

ASTROLOGY UNIVERSITY YEAR ONE READING LIST

This reading list is subject to change based on book availability and additions based on instructor discretion. We attempt to provide at least 6 weeks notice of a text addition or change before a course starts. Consider supporting independent online booksellers like bookshop.org and alibris.com.

Course 1 Intro to Astrological Symbols

Required Texts:

[*The Contemporary Astrologer's Handbook*](#) by Sue Tompkins

[*Astrology: Using the Wisdom of the Stars in Your Everyday Life*](#) by Carole Taylor

Recommended supplementary texts:

[*Horoscope Symbols*](#) by Robert Hand ([e-book](#))

[*The Inner Sky*](#) by Steven Forrest

[*Astrology for Yourself*](#) by Demetra George

Course 2 The Elements, Modes and Polarities

Required Texts:

[*The Contemporary Astrologer's Handbook*](#) by Sue Tompkins

[*Astrology, Psychology and the Four Elements*](#) by Stephen Arroyo

Recommended supplementary texts:

[*Earth and Air*](#) and [*Fire and Water*](#) by Darby Costello

Course 3 The Inner Planets

Required Texts:

[*The Inner Planets*](#) by Liz Greene

[*The Contemporary Astrologer's Handbook*](#) by Sue Tompkins

Course 4 The Social Planets

Required Texts:

[*Saturn: A New Look at an Old Devil*](#) by Liz Greene

[*Exploring Jupiter*](#) by Stephen Arroyo

[*The Contemporary Astrologer's Handbook*](#) by Sue Tompkins

Optional supplementary text:

[*Making the Gods Work for You*](#) by Caroline Casey (out of print and difficult/costly to find but available in inexpensive audio format. Not required but good supplemental material.)

Course 5 The Luminaries

Required texts:

[*The Luminaries*](#) by Liz Greene

[*The Contemporary Astrologer's Handbook*](#) by Sue Tompkins

Recommended supplementary text:

[*Planetary Symbolism in the Horoscope*](#) by Karen Hamaker-Zondag

Course 6 The Outer Planets

Required texts:

[*The Gods of Change*](#) by Howard Sasportas

[*Prometheus the Awakener*](#) by Richard Tarnas

Optional supplementary text:

[*Making the Gods Work for You*](#) by Caroline Casey (audio format - see note above)

Course 7 Intro to Cosmos & Psyche

Required text: [*Cosmos and Psyche*](#) by Richard Tarnas

Course 8 The Houses

Required texts:

[*The Houses - Temples of the Sky*](#) by Deborah Houlding

[*Houses of the Horoscope*](#) by Bill Herbst

Optional supplemental texts:

[*House Keywords and More*](#) by Michael Munkasey

[*The Elements of House Division*](#)

Course 9 Chart Synthesis 101

Required Text:

[*Key Words for Astrology*](#) by Hajo Banzhof and Anna Heabler

[*Planetary Symbolism in the Horoscope*](#) by Karen Hamaker-Zondag

Optional Texts:

[*Sun Sign, Moon Sign*](#) by Charles and Suzi Harvey

[*The Modern Textbook of Astrology*](#) by Margaret Hone

[*The Contemporary Astrologer's Handbook*](#) by Sue Tompkins

Additional Reading

These texts will help you explore year one topics further.

[*All Around the Zodiac*](#) by Bil Tierney - Great tour through the foundational symbols of the sign in rich detail.

[*Chart Interpretation Handbook*](#) by Stephen Arroyo - for years, this was a classic beginner textbook, still useful today, especially for those who would benefit from having steps and recipes for beginning interpretation.

[*The Art of Chart Interpretation*](#) by Tracey Marks - similar to Arroyo's *Chart Interpretation Handbook*, but includes much useful material that could be directly impactful to share with clients.

[*Astrology: A Cosmic Science*](#) by Isabelle Hickey - influential textbook on modern astrology, and one of the first to consider "why" a person might be born with the chart they have, and first steps toward that exploration.

[*The Astrological Neptune*](#) by Liz Greene - hands down the best book on Neptune.

[*Healing Pluto Problems*](#) by Donna Cunningham - a classic on working with Pluto written by a social worker with a skill at describing healing potential.

[*Foundations of Personality*](#) by Karen Hamaker-Zondag - includes practically applicable material on the elements and modes.

[*The House Connection*](#) by Karen Hamaker-Zondag - includes a method for interpreting and differentiating between rulers and planets in houses.

[*The Twelfth House*](#) by Karen Hamaker-Zondag - includes a unique approach to the 12th house with ancestral connections.

[*Your Secret Self: Illuminating the Mysteries of the Twelfth House*](#) by Tracey Marks - psychological exploration of this often confusing house.

[*The Twelve Houses*](#) by Howard Sasportas (not the best text for beginners, because he does a lot of sign-house-planet blurring, but includes some useful insight if you can be careful to identify the blurred interpretations.)

[*A Handbook for the Humanistic Astrologer*](#) by Michael Meyer - classic introduction to some of Dane Rudhyar's key concepts and theories about chart interpretation.

The Elements Series by Steven Forrest - this is Steven's most complete set of cookbook material for all of the core symbols of astrology: planets, signs and houses. Also available as audiobooks. The series is made up of four books: [*The Book of Fire*](#), [*The Book of Water*](#), [*The Book of Air*](#), and [*The Book of Earth*](#).

Personal Growth and Spirituality

[*The Gifts of Imperfection*](#) by Brené Brown

[*Learning to Love Yourself*](#) by Gay Hendricks

[*Resilient: How to Grow an Unshakeable Core of Calm, Strength and Happiness*](#) by Rick Hanson

[*Atomic Habits*](#) by James Clear

[*Start Where You Are: A Guide to Compassionate Living*](#) by Pema Chodron

[*Where to Draw the Line: How to Set Healthy Boundaries*](#) by Anne Katherine