

MOOC "Oriental Beliefs: Between Reason and Traditions", to start on 4 October 2016



*You're passionate about Oriental cultures, past and present? You're fascinated by myths, beliefs and mysteries? If so, join our enthusiastic team of more than 20 experts in an exciting 8-week journey, starting on 4 October 2016, thanks to our MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) «Oriental Beliefs: Between Reason and Traditions». It is informative, it is funny and it is completely free. **Enroll on EdX platform:** <https://www.edx.org/course/oriental-beliefs-between-reason-louvainx-louv19x>*

About this course

This course takes a journey through the world of beliefs as they have developed in a great variety of cultures, ranging from Ancient Egypt, the Near East to Central Asia, India, China, and the Far East. We will discuss where these beliefs, theories and practices originated from, how they were passed on over the ages and why some are still so central to large communities of believers across the world today, whether it be amongst Jews, Christians, Muslims, Buddhists or Shintoists.

We'll be dealing with everything from gods and spirits, to angels and demons, to afterlife and the netherworld, as well as the great cycles of the universe and the tremendous power of lunar and solar eclipses. The interpretation of dreams and all sorts of magic and miraculous deeds will also be covered during this course.

Students will have the opportunity to travel extensively in time and space. The comparative, critical and contextualized approach of this course will allow for a valuable and thought-provoking experience.

We are a course team of about twenty-five specialists working at, or in close interaction with, the Department of Greek, Latin and Oriental Studies (GLOR) at the University of Louvain. We are all historians or philologists, all passionate about our respective fields of expertise, and all fully determined to help you as much as we can as we progress through this course. Most of all, we're looking forward to "meeting" you and to having lively discussions with you on the forums.

If you're curious about the cultures of this world, past and present, this course is definitely for you. Put your wings on and get ready to ride on our "GLOR-ious" dragon and to enjoy the whole adventure with us!

Join us also on Facebook

*Have you seen our **Facebook page** yet? That's the place where you can get a sneak peak of all what you'll be discovering through our MOOC «Oriental Beliefs: Between Reason and Traditions »! Take a step into this marvelous scientific trip around Japan, India, Egypt, China, Mesopotamia and many more... and you'll encounter an impressive number of angels, demons and fabulous tales along the way! <https://www.facebook.com/orientalbeliefs/>*

Don't hesitate to share this announcement with other people across the world!

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