romanesque and Gothic Churches

12/2 Apocalypse: Tarrochi
12/5 Apocalypse: LOTR (Helm’s Deep, Isengard, Mordor; serpent slaying, volcano, darkness)
12/7 Apocalypse: Buffy, Nicholas Flamel
12/9 Review for Final-Survey of Magic  12/12 Final exam