

**INST 213 MAGIC in the ARTS and HUMANITIES Fall, 2005 MWF 10-11**  
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**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**

10/3 African Metallurgy: Smithcraft; Magic Weapons: Viking, Japanese swords

Charlemagne, Roland, Arthur, Shield of Heracles, Athena, Beowulf

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 Sorcerors: 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

11/9 Animal wives: Melusine, Seal Wife, lamia.  
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  
Revelations. <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/revelation.html>

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