



Your Moon: Understanding the Moon in Your Chart - Thema Mundi
Chani Nicholas | chaninicholas.com
Saturday, August 28, 2021

Suggested Donation: \$15 - It takes me at least an hour to produce each lecture outline so I recommend a \$5 donation per page. You can support this work via Cash App **\$JasmyneGilbert** or Venmo **@Jasmyne-Gilbert**

Knowledge Level: Beginner - imparts foundational knowledge of traditional astrological concepts and terminology/jargon.

Lecturer Bio: Chani Nicholas (she/her/hers) is a Los Angeles-based, New York Times bestselling author and astrologer with a community of over one million monthly readers. She has been a counseling astrologer for more than twenty years, guiding people to discover and live out their life's purpose through understanding their birth chart. She is the creator of the CHANI app, which offers users a personalized, daily understanding of their birth chart. [Learn more about Chani Nicholas on her website.](http://chaninicholas.com)

Introduction (00:00 - 05:23)

Nicholas began instruction by making reference to the other course modules about sect and moon phases (see Archivist's Note at the end of this document). She underscored that each module of the course is one piece of one planet in the natal chart and should not be interpreted as prescriptive.

Signs and Their Planetary Rulers: Thema Mundi (05:24 - 17:12)

The Thema Mundi is the symbolic chart for the soul of the world that astrologers use as a philosophical teaching tool to explain the planetary rulerships of each sign.

- The Thema Mundi was likely created by Hermes Trismegistus in Ancient Egypt approximately 2000 years ago.
- Astrologers at [Project Hindsight](http://ProjectHindsight.com), formed in the 1990s, translated the Thema Mundi.
- Nicholas describes this tool as foundational for understanding traditional astrology.

Why the Sun Rules Leo (06:49 - 08:23)

- Ancient Egyptians celebrated their new year during the summer, marked by the star Sirius and the time when the land was most fertile due to the annual flooding of the Nile (in August/mid-Leo season).

Why the Moon Rules Cancer (08:24 - 11:39)

- The summer months of June - August have the most light and heat in the Northern Hemisphere.
- In astrology, the planets most associated with light are the luminaries: the Sun and the Moon.
- If the Sun is associated with Leo, the Moon as the second most luminous planet would then be associated with the sign that follows Leo: Cancer.

The Planets (11:40 - 14:33)

- The placement of the luminaries sets the foundation for the rest of the planetary rulerships in order of their position relative to the Sun.
- "Folding" the chart in half along the Cancer - Capricorn axis shows how the remaining signs received their rulership assignments.

Planetary Rulership in the Thema Mundi		
Mercury ♀	Virgo	Gemini
Venus ♀	Libra	Taurus
Mars ♂	Scorpio	Aries
Jupiter ♃	Sagittarius	Pisces
Saturn ♄	Capricorn	Aquarius

Rulership (14:34 - 17:12)

- Sign rulership is important because it shows where planets have the most power/dignity.
- The Sun and the Moon are the only planetary bodies that rule one sign.
- The seven inner planets were visible in the sky with the naked eye to ancient astrologers and thus assigned rulerships:
 - The first of the modern planets was not discovered until 1781 after telescopes were invented, so Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto are not assigned rulership of signs in traditional astrology and thus are not referenced in the Thema Mundi.



Night Sect vs. Day Sect (17:13 - 22:45)

The Sun and the Moon are leaders of a “team” of other planets, as determined by the position of the Sun in the chart:

- If the Sun is above the horizon in a chart, it is a day chart. This makes the Sun the light leader of Jupiter and Saturn.
- If the Sun is below the horizon in a chart, it is a night chart. This makes the Moon the light leader of Venus and Mars.
- Mercury, in its role as transgressor of boundaries, can be associated with either sect based on its position relative to the Sun.
- Each sect or team is composed of a luminary, a benefic, and a malefic:
- Luminary - the Sun or Moon as the light leader
- Benefic - Venus or Jupiter as the planet that connects, stabilizes, and bestows good fortune
- Malefic - Mars or Saturn as the planet that separates, excludes, and confers hardship

Essential Dignity (22:46 - 33:20)

Sect determines which planets have the greatest power in a chart - they are not of equal strength in every sign. The Thema Mundi is also helpful for determining the essential dignity of each planet.

Detriment (22:46 - 27:03)


- The sign that each planet rules is where that planet is most comfortable and fortified (domicile), so the opposite sign is where that planet is weakened, or in detriment.
- A planet in detriment is a place of discomfort - this does not mean hardship necessarily.

Exaltation (27:04 - 30:28)

- The sign that each planet rules is where that planet is comfortable (domicile), so exaltation places a planet on a pedestal and shows where it has increased strength.
- Exaltation does not denote ease or good feelings, but that a planet has special power to carry out its purpose.

Fall (30:29 - 33:20)

- The sign opposite of a planet’s exaltation is its fall, where it struggles or is undervalued.



Archivist's Note: The Moon: Understanding the Moon in Your Chart was a multi-module course Chani offered prior to the time of this summary's publication in 2022; this section about the Thema Mundi was the third installment of the course. The team at CHANI has changed their offerings, thus this workshop is no longer available for purchase on their website. Please reach out to Chani Nicholas to order a recording of the lecture and learn additional significations for the moon, hear audience questions, and review sample charts.

Documented by @jasmynegilbert