

Astrology's Mythic Background

Presenter: Joseph Crane

This course investigates a wide-ranging and compelling topic: the relationship between astrology and the mythic treasure of the West. We begin with the most universal symbols —the planets — and ends with different renderings of the twelve signs of the zodiac and their parallels in myth. This program is for people just learning astrology and intermediate students who want to brush up on their study of myth.

You will also learn about many of the stars and constellations of the Northern Hemisphere and their place in mythology and astrology.

Wednesday nights, May 2 - June 13, 2007

Arlington Senior Center

27 Maple St, Arlington, Ma.

\$135

1. The Outer Planets and the Beginning of Everything

Are the outer planets about the gods they are named for – Uranus, Poseidon/Neptune, and Hades/Pluto, or are their natures to be instead found in other Greek creation myths?

2. Olympus and the Cosmic State

How do our designations of the planets correspond with the politics of Mount Olympus?

3. Venus, Mars, Mercury

We explore many of the more profound realms designated by these planets.

4. Mythologies of the Sun and Moon

We compare how different cultures treated the luminaries mythically. We will compare the Greek/Roman with Babylonian and Egyptian solar and lunar motifs.

5. Heroes and the Zodiac 1 (Perseus, Theseus, and Jason)

We look at hero motifs that particularly belong to the first six signs of the zodiac – the Individual half.

6. Heroes and the Zodiac 2 (Heracles and the Zodiac)

We explore the cosmic dimension of the hero's journey and especially the second half of the zodiac.

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Coming this summer— Astrology: Harmonies and Symmetries