The Planets and Their Associations

I'm using the reference to "Planets" loosely, for convenience. This handout will provide a general overview of the luminaries, planets, dwarf planets, asteroids, Hermetic Lots, and key personal sensitive points per both Traditional and Modern Astrology.

THE SACRED SEVEN

THE LUMINARIES. The Sun and Moon in your chart, also known as The Lights. (Yes, even though technically we know now that the Sun is the only source of direct energy and the light from the Moon is reflected from the Sun.)



Over the course of one calendar year, from a geocentric point of view, the sun appears to travel in an ecliptic around the earth and in that travel, go through the twelve zodiac signs. Your sun sign is the zodiac sign that the sun is in along that geocentric ecliptic on the day of your birth. The sun sign offers insight into the external self, your ego, and your general aspirations, but it is not truly who you are. It may represent strong outside influences on the life trajectory you take, the character of your will, but the ascendant sign is what will truly tell us about you.

The sun sign changes every 22-23 days, and so we often say that the month of your birth is the primary indicator of the personality you develop and the formation of your sense of self. The sun is your willpower, and so the aspects to the sun in your natal chart show us where you distribute your willpower to and how you might execute that will.

So, for instance, in **Error! Reference source not found.** when we say that the Sun is domiciled in Leo and exalted in Aries, these strong placements dignify the individual Will, endowing the native with stronger initiative and drive for achievement.

When we say the Sun is in Detriment in Aquarius, we mean that the native is motivated by prioritizing the greater collective good over the individual will, and so the Sun, symbolizing individual will, is "weakened" in the domain of the humanitarian, community-oriented Aquarian.

Under Whole Signs, if your sun is in Houses 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6, then you have a **NOCTURNAL** or **NIGHT CHART**. If your sun is in Houses 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12, then you have a **DIURNAL** or **DAY CHART**. This distinction becomes relevant when assessing Triplicities, per Essential Dignities.



On its orbit around the earth, the moon will travel through all twelve signs in approximately 28 days. Your moon sign is which zodiac sign the moon was in on the day of your birth during its routine 28-day orbit. The moon changes signs every 2 or so days, which is why two people with the same sun sign can still be so different. The moon sign is what makes the difference.

Your moon sign can reveal the skills you are born with that are uncultivated, for you to hone and perfect during this lifetime. The skills expressed by your moon sign are what will best help you to achieve your life purpose. The moon sign offers a sense of what you're capable of being very good at, though it takes conscious work on your part to manifest these latent talents into your physical world.

THE PERSONAL PLANETS. Counting the Sun and Moon, plus Mercury, Venus, and Mars, these five celestial bodies are considered the "Personal Planets." Personal planets denote your personality and personal development



Mercury is the smallest planet in our solar system, and the closest one to the sun. It is a swift moving planet, changing signs every 7 to 8 days (it takes approximately 88 days to revolve around the sun). In astrology, Mercury is the planet of writers, lecturers, researchers, scholars, and teachers. Mercury is the planet of intellectualism, thought, philosophy, science, and mental agility.

A strongly placed Mercury in a chart shows someone likely to manifest these pursuits and traits. Mercury is the ruling planet of Gemini and Virgo, so when it is domiciled in these signs, it's said to be strongly placed. Mercury traits are going to be more prominent in the native.

A weakened Mercury shows someone who might not be as communicative, or who may prefer to experience life through the physical, emotional, or even spiritual senses rather than cerebral. Sagittarius is the polarity of Gemini, so when Mercury is in Sagittarius, it is in Detriment, resulting in a mind that leans toward the humanities, philosophy, and cultural arts, rather than the logic and science-oriented Mercury in Gemini.

In the Traditional classification of planets, Mercury is considered androgynous, which is to say it is both dry and moist. Between the dichotomy of barren vs. fruitful, Mercury is the only one that is a bit of both, thus typed "moderately fruitful." Likewise, whether it is beneficent or malefic depends on its aspects. Whereas the Sun, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn are considered masculine, while the Moon and Venus are considered feminine, Mercury is neither.



In our solar system, Venus is the second planet from the sun. After the moon, it is also visible as the second brightest celestial object in our night sky. In astronomy, Venus is considered Earth's sister planet because of its many similarities to Earth. Venus changes signs every 18 to 19 days, or has a planetary year of 225 days.

In astrology, Venus attracts. Venus is beauty. It is the planet of love, magnetism, charisma, beauty, art, culture, and humanism. It's considered a beneficent planet and fruitful (as opposed to barren), which is to say it bestows favors and blessings. A strong Venus in a chart shows someone who emanates with beauty and charisma, who is often viewed by others as being physically attractive. A strong Venus, such as in Taurus or Libra, shows refined taste and a love for arts and culture. Those with Venus in Scorpio value more that which is deeper than the superficial; this native loves once, and loves hard. A weak Venus, such as placement in Aries or Virgo, shows one who is more practical, pragmatic, and isn't one to indulge in cosmetic beauty, frills, adornments, or hedonism. A Venus in Leo tends to attract more admirers, whereas a Venus in Cancer wants a love that is stable and true.

Placement of Venus in a chart can also portend events during that transitional growing pains period between puberty and adulthood. Venus in Aries could indicate a loner kid during adolescence, while Venus in Taurus, Libra, or

Pisces predicts a likeable character who tends to be popular and charismatic, given the Dignities of Venus in these signs.



Mars is the fourth planet from the sun (with Earth being the third). The planet changes signs every 57 to 58 days, with a planetary year of 687 days. It is called the Red Planet because the iron oxides on its surface gives it a reddish appearance. Mars is the second smallest planet in our solar system, after Mercury.

Mars represents ingenuity, conquest, and the iron will for success. Mars is your inner warrior spirit, though there is also the uneasy potential for savagery when we talk about Mars. As much as it represents human ingenuity and conquest, it also represents destruction and indulging the animal instincts within us. The Roman God Mars was also associated with agriculture, so Mars in your natal chart points to what it is you want to till.

Mars in Leo means very time you encounter a new hobby or interest, you unlock another ambition for glory and mastery. Mars in Scorpio means you investigate deep, until you uncover the darkest of depths. Mars is tempered in Pisces, however, creating a paradoxical inner solvent of ambition and compassion.

Mars placement in a chart also forecasts facets of the native's life likely to occur between the ages of 40 and 60. Your Mars sign expresses prevailing traits in you and the persona you exhibit during that maturing period of your life. A Mars in Aries might indicate one who becomes a self-made small business owner after 40. A Mars in Leo might indicate a renewed passion or hobby you pick up after 40; a Mars in Virgo emphasizes Virgo-esque pursuits during this period.

In the Traditional classification of planets, Mars is considered barren and malefic, which is not to be interpreted as negative or unfortunate, but simply to say that it "does not play well with others." A dominant Mars placement can cause a native to be more belligerent, demanding, critical of others, quarrelsome or contentious, with a less people-pleasing temperament.

THE SOCIAL PLANETS. The social planets show us where we are positioned within the collective whole. Jupiter and Saturn are the two social planets. Together, they represent our social experience. They place the Self within a certain context and environment and denote the influences of that environment on the Self.



Jupiter, a gas giant, is by far the largest planet in our solar system, at two and a half times the size of all the other planets in our solar system...combined. In the astrology of many cultures and traditions, the planet Jupiter has the biggest metaphysical impact on us earthlings. Jupiter changes signs about every 361 days, with a planetary year of about 12 years.

Jupiter is the planet of luck, prosperity, fortune, success, and popularity. It's considered a beneficent planet, which is to say it bestows favors and blessings. This is divine favor. In more mundane terms, it can predict your potential for growth and career development, your innate luck in terms of encountering opportunities for success, and matters relating to social status.



Saturn is the second largest planet in our solar system after Jupiter, and like Jupiter, it is a gas giant. If you'll note the astrological glyph symbolizing Saturn, it looks like a sickle. There are many cross-associations between Saturn and Mars, so the two are often read together to determine a native's inner drive and motivation for success, and how hard someone is willing to work toward achievement of goals.

In the Traditional classification of planets, Saturn is considered barren and malefic, which is not to be interpreted as negative or unfortunate, but simply to say that it "does not play well with others." A dominant Saturn placement can cause a native to be more introverted, a hermit, more cynical and skeptical of others, with a less people-pleasing temperament. The adjective "saturnine" comes straight from astrological history, which is to say that someone has a dour, sullen, and gloomy personality, someone severe and stern.

Saturn reveals our limitations, our boundaries, and the social structure we operate by. It denotes the responsibilities we assume and our moral obligations. It shows toil, reminiscent of toiling the land, hardship, obstacles, inner conflicts, and our personal battles. Saturn is our metaphorical sickle, and where it is positioned denotes how we use that sickle to toil our resources and make something of ourselves

The house that a natal Saturn is domiciled in may tend to experience more challenges, difficulty in cultivating success or progress in those areas of life, an experience of barrenness, infertility, or having to climb the rocky road. If, however, Saturn in a chart is "cushioned" by other planets, the presence of the other planets, especially if they are beneficent or fruitful, will neutralize the effects of Saturn.

The planet changes signs every two and a half years (with a planetary year of approximately 30 years), so the sign placement of Saturn isn't necessarily specific to just you, but to those born in your year.

PERSONAL SENSITIVE POINTS

PERSONAL SENSITIVE POINTS. Personal sensitive points are significant degrees in a natal chart that hold deeper meaning, and can indicate the major themes or influences in the native's life path. The "Big Four" are the ascendant, descendant, imum coeli, and medium coeli marking the four compass directions. These points are derived from specific astronomical positions or relationships in the natal chart, and are highly sensitive to planetary transits, progressions, and aspects. Personal sensitive points (PSPs) are energetic "hot spots" in a chart.

AsAscendant

The ascendant, also known as your rising sign, is the point or degree at the eastern horizon we see about to rise. Planets in the eastern (or left) segment of the horoscope chart are also said to be rising.

In natal astrology, the ascendant sign expresses identity at birth, physical appearance, mannerisms, and what is innate to you. It can shed light on the trajectory of your personal development and what characteristics ring most true in you. In past life astrology, this point can reveal the karmic influences pre-birth.

DsDescendant

The descendant is the opposite of the ascendant and the cusp of the seventh house. This is the western angle. It represents our relationships, how we approach interpersonal relations, and the traits most opposite to who we are, and therefore the traits we want to seek out in our life partner. It could also predict the occupation or career path of your life partner, per the fields associated with the descendant sign.

A descendant sign in Aries means you want someone who is independent, not codependent. Leo is going to suggest that you seek out a partner with those lion-like qualities, confident, generous, warm-hearted, and strong. Whereas a descendant in Taurus indicates one who seeks out a partner who is loyal, who represents stability, and will bring you a comfortable lifestyle. A descendant in Capricorn could mean wanting to be with someone of higher rank or status than you. A descendant in Scorpio could indicate a power couple, where the parties bring equivalent assets to the table.

c Imum Coeli

The imum coeli is the lowest heaven, the "bottom of the sky" or north angle of the chart. It is also the cusp of the fourth house. It represents your roots, upbringing, ancestry, and home environment during early childhood, and therefore also the home environment you are most likely to seek out in adulthood. It represents your inner world, is linked to your heritage, and sheds light on both your earliest years of life and your later years of life.

Those with an imum coeli in Aries may be more independent and solitary, having had to "raise themselves" in childhood, and so as adults, will want to be self-sufficient. Whereas an imum coeli in Cancer shows someone with strong family bonds and great emotional depth, where the utmost value is placed upon the home and hearth. An imum coeli in Taurus is said to be one

	of comfort and stability, while in Scorpio there's a bit more turmoil and uncertainty.
Mc Medium Coeli	The medium coeli, also known as the midheaven, is the southern angle of the chart, the southern-most point, and the cusp of the tenth house. In casual conversations, you may hear it referred to as "the zenith" but technically that's incorrect; it's more precise to simply refer to it as the southern point. The midheaven sign points the way to your highest career trajectory, the professional path that will lead you to the highest point of social status and acclaim. Your midheaven sign, also referred to as the <i>medium coeli</i> (M ^c), points the way to your social status, achievements, and the professional path that will most fulfill your life purpose.
Co- Co- Ascendant	The co-ascendant is the rising sign at the co-latitude of the same longitude of your ascendant, and is typically found in the same sign as your ascendant sign, the twelfth house, or the second house. Colatitude is the complementary angle of the latitude, i.e. the difference between 90° and the latitude, per the angle of your ascendant.
Polar Ascendant	The polar ascendant is at an angle on the opposing hemisphere of the coascendant. It is the point where the plane of the ecliptic intersects the co-polar axis on the western side of your chart. Ever ask the question "what do people really think of me?" Well, the polar ascendant will tell you exactly what others think of you. The polar ascendant reveals how people see you, so it isn't <i>you</i> exactly, but rather, sheds some light on the <i>public perception</i> of you.
Black Moon Lilith	Per modern astrology, black moon Lilith is a sensitive point in a birth chart that represents a point along the elliptic or orbit of the moon around the earth. Black moon Lilith is the apogee of the moon's elliptical orbit around Earth, where Earth is one of two foci. It is an abstract geometrical point. Black moon Lilith changes signs approximately once every nine months (and houses every one to two hours), taking nine years to complete a full zodiac cycle. Lilith symbolizes female empowerment. It can show an area of subversion, a part of the unconscious that remains undeveloped within the native. It represents your shadow self. It reveals your vices, your darkness, and the parts of yourself to be overcome in the course of your spiritual journey. In essence, what Lilith represents in a natal chart is what the native should consider developing and honing further for penultimate greatness and accomplishment. Lilith is that which the native likely has left latent, but if manifested, could completely change the game, so to speak, and alter the native's life path. Take care not to confuse black moon Lilith with the asteroid Lilith (1181 Lilith). There is also a dark moon Lilith, which is a hypothetical second moon of the Earth. That hypothetical second moon, or dark moon Lilith, is

believed to be a literal celestial body orbiting around earth. In contrast, black moon Lilith is only a sensitive point, and not a celestial body like the asteroid Lilith or hypothesized dark moon Lilith.

White Moon Selena

White moon Selena is a sensitive point in a birth chart based on a hypothetical orbit that forms a perfect circle around the earth. Although white moon Selena is described as an actual celestial body, since it is fictitious, I will refer to it as a personal sensitive point. This sensitive point, as calculated, changes signs every six months with a complete cycle of seven years (seven being God's number for perfection).

In terms of its nature, characteristics, and essence, white moon Selena is considered a polarity of black moon Lilith. White moon Selena expresses pure light within you, that facet of the sentient you that is in part Divine. We are all connected to the Divine, to that God principle, and white moon Selena reveals the essence in you that is Divine, and how you specifically connect with the Divine. It is that part of you that is in resonance with the God principle.

White moon Selena also expresses the type of spiritual protection you're armed with in your life path. It is divine Grace. It expresses the higher angels within and the tenor of their voice. In more lay terms, it can reveal a native's moral character, and the house of its domicile sheds light on the path of your higher purpose or spiritual mission in this incarnation.

Selena marks the path of your redemption for karmic purification, to atone for past mistakes you've made in the previous incarnation. Selena in Aries could mark more solitary spiritual cultivation for this lifetime, whereas Selena in signs like Libra or Aquarius may suggest wanting to belong in a religious group. Selena in Taurus could suggest attunement with a mother goddess archetype, whereas Selena in Scorpio attunes with a dark goddess archetype, one associated with death, the underworld, or modalities of shamanic healing.

Trines with Selena are great blessings in a native's life. The celestial body that Selena is in trine with shows an area of life where the native will seem to feel miraculously protected by the divine. Case in point, Selena trine the midheaven shows one who just seems to be really lucky when it comes to career opportunities.

ΩNorth Node

y South Node THE LUNAR NODES. The moon's orbit around the earth is inclined at about 5° from the sun's ecliptic. The invisible intersection between these two orbits, the moon and the sun's ecliptic, are the lunar nodes. One intersection appears in the north, called the north node, and the other appears in the south, called the south node. These are invisible intersections we plot between the path of the sun and the path of the moon.

The north and south nodes represent the karmic axis in a natal chart. They are the spinal cord and the cross-section symbolic of one's key life

lessons and a road map for how your soul must grow in this life as a result of the past life karma you carry.

The North Node is a projection of your future growth and what you are meant to do in order to neutralize and make sense of your past life karma. The North Node is read in tandem with the midheaven sign and tenth house to help understand life purpose. It can often help to formulate a native's life mission statement. The house your North Node is in sheds light on your calling. This is representative of the key areas in life for you to focus on.

The South Node is read in tandem with the fourth house to help understand past life karma. This is the sum of what you carry with you when you were born into the present life. It is interpreted in tandem with the twelfth house to better understand our inner shadow and self-limiting patterns of behavior. Correspondences to the house and sign of your South Node reveal your core strengths and what you've inherited or been endowed with, but shows what you must learn to advance from.

MODERN ASTROLOGY

THE TRANSPERSONAL PLANETS. The transpersonal planets, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto, pave the pathway for us to our higher consciousness. They express how our personal unconscious connects to the collective unconscious. Uranus illuminates that path to self-awareness; Neptune to our intuitions and clairvoyance; and Pluto to self-metamorphosis.



Uranus is the seventh planet from the sun and is considered an ice giant. It is a cold planet, with a very complex layered cloud structure on its surface. Likewise, astrologically, Uranus brings complexity. Uranus shows us areas of your creativity, the ways you are different from others. A strong Uranus presence in a chart often denotes someone who is eccentric, unconventional, and an individualist.



Neptune is the farthest planet known to us from the sun, and of all the gas giants, is the densest. As far away as it is, Neptune has visible weather patterns, and appears changeable. That factors in astrologically, as Neptune can bring a wishywashiness to a personality.

Astrologically, Neptune brings gifts of poetry, music, intuition, clairvoyance, and psychic dreams. It is the dreamer's planet, and a strong Neptune presence will show a strong imagination. Neptune also brings compassion and sensitivity. It can also bring innate gifts of music and poetry.



Pluto is a dwarf planet in the Kuiper Belt, a region of our solar system beyond Neptune that is icy, first discovered in 1930. It has a highly elliptical orbit and takes 248 Earth years to complete one trip around the Sun. Pluto is a wild card in your natal chart. It is associated with power, transformation, and how well you

bounce back after failure. How well do you reinvent yourself? That's what's indicated by your Pluto placement. It can also reveal secrets otherwise unlocked in the unconscious mind.

A strong Pluto placement in a chart will give the native an intense personality. A weaker Pluto placement will give the native a more accommodating, pleasant personality. Pluto is in Domicile in Scorpio, where it rules. It is in Exaltation in either Aries or Pisces. Pluto is in Detriment in Taurus, and considered in Fall under Virgo. However, because Pluto wasn't discovered until centuries and therefore lacks the consensus from authoritative medieval and Hellenistic texts, there's much disagreement among modern astrologers on Pluto's dignities and debilities.

DWARF PLANETS & ASTEROIDS. Dwarf planets are celestial bodies that are smaller than the main planets in our solar system, with the most commonly observed dwarf planets in modern astrology being Pluto, Ceres, and to a lesser extent, Eris. (However, as a testament of the generation I was born into, I still put Pluto in the previous table, as a transpersonal planet.) Protoplanets are large planetary embryos existing before the main planets were formed. Vesta, Ceres, Pallas, and Hygeia are all considered protoplanets.

& Chiron

Refers to the minor planet 2060-Chiron, which is a bit farther out in our solar system that orbits between Saturn and Uranus, discovered in 1977. Chiron signifies the wounded healer and represents our deepest wounds. Like the shaman, what wounds us also becomes our greatest strength, and thus also signify areas where we have skills in healing.

Thus, Chiron reveals where our greatest healing power lies. The planet changes signs in erratic periods, which can be anywhere from two years to eight, while it changes houses every two hours.



Discovered in 2005, Eris, or 136199, is categorized as a minor planet or dwarf planet that is approximately the same size as Pluto, smaller than our moon, and has an orbital period of about 558 years, so it stays within the same zodiac sign for about 46 to 47 years.

In modern astrology, Eris is interpreted as our psychological projections and specifically, the ways we sow discord in ourselves and perhaps subconsciously in the world around us, as a projection of our own malcontent. It also represents social upheaval, activism, and going against authority.

? Ceres

One of the largest celestial bodies in the asteroid belt, between Mars and Jupiter. Ceres, which changes Signs every 3 to 4 months, indicates the resources a native will have available to him in his environment, and can show whether or not the native has the resources needed for success. Its positioning compared to Jupiter in a natal chart can prove quite informative about the native's lot in life. Ceres embodies the caretaker or nurturer archetype. It can indicate a source of plenitude we have access to. It also expresses how we show our care for others and for ourselves, how style of care-taking.



Juno is an asteroid in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, and is one of the largest asteroids in our solar system, discovered in 1804. In astrology, it denotes your one true love, soul mate, Great Love, and that one who completes you to make you whole. Whereas Venus is about attraction and harmony, Juno is about the stable, long-term relationship that you're connected to at a soul level, and is therefore significant in past life astrology readings.



Vesta was so massive that initially it was categorized as a dwarf planet. It is the brightest asteroid visible from Earth, and in certain conditions, can be seen in our skies without a telescope. It has some of the most massive craters in our solar system, known to date. Many vestoids, smaller asteroids that have been found here on Earth, are believed to have originated from Vesta.

In modern astrology, it denotes the spectrum of sexuality and chastity and what it is we consciously choose to dedicate our service to. The house placement of your natal Vesta sign tells you which areas of life that inner flame burns the strongest for. Someone with a Vesta in Virgo will be detail-oriented, dedicated to research, perfecting what is flawed, or health care and healing. Vesta in Leo could indicate one dedicated to creative expression and validated through public visibility. Vesta in Libra is one motivated by finding balance, harmony, and beauty.

Find Vesta in your birth chart and the house it is domiciled in indicates the areas of life and subject matter you are most dedicated to, that you tend to value highest; your Vesta sign expresses the nature of your focus and dedication, *how* you commit your energy and sacred fire.



Like Juno, Pallas is in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, discovered right before Juno, in 1802. It is also considered a protoplanet, representing an early stage of planetary formation. Pallas relates to the cerebral nature, high intelligence, a native's relationship with his or her father, the art of war, strategic planning, balance and restorative justice, great personal power, and the power of survival. The house that Pallas occupies indicates the area of life that the native will bear extraordinary gifts, innate talent, and personal power in, often gifts and talent inherited from the father's side of the family.

Pallas Athena is the Greek goddess of wisdom, strategy, warfare, and craftsmanship, and is home in Virgo, a sign ruled by intellectual Mercury, and which aligns with Athena's associations with wisdom and craftsmanship. Pallas is also empowered under the sigh Libra, amplifying justice and diplomacy in the native, and in Sagittarius and Aquarius, amplifying the native's acumen for strategic thinking, truth-seeking, and pursuit of higher knowledge. Pallas in Aquarius will amplify the Aquarian's humanitarian yet emotionally distant approach to problem-solving.



The asteroid known as 10 Hygiea is the fourth largest asteroid we know of at present in our solar system, and it is comprised primarily of carbon. The asteroid is named after Hygeia, the Greco-Roman goddess of good health, hygiene, and cleanliness. The asteroid Hygeia in your health sheds light on how we can prevent ailments and maintain our health and wellness. As the goddess that is the asteroid's

namesake is about the art and science of healing, your Hygeia placement can be an indicator of your immune system, and also, your innate, independent ability to ward off illness and malice.

HERMETIC LOTS

OR ARABIC PARTS. Arabic Parts (or Hermetic Lots) is a form of astrological analysis dating back to Babylonian, Persian, Hermetic, or Magian astrology before the first century B.C. They are constructed through mathematical calculations using certain planets or angles in an astrological chart.

& Lot of Fortune	The Lot of Fortune (or Arabic Part of Fortune) is perhaps the most commonly discussed Arabic Part, which denotes the key or path to notability. The Lot of Fortune indicates material well-being. It is your personal marker of success, the primary indicator of reaping prosperity in your life, and how you will achieve worldly success. The Lot of Fortune is the solar force to the Lot of Spirit's lunar force.
Lot of Spirit	The Lot of Spirit expresses energetic influences on your spiritual plane. I interpret it to divine upon guardian spirits or spirit guides who have accompanied us since birth, who have the most vested interest in our success and fulfillment of our higher purpose. The Lot of Spirit is the lunar force to the Lot of Fortune's solar force.