24EN801

**Occulture and Contemporary Culture** 

4-0-04

Year of introduction: 2024

**Objectives:** To introduce the concept of occult culture and its influence on popular culture and how it has transformed itself into a new social, cultural, literary, and political movement. Aiming at student-centric learning through regular presentations and discussions, the course will impart an understanding of the formation and dissemination of occulture. The course will also provide a platform for understanding the various approaches to identify, analyze, appreciate, and apply occulture ideologies in art and popular culture. This course will enhance the scholar's overall

understanding of occulture, its evolution, and influence in contemporary society.

Learning Objectives: The course helps to study the different aspects of literary and cultural

associations, formations, and dissemination of occulture ideologies in modern culture.

**Pedagogy:** The course will cover the theoretical understanding of occulture and its connection to

popular culture. Along with this, the close readings and analysis of some narratives of popular

occulture-centric essays, documentaries, songs, and movies for understanding the aesthetics and

general pattern.

**Syllabus** 

**Unit 1: Occult Through the Ages: Tracing the Evolution of Occulture** 

The Evolution of Occult – Greek Mysticism – The Hermetic Revival – Rosicrucianism – Kabballah

- Theosophy - The Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn - New Age Movement - New World

Order – Occulture.

Occult Origins: Hakim Bey's Ontological Post-Anarchism – Jospeh Christian Greer

Magic: The Sacred as Power – Gordan Djurdjevic

Introduction: The Visual and the Symbolic in Western Esotericism – Peter J Forshaw

Satanism Before and After the Advent of Christ – William Guy Carr

Anthropology of Evil: The Folklore of Satanism – Asbjorn Dyrendal, James R. Lewis, Jesper AA.

Petersen

An Introduction to Thelema – Mario Martin-Merino

*Initiation into Hermetics* – Franz Bardon

## **Unit 2: Analyzing Myth and Occult: Literary Theory**

Comparative Mythology – Narrative Theory – Esotericism – Jungian Archetypes – Ritual Magic – Anton LaVey – Gerald Gardiner – Aleister Crowley – Carl Jung – Roland Barthes.

*The Structural Study of Myth* – Claude Levi Strauss

On Psychology and Pathology of So-Called Occult Phenomena—Carl Jung

Magick and Metaphor: Defining Two Key Terms – Lloyd Kenton Keane

# Unit 3: Occulture and Popular Zeitgeist: Occult in Contemporary Culture

The Globalization of Esotericism – Wouter J Hanegraaff

The Seeds of Satan: Conception of Magic in Contemporary Satanism – Jesper Aagaard Petersen.

*How the WRM was Transferred to Earth* – William Guy Carr

Esotericism Recorded Today (From Chapter 14 of Esotericism Recorded: Text, Scripture, and Parascripture) – Dylan M Burns

Season of the Witch – Peter Bebergal

# Unit 4: Disseminating Clandestine Ideas: Occult Through Mass Media

Häxan Witchcraft Through the Ages – Directed by Benjamin Christenses, Screenplay by Benjamin Christenses (1922)

*Hail Satan?* – Directed by Penny Lane (2019)

The Occult Experience – Directed by Frank Heimans (1985)

Satanis: The Devil's Mass – Directed by Ray Laurent (1970)

O Father O Satan O Sun – Lyrics by Adam Darski and Krzysztof Azarewicz (2014)

Year Zero – Lyrics by Martin Persner and Tobias Forge (2013)

#### **Prescribed Texts:**

*The Archetypes and the Collective Unconscious* – C G Jung (1959)

Esotericism and Christian Kabbalah: 1480-1520 – Don Karr (2021)

*On the Psychology and Pathology of So-Called Occult Phenomena* – C G Jung (1982)

Occulture: The Unseen Forces That Drive Culture Forward – Carl Abrahamsson (2018)

Secret History of Rock 'n' Roll: The Mysterious Roots of Modern Music – C Knowles (2010)

Season of the Witch: How the Occult Saved Rock and Roll – Peter Bebergal (2015)

An Introduction to Thelema – Mario Martin-Merino (2021)

Against Satanism: 10,000 Years of Total Control - Satanic History-Fake Communism-Karl Marx

- British Agent - Swami Satchidanand (2018)

Dictionary of Gnosis and Western Esotericism - Wouter J Hanegraaff, Antoine Faivre, Roelof van den Broek, Jean-Pierre Brach (2006)

*The Satanist* – Behemoth (2014 - album)

*Infestissumam* – Ghost B.C (2013 - album)

*Psychology and the Occult* – C G Jung (1982)

Occult Origins: Hakin Bey's Ontological Post-Anarchism – Joseph C Greer (2013)

Routes of Wholeness: Jungian and Post-Jungian Dialogues with the Western Esoteric

*Tree of Life* – Llyod Kenton Keane (2007)

*The Invention of Satanism* – Asbjorn Dyrendal, James R. Lewis, Jesper AA. Petersen (2015) *Satan, Prince of This World* – William Guy Carr (1966)

The Rise of Dutch Satanism – Susanne Kuipers, Dr. W Hofstee (2014)

Symbols of Transformation – C G Jung (1952)

The Seeds of Satan: Conceptions of Magic in Contemporary Satanism – Jesper Aagaard Petersen (2012)

*The Structural Study of Myth* – Claude Levi Strauss (1955)

#### **Course Outcome:**

After the Completion of the course, the student will be able to –

- CO1 Trace the origin, evolution, and dissemination of the occult in popular culture.
- CO2 Analyze and apply occult-related literary theories in art and culture.
- CO3 Critically analyze the elements of occult culture in contemporary art forms.
- CO4 Evaluate through identifying and analyzing the various themes, symbols, motifs, and devices related to occulture.

### **Evaluation Pattern:**

	Weightage	Component
Internal	50 (30 + 20)	Mid-Term Examination (30) + Continuous Evaluation [Presentation] (20)
External	50	End Semester Examination
Total	100	