

WESTERN WITCHCRAFT I  
**The Fundamentals and Doctrinal Basis**

YOUR INSTRUCTOR: Benebell Wen

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

*Western Witchcraft I* is a 13-module course on the doctrinal basis and theory of ceremonial magic and witchcraft descending from Solomonic traditions. This will be an immersive study of the first 12 substantive chapters, from Candidate to The Great Work in Eliphas Levi's *Doctrine* (1854) from *Doctrine and Ritual of Transcendental Magic* (1854 – 1856), as translated by A. E. Waite (Trans. 1896). Selected sections of *Ritual, Key to the Great Mysteries* as translated by Aleister Crowley, and works by Cornelius Agrippa, Israel Regardie, and Paul Foster Case, among others, are covered in brief.

I recommend working through the course materials over a 13-week period. If you are confident that you can take on more than one module per week, then please feel free to do so. I urge you to set a specific day of the week and specific hour of that day committed to watching the module video lecture in the same way you would attend a university-level course lecture on the same day and same hour every week. Then, reading and practicum assignments are done as you are able to throughout that week.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Attain familiarity with the doctrinal basis and theoretics of Western ceremonial magic
- Study the first 12 chapters of Eliphas Levi's *Transcendental Magic*, Part I: Doctrine
- Craft your first four altar tools and use Levi's Conjunction of the Four ritual to charge and empower those tools (main focus in this course will be on the wand and the pentacle, per Levi's assertion that the wand is first and foremost your most important ritual tool and second in importance to the wand is your pentacle)
- Craft a divine lamp for ritual use and work through a prophetic astral vision
- Train yourself to harness the Astral Light, then learn techniques to both strengthen and increase your flexibility with the Light to produce the Magic Chain

TEXTS:

- *The Doctrinal Basis of Transcendental Magic: A Fundamentals Course in Witchcraft*
- *Clavicula Salmonis and Collected Studies on Solomonic Magic*

The digital files to both texts are provided as part of your course materials, though you'll need to get them printed into physical copies on your own.

PEER TO PEER Q & A FORUM:

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/witchcraft-fundamentals>

COURSE OUTLINE:

As you read through the workbook, highlight “quotable quotes” or passages that affect you. (But be discerning; don’t end up highlighting the entire book, as there is that impulse, too...)

COURSE MODULE	VIDEO LECTURE	WORKBOOK READING	PRACTICUM
0	Introduction <input type="checkbox"/> 26:41 min.  <input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes	<input type="checkbox"/> Preface, p. 2 – 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 0. Introduction, p. 6 – 28 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Structure of Doctrine & Ritual, p. 360 <input type="checkbox"/> About Eliphas Levi, p. 358 – 359	<input type="checkbox"/> Flip through the pages of your <i>Doctrinal Basis</i> workbook and skim the landscape of the chapters so you have a road map in mind <input type="checkbox"/> Skim and flip through the pages of the supplemental text, <i>Clavicula Salomonis and Collected Studies on Solomonic Magic</i>
1	The Candidate <input type="checkbox"/> 49:00 min.  <input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes	<input type="checkbox"/> I. The Candidate, p. 29 – 49	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the Candidate’s Pledge of Honor and Pledge of Aspirations <input type="checkbox"/> Set up what will be your altar space and veil it with your altar cloth; clean and de-clutter the room that your working altar will be set up in
2	Pillars of the Temple <input type="checkbox"/> 21:44 min.  <input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes	<input type="checkbox"/> II. The Pillars of the Temple, p. 50 – 60	<input type="checkbox"/> Set up the two pillars on your altar space <input type="checkbox"/> Daily isometrics practice to observe and sense the equal and opposite forces <input type="checkbox"/> Identify your dominant and your passive hand
3	Triangle of Solomon <input type="checkbox"/> 47:49 min.  <input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes	<input type="checkbox"/> III. The Triangle of Solomon, p. 61 – 78	<input type="checkbox"/> Set up a representation of the holy trinity on your altar space <input type="checkbox"/> Keep a Book of Voices journal to practice Listening (listen to the silence; listen to rhythms and the pulses of the material world; listen to strangers conversing; listen to your family conversing; listen to your thoughts—take notes of your impressions as you

		<input type="checkbox"/> Focused Meditation for the Magus 7 min. ea. <i>Choose your element(s)</i> [Closed Captioned]		listen) <input type="checkbox"/> Select a few sacred texts to read from or learn more about <input type="checkbox"/> Select one of the four Focused Meditations for the Magus (Fire, Water, Air, or Earth), <b><u>using the second person version (you/your)</u></b> , and follow along the guided meditation video at least 3 times during the period you are on Module 3.  Element: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3  <input type="checkbox"/> Integrate focused meditation with the isometrics practice to cultivate your awareness of that unseen force field
4	The Tetragram	<input type="checkbox"/> 43:25 min.  <input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes	<input type="checkbox"/> IV. The Tetragram, p. 79 – 156  <input type="checkbox"/> Continue with the Focused Meditations for the Magus (Fire, Water, Air, or Earth), <b><u>now switching to the first person version (I, me, my)</u></b> , and follow along the guided meditation video at least 3 times during the period you are on Module 4.  Element: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Craft your wand <input type="checkbox"/> Craft your pentacle <input type="checkbox"/> Source your chalice and dagger <input type="checkbox"/> Study the Conjunction of the Four, then design your own derivative of it (or if you prefer, work with my version of the Conjunction as provided in the workbook) <input type="checkbox"/> Perform the Conjunction of the Four ritual to empower your four tools <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Key of the Cosmos and Numbers</i> . Use your wand to trace the numerical designs instructed by Case and for each number, recite its Truth; perform this numerological dedication ritual at least once
5	The Pentagram	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:06:30 hr.  <input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes	<input type="checkbox"/> V. The Pentagram, p. 157 – 191	<input type="checkbox"/> Charge your pentacle with the Blazing Pentagram ritual <input type="checkbox"/> With a tarot deck, complete the Five Interrogatories divinatory reading <input type="checkbox"/> Perform the Lesser Banishing

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Salt, Water, and Oil for Ritual</i> 08:03 min. [Closed Captioned]</li>   <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Your Pentacle and Your Wand</i> 06:51 min. [Closed Captioned]</li> </ul>		<p>Ritual of the Pentagram</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Perform the Invoking Ritual of the Pentagram</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Draft your ecumenical exorcism incantation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Study and try out the methods for exorcising salt, water, and oil for ritual, per the supplemental video lecture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Two additional video lectures for this module: “Salt, Water and Oil for Ritual” and “Your Pentacle and Your Wand.”</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Continue with the Focused Meditations for the Magus (Fire, Water, Air, or Earth), working with the version you prefer (i.e., first person or second person). Follow along the guided meditation video at least 3 times during the period you are on this module. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</li> </ul>
6	Magical Equilibrium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 27:41 min.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> VI. The Magical Equilibrium, p. 192 – 211</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Continue with the Focused Meditations for the Magus (Fire, Water, Air, or Earth), working with the version you prefer (i.e., first person or second person). Follow along the guided meditation video at least 3 times during the period you are on this module. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete Exercise #1, using your wand to channel Astral Light for bodily healing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete Exercise #2, crafting a simple Pentacle of Venus talisman for yourself</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete Exercise #3, casting an Armor of Astral Light around yourself for psychic protection</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete the Mid-Point Divinatory Check-In (tarot, runes, or geomancy)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Reminder:</i> Perform the Conjunction of the Four ritual again, to empower your four tools</li> </ul>
7	Fiery Sword	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 20:56 min.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> VII. The Fiery Sword, p. 212 – 235</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Craft the Planetary Seal for Personal and Career Success</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Continue with the Focused Meditations for the Magus (Fire, Water, Air, or Earth), working with the version you prefer (i.e., first person or second person).</li> </ul>

			<p>Follow along the guided meditation video at least 3 times during the period you are on this module. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Reminder:</i> Perform the Conjunction of the Four ritual again, to empower your four tools</p>
8	Realization	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 26:49 min.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> VIII. Realization, p. 236 – 249</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Craft the Magical Tablet for Healing, using some of the excess salt you had during the rituals</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Continue with the Focused Meditations for the Magus (Fire, Water, Air, or Earth), working with the version you prefer (i.e., first person or second person). Follow along the guided meditation video at least 3 times during the period you are on this module. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Reminder:</i> Perform the Conjunction of the Four ritual again, to empower your four tools</p>
9	Initiation	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 26:38 min.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Guided Astral Vision</i> 12:02 min. [Closed Captioned]</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> IX. Initiation, p. 250 – 275</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Craft your Lamp for Divine Magic (or an alternative)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Complete the guided Prophetic Astral Vision exercise; this is a divinatory reading with tarot</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Review “To Be the Initiate”</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Revisiting the Candidate’s Pledge of Honor (tarot reading)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Revisiting the Candidate’s Pledge of Aspirations (tarot reading)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Consider:</i> Commencement of the “40 Days &amp; 40 Nights”</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Continue with the Focused Meditations for the Magus (Fire, Water, Air, or Earth), working with the version you prefer (i.e., first person or second person). Follow along the guided meditation video at least 3 times during the period you are on this module. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</p>

10	The Kabbalah	<input type="checkbox"/> 30:25 min.  <input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes	<input type="checkbox"/> X. The Kabbalah, p. 276 – 309	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Reminder:</i> Perform the Conjunction of the Four ritual again, to empower your four tools  <input type="checkbox"/> Complete the “Invoking a Higher Angel for Divination” tarot reading session <input type="checkbox"/> Continue with the Focused Meditations for the Magus (Fire, Water, Air, or Earth), working with the version you prefer (i.e., first person or second person). Follow along the guided meditation video at least 3 times during the period you are on this module. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Reminder:</i> Perform the Conjunction of the Four ritual again, to empower your four tools
11	The Magic Chain	<input type="checkbox"/> 35:30 min.  <input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes  <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Magic Chain and the Witch’s Power to Bless</i> <input type="checkbox"/> 36:21 min.	<input type="checkbox"/> XI. The Magic Chain, p. 310 – 329	<input type="checkbox"/> Harness the magic chain (astral light) to charge charms and talismans as instructed in the video lecture <input type="checkbox"/> Harness the magic chain to charge a simple stone, as instructed in “The Magic Chain and the Witch’s Power to Bless” <input type="checkbox"/> Continue with the Focused Meditations for the Magus (Fire, Water, Air, or Earth), working with the version you prefer (i.e., first person or second person). Follow along the guided meditation video at least 3 times during the period you are on this module. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
12	The Great Work	<input type="checkbox"/> 46:50 min.  <input type="checkbox"/> Review lecture notes	<input type="checkbox"/> XII. The Great Work, p. 330 – 354  <input type="checkbox"/> Epilogue, p. 355 – 357	<input type="checkbox"/> Perform the ritual for healing the physical body with zodiacal astral light <input type="checkbox"/> Complete the questionnaire for yourself, “Exi ut Introeas” to begin assembling and synthesizing your learned knowledge to date

*Where to Go From Here?*  
(Closing Remarks)  
23:30 min.  
[Closed Captioned]

After completing the questionnaire, use your responses as reference to design your own Key  
 Complete the Final Divinatory Check-In reading (tarot, runes, or geomancy)  
 Conclude the course with the “Where to Go from Here?” closing remarks.

After completing the workbook, return to the beginning and skim the pages cover to cover again, this time only reading the passages you’ve highlighted.

#### TAROT DIVINATION:

The formatted digital files for producing your own 30-card deck consisting of the tarot Major Arcana, four Kings (renamed here to Archangels), and four Aces come with your course materials. These cards come from my hand-illustrated deck, the *Spirit Keeper’s Tarot*, a merger of the Rider-Waite-Smith symbology and Crowley’s Thoth.

You can download the 200-page Medium White Book of all card meanings for free from my website ([benebellwen.com](http://benebellwen.com)) under the tab “Spirit Keeper’s Tarot” and “Free Tarot Book Download.” If you are a total tarot beginner with little to no experience with the cards, you can use the free 30-card deck, print a copy of it out for yourself, and consult the Medium White Book as reference to guide your divination work.

#### ADDITIONAL READING RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1620, *Of the Threefold Life of Man* by Jakob Böhme
- 1624, *Viridarium Chymicum* by Daniel Stolz von Stolzenberg
- 1758, *Heaven and Hell* by Emanuel Swedenborg
- 1861, *The Key to the Great Mysteries* by Eliphas Levi (Aleister Crowley, Trans. 1959)
- 1894, *The Hermetic and Alchemical Writings of Paracelsus* by A. E. Waite, Ed.
- 1906, *Thrice-Greatest Hermes*, Vol. I, II, and III by G. R. S. Mead
- 1947, *The Tarot: A Key to the Wisdom of the Ages* by Paul Foster Case
- 1984, *Complete Golden Dawn System of Magic* by Israel Regardie

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The success of my course offerings is dependent on word of mouth. You truly are doing me the biggest favor when you share snapshots of this course on your social media, talk about it, or recommend it to your friends. Sharing your impressions and how you’ve been working through this course on your public platform helps me to keep on doing what I’m doing and enable these types of course offerings to be possible. Thank you for helping me spread the word. Lots of love, Bell.