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## DIPLOMA IN TAROT

#### COURSE PROJECT

Students are required to complete a Tarot Project during the Course. Completion of a Project is a requirement of the Course and its satisfactory assessment by the tutor a condition of award of the Diploma. These notes are given to assist students in the choice of their Project and to outline some ideas and options they may wish to consider.

The project can be of students own choosing, the only criteria being that it must in some way relate to the Tarot. Students are required to submit a Project Proposal in writing to the Tutor, who will then comment on or make recommendations as appropriate. Once a mutually agreed title or subject has been agreed, students are then able to progress with their projects as the Course continues.

Students are given time to each report on their progress during the Course, to allow for feedback and positive/constructive criticism and exchange of ideas from the tutor and other students. Students will also be required to present their Project, in whatever form is appropriate, to the class during the last day of the Course.

Students are required to hand in their completed Projects to the Tutor at least one month prior to the last weekend of the Course. The exact deadline date will be given to Students on the first weekend of the Course. A Diploma cannot be awarded until a Project is complete.

In choosing the exact nature of their Project, students are recommended to focus on their particular area of interest with the Tarot. The Tarot is a vast subject and one that lends itself readily to many fascinating, related areas. The research and work involved in completion of students Projects is intended to allow them to develop their own individual appreciation and understanding of how they relate to the particular aspect of Tarot that draws them to utilise it in a therapeutic manner.

It is through such work that students have the honour of serving the Spirit of the Tarot and the evolution of the cards and through this higher, esoteric understanding we give to the Tarot so that others may learn.

Students are reminded clearly that Projects can and should be of their own choosing and should not flaunt from following what may seem to be obscure or tenuous links with the Tarot in their initial Project Proposal. To assist in this

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process, listed below are some broad guidelines that students may wish to consider, along with the structure for the Project Proposal.

#### PROJECT PROPOSAL

This should be an Introductory sheet giving a broad outline or overview of the subject matter for the project. This should include a working title, give an introduction, then a breakdown of the content of the project in whatever detail is possible at this stage. The students reasons for choosing their particular subject should also be included, whatever this may be, even if this is simply an intuitive choice. Any brief sample of work able to be included can also be presented with the proposal. Lastly, students may include any questions, doubts or areas of confusion they may have about their Project. Students should be sure to put their name to their proposal, along with their name, address, telephone number and email address.

### PROJECT SUBJECTS

Students are at liberty to choose any subject that relates to the Tarot in anyway and are positively encouraged to do so. Ingenuity and individuality of choice are more likely to result in a higher quality project. To aid students in the choice of their project and as a guide only, the following subjects are offered for consideration.

#### THE HISTORY OF THE TAROT

This is such a vast subject that it is possible to create several projects under this heading alone. One can trace the history and development of the Tarot in any one particular country, be this Egypt, Italy, England or many others. It is possible to focus on one particular period in time, perhaps the 20<sup>th</sup> Century or the Middle Ages and present a detailed analysis of the development of the Tarot during that time. The history or evolution of the Tarot is a prime subject for such Projects and we still have much to learn about it.

#### THE ORIGINS OF THE TAROT

Nobody, as yet, know who 'invented' the Tarot, when or where. This presents an ideal scenario to discover more and thus presents itself as perfect model for a Project. Much research is always being done about this and presented in various formats. Students could gather all information they can find and present their findings and come up with possible theories, even a solution.

#### SYMBOLISM

The use of symbolism is widespread in the modern world and its power vastly underestimated. It has been used and appreciated in the Tarot for a long time however, in a very specific way, yet is not discussed in detail in Tarot books. Here is

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an opportunity to change that scenario and present a study of symbolism, as it is used in the Tarot.

#### COLLECTING TAROT

There are a great many antique and collectors packs of Tarot in existence, dating from the earliest packs known to exist to modern limited edition decks. They can change hands for quite large sums of money, but their true value is measured in other ways, to those of us addicted to the acquisition of different decks. There is great scope for a Project here with analysis of where packs are obtainable, how, by whom and for how much and how one can become part of the scene!

#### TAROT IN MUSEUMS

Museums all over the world contain Tarot decks in their collections, although not always on display. It would be wonderful to research and even view some of these, making an excellent opportunity to present one's findings in a Project. So much can be learnt about the Tarot in this way that would be of immense benefit to others.

#### TAROT AND THE INTERNET

This is a massive and growing area that begs further investigation. With a free internet account, or even one sponsored by a company (such as a Tarot publisher!) there is vast scope to investigate and report on, including such areas as on-line readings, quality of sites, unknown decks on the Internet, Tarot sales on-line, Tarot chat rooms and so on.

#### ART AND THE TAROT

By its very nature the Tarot utilises art to a massive degree and has been applied to just about every style of art one can imagine. A project could be focussed on one particular area or style of artwork, or one period in history or even one particular artist e.g. Salvador Dali/Pamela Coleman Smith. Many Tarot artists have great stories to tell and how the creation of a deck affected them. There are many well known names that may make themselves available for interview, giving an opportunity to create a fascinating project.

#### TAROT PUBLISHING

There are many Tarot publishers around the world, often producing a particular area of interest or focussing purely on the amount of money likely to be made. A Project could be presented on these that would be of immense value to those looking to create or publish a deck of their own.

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#### TAROT DESIGN

Artistic students may feel inclined to begin the work of creating their own Tarot deck, or focus on different designs of one card. Some students may feel particularly drawn to create a Major Arcana or perhaps one suit, based on what they are drawn to.

#### TAROT EXPERIENCES

Much valuable research could be done with those who have received Tarot 'readings', presenting findings and conclusions that could offer much to the Tarot community. This area would represent a real work of service to the Spirit of the Tarot and its development to become more professional and accepted as a therapeutic method.

#### THE ELEMENTS

The Elements form an integral part of the Tarot and as such offer much that can be done by way of a Project relating to it. There is vast scope for artistic endeavours here, where imagination really is the only limit.

#### SPECIFIC TAROT DECKS

Students may have a particular favourite deck that they wish to explore in as much detail as possible. Depending on the deck, it may even be possible to contact the author or artist of that deck and have them involved in your Project. This could offer valuable insight and awareness of what is involved in the creation of a Tarot deck and its effect on those involved.

#### MYTHOLOGY AND THE TAROT

The Tarot has employed a great deal of Mythology in a great many packs from a wide and diverse collection of cultures and history. There is scope for many Projects here, concentrating on just one culture, continent or even one particular deity. Many packs are based solely on mythology and this alone provides a great deal of related material for many excellent projects.

#### TAROT AND ESOTERIC ARTS



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The Tarot relates to many wide and varied Esoteric subjects but in the study of Tarot Therapy we focus on its use as a therapeutic tool. There is simply not time to include the more esoteric application of the cards so a Project dealing with one or more of these would be of great benefit to many people. This could include areas such as the Qabalah, Magic and Ritual, Divination, Astrology and so on.

#### TAROT AND HEALING

In Tarot Therapy the cards are used for the development and healing of the client. Many students possess abilities, knowledge or qualifications in many of the complementary and orthodox healing arts. Projects could be compiled showing how the Tarot can be integrated with this work, in some detail. This may include such areas as aromatherapy, colour, psychology, psychotherapy and so on.

TAROT AND SOCIAL MEDIA - The Internet offers continually new and developing methods of working with the Tarot and promoting your work as a Tarot Therapist. There is a good deal of scope to present this as an overview or to focus on one of the many specific areas possible e.g. Tarot on Facebook, Tarot on You Tube, Customer Perceptions of Tarot, Tarot and Skype, 'Tweeting the Tarot' and so on.

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