

# First Degree Curriculum

*"The goal of the First Degree Course, is to help the student to become comfortable with the Path they have chosen, and to allow them to acquire the necessary skills and language needed to be a contributing and responsible part of their community." Tuitean & Daniels*

Each Class is eight weeks in duration unless otherwise stated.

**Orientation:** A single class explaining and discussing the process and what is expected as a student and what will be expected in order to obtain the First Degree.

## **Wicca**

Discussion of the basic principles, practices and theories of Wicca.

**Text: "Essential Wicca" by Paul Tuitean & Estelle Daniels**

## **The Sabbats**

A year-long course that meets once (maybe twice) before each Sabbat and discusses the Sabbat, its meaning and the modes of celebration. The goal is to inculcate this bit of culture and to have mindful experience of the Wheel of the Year. Attendance at six out of eight WiCoM Sabbats is mandatory.

**Text: "Stations of the Sun" by Ronald Hutton**

## **Ethics & Responsibility**

Introduction to Ethics and an 8-week discussion of ethical problems as set out in the text with Instructor's elaboration as needed.

**Text: "When, Why, If" by Robin Wood**

## **Four Elements**

Exploration of the elements as used in Wiccan practice. The object is to develop a familiarity with the elements and their energies. Work the exercises in the book supplemented by those of Starhawk and such others as the teacher deems necessary.

**Text: "The Way of Four" by Deborah Lipp**

## **Ritual And Etiquette**

Instruction on the elements of Wiccan Ritual, its method, meaning and purpose, and the Etiquette of a Circle.

**Text: "The Elements of Ritual" by Deborah Lipp**

## **Spiritual Practice and Mind Training**

Instruction and practice in concentration, visualization, meditation, trance work, affirmations/self-hypnosis, as a means to make spiritual connections with ones' self, the Gods and Spirits

**Text: TBA**

## **Energy & Psychic Self Defense**

The Essentials of grounding, shielding, and cleansing along with supportive practices. Practiced to a reasonable level of skill.

**Text: “Inner Temple Witchcraft” by Christopher Penzack**

## **Natural Magic**

Series of classes about harmonizing with natural forces in stones, herbs, colors and numbers and potentially with guest lecturers. Introductions to herbalism, magical root craft, the magic of stones, trees, with brief discussions of colors and numbers. Requires time to be spent outdoors finding and identifying these in natural environment.

**Text: TBA**

## **Divination**

Requirement includes a basic familiarity with two divination methods taught by qualified instructors such as Estelle Daniels’ “Astrological Intensive” or her “Tarot Intensive,” Nell Morningstar’s Tarot classes, or similar method. (Must be approved by Teacher’s Rep for credit.)

## **Introduction to Aspecting**

A one-day introduction to the manifesting Deity and the elements of a “Drawing Down.” This class is recommended, but not required for people to take part in the Beltane Lottery