

## Crossroads Fellowship Pathways to Knowledge

Merry Greet,

Thank you for your expressed interest in receiving material about our unique home study course in "Witchcraft and the Old Ways". Included in this information and registration packet is an outline describing the course and how it works.

The "Witchcraft and the Old Ways" Course of Study you are about to consider is unique in many ways. It has been created and prepared by two practicing elders of the Old Ways of Witchcraft with the combined experience and knowledge of over 40 years. This includes training in Celtic, Brittic, Pictish-Gaelic and Italian Witchcraft traditions. In the packet you will find personal biographies and a Course Description.

The purpose of this course is to establish a sound and cohesive understanding of Witchcraft as a religion, spirituality and magical path. The creators of this course have used as a basis for these teachings the commonality of pre-Christian European Witchcraft/Paganism. This commonality is the primary format for the lesson material. Please note that this course is not tradition specific. You will come to understand that specific traditions of Witchcraft simply convey the cultural expression of the pre-Christian European Witchcraft/Paganism commonality. Therefore "the one truth" is expressed through the many cultural perceptions such as found in Celtic, Italian, Germanic, Teutonic, and Saxon traditions, etc. However, four supplemental lessons will provide the cultural connections of Italian Witchcraft and Celtic Witchcraft as a comparative study.

Ultimately the intent of the Course is to provide you with the spiritual tools that allow for personal transformation. This is achieved by applying the information, techniques, and exercises supplied in this Course to a life style of living in "common cause" with Nature. Personal transformation and enlightenment is a lifetime endeavor and process. The Course is a guide and map to help you on the Path you choose to walk.

Now that we have provided an introduction to "Witchcraft and the Old Ways" please read through the information packet in the order provided. Do not skim read or you will misunderstand the structure and the way this course works.

Bright Blessings on the path!

**Raven Grimassi and Stephanie Taylor-Grimassi**

# WITCHCRAFT & THE OLD WAYS

## ABOUT THIS COURSE

This is a course about the Old Ways of Witchcraft, the core of which existed long before the modern adaptations and modifications of the contemporary Craft. The Old Ways are the root connections to the vital essence of the wisdom and knowledge preserved and passed on by our ancestors. Witchcraft, the Old Religion, is a great ancient tree that contains all that has come before. The fruit it produces is the nourishment of enlightenment that joins one generation to the other. But, like any tree, it is the roots that keep the tree alive and established.

This course that we offer is all about alignment with those ancient roots. This ancient tree was there before any cultures arose to establish themselves as Etruscan, Roman, Celtic, Germanic, Nordic and so forth. So, to limit our understanding of Witchcraft by focusing primarily on any one tradition is to miss the wholeness of the tree itself. Therefore this course is designed to provide you with the untainted core teachings, beliefs, and practices from which all European-based traditions have drawn. However, the supplemental lessons pertaining to Italian Witchcraft and Celtic Witchcraft are supplied in addition to the primary 13 lessons of the course. This is provided in order to compare the northern European view with the southern European view.

The material in the Witchcraft & the Old Ways is not a rehash of widely available writings. It is instead a unique opportunity to explore and understand many concepts not brought forth from the shadows in any books or articles to date. The instructors of this course are lineage Witches initiated and trained in non-public traditions. Therefore the material presented is not an eclectic patchwork creation, nor is it watered-down for the masses. This is authentic old Witchcraft as once taught by the hearthside, from master to apprentice.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This Course is designed for monthly lessons, which include a lesson "question & answer" self test review. The Course also includes a "fellowship for members only" online discussion group where students can obtain additional information and meet like-minded people.

The Course includes the following:

- ★ An "Old Ways Alignment" ritual.
- ★ Unique set of thirteen primary monthly lessons, each with a question and answer self-test sheet.
- ★ Training and personal development exercises.
- ★ Online "fellowship member only" discussion group
- ★ Illustrations, graphics and tables/charts.

The Course covers a wide variety of topics, which appear in various lessons of this Course.

These topics include:

- ★ Historical and literary roots of Witchcraft
- ★ Witchcraft as an Earth religion
- ★ The Witches' Goddess
- ★ The Witches' God
- ★ The Otherworld & Underworld
- ★ The Teachings of the Tree
- ★ Understanding the Old Ways
- ★ Personal empowerment
- ★ The Watchers
- ★ Ethics
- ★ The Full Moon in Witchcraft
- ★ The Seasonal Rites
- ★ The Tools of Witchcraft
- ★ Ritual
- ★ Magic
- ★ The Witches' Fellowship
- ★ Rites of Passage

When the registration forms have been received and processed<sup>1</sup>, the student is sent a letter of acceptance, which includes "About This Course", a personal questionnaire, an *Introduction to Witchcraft* article and general operations document. Once the registration is completed, the student is mailed an alignment bag with three small items to be used in an alignment ritual and with future lessons. Following this, the student is sent the Old Ways alignment ritual emailed along with Lesson One. The alignment rite is designed as personal dedication experience to the Course of Study and the Old Ways of Witchcraft.

After the Course is completed a Certificate of Completion, plus two prints from The Well Worn Path<sup>2</sup>, are mailed to the student. The certificate verifies and acknowledges that the student has successfully completed a year of study in Witchcraft, under the personal guidance of author Raven Grimassi and Stephanie Taylor-Grimassi, through the Crossroads Fellowship.

After the certificate is issued the student is welcome to remain as part of the egroup community as long as they remain in good standing.

---

<sup>1</sup> You may do this electronically via the Raven's Loft site [www.ravensloft.biz](http://www.ravensloft.biz)

<sup>2</sup> The Stag-Horned God and The Crescent-Crowned Goddess from the divination deck *The Well Worn Path* by Raven Grimassi and Stephanie Taylor-Grimassi.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

★ **Does the Course lead to initiation?**

No, the Course itself is not intended as a preparation for initiation. However, other courses will be available to guide the student to deeper levels of training and understanding.

★ **I thought it was unethical to charge for teaching the Craft, isn't this true?**

No. Many people have a misunderstanding regarding teaching and being paid by students. What the belief actually refers to is the tenet that it is unethical to charge for initiations or to charge to teach initiated members of your coven or Tradition. Our Course does not violate this code. It should, however, be noted that not all Witches or Witchcraft traditions subscribe to this modern custom.

★ **Do I have to pay for the complete Course in advance?**

The Course is set up for 13 individual monthly payments by credit/debit card or PayPal subscription.

★ **What if I do not like the Course after I sign up?**

In such an unlikely event, the student can stop after the third lesson and keep the materials they have received to date. This allows the student a chance to fairly assess the Course. Once a student withdraws, no future lessons will be sent and removed from the internet group.

★ **Do you offer any free scholarships for financial hardships?**

Yes, we do consider this on a case-by-case basis. You are welcome to write to us describing your situation. Unfortunately we cannot offer everyone a free scholarship but we will sincerely consider any and all requests. Please use this option only if truly necessary.

★ **What happens after I complete this Course?**

Upon successful completion of the Course a certificate of completion is mailed to the student. The student is then eligible for future ongoing courses.

★ **Does the course include magic and spellworking?**

Yes, but this aspect of Witchcraft is secondary to the primary focus of the course, which is exploring and understanding our ancestral wisdom and knowledge for our personal growth and expansion.

★ **Does the course teach/contain any inner secrets?**

The Course is a guide and catalyst to the hidden connections and alignments that lie both within and without us all. From the perspective of this course, secrets are connections, alignments and understandings that have yet to be established or realized.

## COST OF COURSE

If you are like most Witches/Pagans you no doubt have a collection of books in your personal library. You probably have also taken classes here and there in your community, and have purchased ritual or magical tools along with symbolic jewelry and various supplies with which to practice the Craft. Were you to add up the cost of all these things together, what would be the dollar amount that you've spent to date? Whatever the cost may be, because you have requested information about this Course, you are apparently still seeking more understanding and knowledge.

The value of this course is that practitioners of Witchcraft who have devoted several decades to developing their own understanding and knowledge of Witchcraft in accord with time proven training techniques have prepared it. In addition, they are available to you through the member's online discussion group. Here they can answer questions and offer guidance throughout the time period of your study. This is something you cannot get out of a book, and it is difficult to place a value on an opportunity of this nature.

As you are considering the cost of our Course, please bear in mind that most people will spend more money monthly on fast food than the cost of each monthly lesson in this course of study! In order to keep the Course affordable for the average person, instructor involvement is limited to simple reviews of the Question and Answer sheets contained in each lesson, emailing back the "master answer sheet" for comparison and possible correction, and availability of the instructors through online discussion group.

This Course contains 13 monthly lessons at \$25 per lesson. The total for the entire Course is \$325. This is paid monthly by credit/debit card or PayPal subscription<sup>3</sup> depending upon what option you choose.

---

<sup>3</sup> You must sign up online via Raven's Loft in order to choose the PayPal option.

## INSTRUCTOR BIOS

Raven Grimassi has been a practitioner and teacher of Witchcraft for over 30 years. Raven Grimassi is an award-winning author of over 13 books on Wicca and Witchcraft, including - Witchcraft: A Mystery Tradition ★ Wiccan Mysteries: Ancient Origins & Teachings ★ The Witches' Craft: The Roots of Witchcraft & Magical Transformation ★ Encyclopedia Of Wicca & Witchcraft ★ Spirit Of The Witch: Religion & Spirituality in Contemporary Witchcraft ★ Wiccan Magick: Inner Teachings of the Craft ★ The Witch's Familiar: Spiritual Partnership for Successful Magic ★ Italian Witchcraft: The Old Religion of Southern Europe (revised and retitled Ways of the Strega) ★ Hereditary Witchcraft: Secrets of the Old Religion ★ Beltane: Springtime Rituals, Lore and Celebration ★ Book of Ways: Volumes 1 and 2 ★ The Well Worn Path Oracle Kit (co-author and co-creator) ★ The Hidden Path Oracle Kit (co-author and co-creator), ★ Crafting Wiccan Traditions: Creating a Foundation for Your Spiritual Beliefs & Practices and to be released in Fall 2009 Cauldron of Memory: Retrieving Ancestral Knowledge and Wisdom.

Raven is an initiate of several Witchcraft traditions including Brittic, Pictish-Gaelic, and Celtic Traditionalist. He is a legally ordained clergy of Witchcraft. Raven is currently the Directing Elder of the Arician Tradition, a system of Italian Witchcraft and his personal practice. Raven is also a recognized expert on Italian Witchcraft, and the foremost authority on the works of Charles Godfrey Leland in this particular field. Raven has appeared on television and radio interviews nation wide, in several short films on Witchcraft, and was a consultant for the pilot movie film called Mind Forest. Raven is a popular teacher, lecturer and guest speaker at festivals, conventions and metaphysical and Wiccan stores nationwide.

He recently moved to New England with his wife Stephanie and divides his time between writing, workshops, directing the Arician Tradition, and developing Crossroads Fellowship (formerly known as the College of the Crossroads), a Mystery Tradition teaching pathways to knowledge. He is devoted to preserving and teaching the Mystery Tradition of pre-Christian Europe.

Stephanie Taylor-Grimassi is a practicing witch of the Old Ways and is dedicated to guiding and teaching those who seek them. She is a 3rd degree initiate of a Celtic Traditionalist system of Wicca, and a 3rd degree initiate of Italian Witchcraft (the Arician Tradition). Stephanie is a legally ordained clergy of Witchcraft.

Stephanie's life experience has always been intertwined with a very strong connection to Nature and it has been an important influence in her understanding of the world around her. She has studied, taught, and used the arts of the Craft as tools of personal transformation throughout her life experience. Astrology and the tarot called to her at an early age. Stephanie became a Tarot reader and teacher with many years of experience. She has been a guest speaker on several panels alongside such noted figures as Monty Farber, Amy Zerner, Rachel Pollack and Ray Buckland. She has also appeared on television and in several short film documentaries on Witchcraft. Stephanie has also worked as a consultant for the movie pilot film *Mind Forest*, in which she likewise appears.

In 2005, Stephanie co-author and co-created with husband Raven Grimassi (and artist, Mickie Mueller) the teaching and divination system called The Well Worn Path Oracle kit. And, in 2007, the Grimassis again co-authored and co-created the "next step" The Hidden Path Oracle Kit along with artist Mickie Mueller.

Stephanie recently moved to New England with her husband, Raven Grimassi, and divides her time between teaching workshops, operating Raven's Loft webstore [www.ravensloft.biz](http://www.ravensloft.biz), author management and publicist work, while creating and developing a Mystery Tradition Fellowship via the Crossroads Fellowship (formerly called the College of the Crossroads).

## COURSE OF STUDY STRUCTURE

The Course of Study is comprised of thirteen lessons, and operates in the following manner. The information packet includes a **Registration Form, Personal Commitment and Copyright Notice**. This is filled out and returned along with tuition payment authorization to the Crossroads Fellowship.

- ★ Another option is registering on line where all of the above paperwork is done electronically through Raven's Loft.

Registration forms received and processed by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of any given month will result in a lesson being emailed that month. Registration forms received and processed after the 10<sup>th</sup> day of any given month will result in the lesson being emailed the following month. There can be exceptions made to this rule.

Lessons are typically emailed between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. The lessons will include a question sheet (self test) regarding the lesson material. The student is welcome and encouraged to email the Q & A sheet for review by the teachers (be sure to read the format for sending Q & A sheets). Each subsequent lesson will include the answers for the previous lesson.

The lesson material is open for discussion online in our Cyber Community. Each month the instructors monitor the online discussion group. Private emails to the instructors are also available as part of the membership. This process continues until the Course is completed.

Crossroads Fellowship  
Pathways to Knowledge  
"Witchcraft and the Old Ways"

Registration Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

P.O. Box 80627 Springfield, MA 01138-0627

[information@collegeofthecrossroads.org](mailto:information@collegeofthecrossroads.org)

**413-301-7252**

## COPYRIGHT NOTICE (AND AS IT HARM NONE)

Please note that the writings of any author are considered to be "intellectual property." This means that it is his or her creative production. Authors make a living off of their writings just as anyone does from the work they do or the things they produce. When someone copies an author's work in any manner and either gives it away to someone else or resells it, the author is therefore denied his or her rightful payment for the product. In effect this equates to robbing the author of his or her earnings. Such an act is called "intellectual theft" and is harmful to the author because it decreases his or her ability to make a living.

In consideration of this fact, the student must sign this agreement not to reproduce the material contained in this course, and not to allow others to do so. This signed form must be returned along with the registration form.

I certify that I have read the copyright notice and agree not to make copies of the course material or allow copies to be made by others in any form or manner whatsoever.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of student

## My PERSONAL COMMITMENT

I accept membership in this Course of Study with the intention to study monthly and to complete the Course in 13 months. I have considered the financial commitment in this decision and feel I am in a financial situation that will allow me to take this Course without interruption. I understand that a period of commitment between student and teacher is traditional in the study of Witchcraft, and I intend to honor this tradition.

In consideration of the teachings of the Old Ways, we value your word which speaks to the character and integrity of the individual giving it. Although we do understand that circumstances and events arise in everyone's lives, please communicate with us to keep us informed of any changes that would shift your life focus or incur a financial burden.

All we ask is you honor your agreement and if you cannot please communicate and explain why.

---

Student's Signature

---

Date

---

Printed name of student

## Contractual Agreement

I, the undersigned, acknowledge that I have read the **Course Description, Course Cost, Copyright Notice** and **Personal Commitment**. I understand that this course of study is intended to be a monthly electronic lesson format with payment made in advance of receiving each monthly lesson.

I understand and agree that I will continue to be charged for lessons until the course is completed or I formally cancel my enrollment with a 30 day email / written notice. In the event that I cancel my enrollment I may keep the materials I have already received but am not entitled to any refund for not completing the course.

I understand and agree that I may only withdraw from the course after one full quarter, three months of membership, for which I will be automatically charged.

I understand and agree that I must give a 30 day email / written notice of my intention to cancel.

I understand that if my debit/credit card is declined or the information becomes outdated that it is my responsibility to correct immediately. If I do not attend to this after being notified, I understand that I will be put on inactive student status, which means I forfeit receiving lessons and I cannot participate in the group list discussions until I reconcile the matter.

I certify that I have read the **Copyright Notice** and will not make copies of the course material or allow copies to be made by others in any form or manner whatsoever. I also certify that I am 18 or older as of the signing of this document.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of student

## Tuition

I am registering for **Witchcraft and the Old Ways**, 13 monthly electronic lessons @ \$25 per lesson (for a total of \$325).

I understand that my credit / debit card will be charged monthly and that this charge is not based upon my level of participation. To withdrawal I must follow the procedure outlined in **The Contractual Agreement**.

Monthly automatic credit/debit information please provide the following:

Visa #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mastercard #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CVV #** : \_\_\_\_\_ (Last three numbers on back of card in signature area)

I authorize 13 automatic charges to my credit card as outlined in the **Cost of Course** document.

Signature : \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_