

MA CAA FOUNDATIONS MODULE – HPCA7015

SEMESTER 1: OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2024

All seminars take place online at 16:00 UK time

ORIENTATION - Monday 7 October 2024

- * Outline of how the module works.
- * Reading and preparation: Eagleton, Terry. 'Versions of Culture.' Chap. 1 In *The Idea of Culture*, 1-31. Oxford: Blackwell, 2000.
- * Assignments. **Think about:** Tittles for ESSAY 1, SKY OBSERVATION (ESSAY 2), and look at the titles for ESSAY 3.

1. Monday 14 October 2024 - CULTURE AND COSMOS

In order to know how different cultures perceive the cosmos, we need to know what culture is.

2. Monday 21 October 2024 - PHILOSOPHY: SOUL, PSYCHE AND THE CLASSICAL COSMOS

The direct, literary, origins of western cosmology lie in the classical world, so we will examine the fundamentals of classical cosmology.

3. 4:00 pm Monday 28 October 2024 – ASTROLOGY AND CULTURE

This week we aim to get a good understanding of theories of what exactly is astrology

ESSAY 1 due Monday 4 November 2024

4. Monday 4 November 2024 - COSMOLOGY AND CULTURE

One of the foundations of the MA is a familiarity with ideas of the cosmos.

Monday 11 November 2024 - READING WEEK

5. Monday 18 November 2024 - ASTRONOMY AND CULTURE

We will introduce the emerging discipline of 'cultural astronomy' and the new concept we are developing in the Sophia Centre: 'skylscapes'.

6. Monday 25 November 2024 - FATE AND FREEWILL IN THE COSMOS

The sky, stars, planets and cosmos are often thought to reveal the future, one's possible fate or destiny. This week we examine such theories.

ESSAY 2 due Thursday 28 November 2024

7. Monday 2 December 2024 - MYTH AND MAGIC IN THE COSMOS

In many cultures the sky and cosmos are described through myth and their meaning perceived through divination.

8. Monday 9 December 2024 – COSMOLOGY AND CULTURE IN THE MODERN WORLD

We need to understand the past, but also our position in the modern world – and how people relate to the cosmos now.

ESSAY 3 due Thursday 6 January 2025

Assignment marking schedule:

2,000 Word Essay: submission GMT 11.59 pm **Monday 4 November 2024**

Markers' meeting and return of essays: **Monday 25 November 2024**

2,000 Word Essay: submission GMT 11.59 pm **Thursday 28 November 2024**

Markers' meeting and return of essays: **Thursday 19 December 2024**

3,500 Word Essay: submission BST 11.59 pm **Monday 6 January 2025**

Markers' meeting and return of essays: **Monday 27 January 2025**