

Week 7 Reading List 2026

Hellenistic Astrology and its Place within Divinatory Practice

Required Reading

Barton, Tamsyn. *Ancient Astrology*, London/New York: Routledge, 1994. Chapters 1 and 2

Greenbaum, Dorian Gieseler. *The Daimon in Hellenistic Astrology: Origins and Influence*. Leiden/Boston: Brill, 2015. pp. 40-45, 399-415; also, see index under 'divination' **available from UWTSD Library as an e-book**

Greenbaum, Dorian Gieseler. 'The Origin of Questions in Astrology'. In *Astrologers at Work: Essays on the Practices and Techniques of Astrology in Memory of Helena Avelar*, eds Luís Campos Ribeiro and Charles Burnett. Leiden/Boston: Brill, 2025, pp. 1-58 **(Available as a pdf from tutor)**

Holden, James Herschel. *A History of Horoscopic Astrology from the Babylonian Period to the Modern Age*. Tempe, AZ: American Federation of Astrologers, 1996. pp. 1-19

Waterfield, Robin. 'The Evidence for Astrology in Classical Greece'. *Culture and Cosmos* 3.2 (1999): 3-15. **Available pdf at the Culture and Cosmos website:** <http://www.cultureandcosmos.org/issues/vol3.php>

Additional Reading (most available online)

Campion, Nicholas, *The Dawn of Astrology: A Cultural History of Western Astrology*, Vol. 1, The Ancient and Classical Worlds, London: Continuum, 2008: Chapters 9 and 10: Archaic and Classical Greece (Homer, Hesiod and Plato); Chapters 11, 12 and 13: Hellenistic cosmology and astrology; Chapter 14: Roman astrology.

Edson, Evelyn and Emilie Savage-Smith, "An Astrologer's Map: A Relic of Late Antiquity," *Imago Mundi*, Vol. 52, (2000), pp. 7-29: **Available on JSTOR**

Greenbaum, Dorian Gieseler. 'The Hellenistic Horoscope'. In *Hellenistic Astronomy: The Science in Its Contexts*, eds Alan C. Bowen and Francesca Rochberg, 443-471. Leiden/Boston: Brill, 2020. **(pdf available: please ask if you are interested)**

Greenbaum, Dorian Gieseler. 'Divination and decumbiture: Katarchic astrology and Greek medicine'. In *Divination and Knowledge in Greco-Roman Antiquity*, edited by Crystal Addey, 109-37, London/New York: Routledge, 2022. **Available from UWTSD Library as an e-book**

Greenbaum, Dorian, and Alexander Jones. 'P.Berl. 9825: An elaborate horoscope for

319 CE and its significance for Greek astrological practice'. *ISAW Papers* 12 (2017). Available at <http://dlib.nyu.edu/awdl/isaw/isaw-papers/12/> (<http://doi.org/2333.1/brv15m2n>)

Greenbaum, Dorian Gieseler, and Micah T. Ross. 'The Role of Egypt in the Development of the Horoscope'. In *Egypt in Transition: Social and Religious Development of Egypt in the First Millennium BCE*, eds L. Bareš, F. Coppens and K. Smolarikova, pp. 146-82, Prague: Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague, 2010. **(pdf available: please ask if you are interested)**

Heilen, Stephen, "Teaching 'Astrology in Greece and Rome'. *The Classical Journal*, Vol. 98, No. 2 (Dec., 2002 – Jan., 2003), pp. 201-210: **Available on JSTOR**

Jones, Alexander, "The Adaptation of Babylonian Methods in Greek Numerical Astronomy". *Isis*, Vol. 82, No. 3 (Sep., 1991), pp. 441-453: **Available on JSTOR**

Lawrence, Marilyn. 'Astral symbolism in theurgic rites'. In *Divination and Knowledge in Greco-Roman Antiquity*, edited by Crystal Addey, 270-94, London/New York: Routledge, 2022. **Available from UWTSD Library as an e-book**

Lehoux, Daryn, 'Parapegmata: Astrology, Weather and Calendars in the Ancient World', PhD Thesis, University of Toronto', 2000.
<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/obj/s4/f2/dsk2/ftp03/NQ53766.pdf>

Neugebauer, O., 'Demotic Horoscopes'. *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, Vol. 63, No. 2 (Apr. – Jun., 1943), pp. 115-127: **Available on JSTOR**

Neugebauer, O. and H. B. Van Hoesen. *Greek Horoscopes*. Philadelphia: The American Philosophical Society, 1959, repr. 1987. **Available to read and/or download at the Ancient World Digital Library, <https://dlib.nyu.edu/ancientworld/> (search 'Greek Horoscopes')**

Pingree, David. *From Astral Omens to Astrology: From Babylon to Bīkāner*. Rome: Istituto italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente, 1997.

Riess, Ernst, 'The Influence of Astrology on Life and Literature at Rome'. *The Classical Weekly*, Vol. 27, No. 10 (Dec. 18, 1933), pp. 73-78: **Available on JSTOR**

Riley, Mark, 'Science and Tradition in the *Tetrabiblos*', *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*, Vol. 132, no 1, pp. 67-84, 1988. **Available on JSTOR**

Riley, Mark, 'Theoretical and Practical Astrology: Ptolemy and His Colleagues', *Transactions of the American Philological Association*, 117, (1987), pp. 235- 256: **Available on JSTOR**

Sarton, George Reviewed work(s): Astrology in Roman Law and Politics by Frederick H. Cramer. *Speculum*, Vol. 31, No. 1 (Jan., 1956), pp. 156-161: **Available on JSTOR.**

Additional Reading (other)

Aaboe, A. "Scientific Astronomy in Antiquity." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. Series A, Mathematical and Physical Sciences*, Vol. 276, No. 1257, The Place of Astronomy in the Ancient World (May 2, 1974), pp. 21-42.

Beck, Roger, *A Brief History of Ancient Astrology*, Oxford: Blackwell, 2007.

Cramer, Frederick H., *Astrology in Roman Law and Politics*, Chicago: Ares Publishers, 1996.

Evans, J. (2004), 'The Astrologer's Apparatus: A Picture of Professional Practice in Greco-Roman Egypt', *Journal for the History of Astronomy* 35.1: 1-44. **Available here:** <http://adsabs.harvard.edu/full/2004JHA....35....1E>

Fowden, G., *The Egyptian Hermes* (1986), esp. pages 75-94 on *sympatheia*, *daimones* and Egyptian and Graeco-Roman magic

Noegel, Scott (ed.), *Prayer, Magic, and the Stars in the Ancient and Late Antique World*, Philadelphia: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2003.