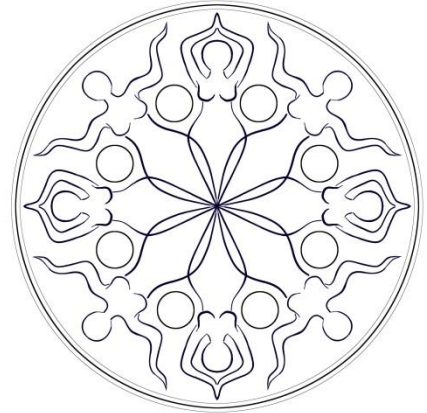


# Practical Priestessing Syllabus

*Purpose of course:* to prepare women for dedicated vocational priestessing in their own communities. This course uses a multi-layered, experiential model of comprehensive priestess education, focusing on personal practice, professional ethics, leadership skills, small group dynamics, complex ritual theory, creating sacred space, and the process and theory of developing and leading ceremonies, rituals, retreats, and rites of passage.



*Program details, course outline, and supply kit:*  
<http://bridgetsgrove.com/practicalpriestessing>

*Instructor:* Molly M Remer, MSW, M.Div, D.Min

*Texts:*

- *Practical Priestessing Workbook* by Molly Remer (provided)
- *Ritual Facilitation* by Shauna Knight (provided)

Strongly recommended:

- *Spiritual Mentoring* by Judy Harrow
- *Ethics and Professional Practice* by Katie Batten MacDowell
- *Stepping Into Ourselves* by Goddess Ink

*Learning Outcomes:*

- Through a course of deep inquiry and experiential learning, students will emerge as practicing priestesses in their local communities.
- Students will be able to demonstrate sound ritual theory and design and develop the ability to write and facilitate ceremonies competently.
- Students will understand and demonstrate appropriate pastoral counseling skills within a firm foundation of professional ethics.
- Students will apply principles of ritual design and energetic management

- Students will develop an understanding of group dynamics, including complicated group energy dynamics, and demonstrate a working ability to navigate common issues within group work.
- Students will learn and apply group management principles and techniques of group facilitation.

*Instructional Methods:*

- Audio recording
- Written
- Reading and writing assignment
- Self-designed practicum experience
- Didactic
- Visual
- Companion classroom
- Email
- Facebook group

*Week by Week Outline*

(should be considered suggested. Instructor reserves the right to re-order activities according to the time, availability, and progress of the class as a whole)

**Month 1**

**April: Maiden Unit, Part One**

**Broad Themes:**

- Personal Development
- Hearing the Call
- Defining the Priestess
- Working with the Goddess

*April 9*

- Welcome
- Engaging with the course
- Assignment: priestess vision card

*April 15*

- Cultivating connection
- Defining the priestess
- Archetype or profession
- Magical transcript

- **Ritual theory:** daily practices

*April 29*

*April 22*

- Responding to the call
- Naming and claiming
- Reading: Lineage section of *Stepping into Ourselves*, p. 5-97
- **Ritual theory:** theology

- Reading: *Ethics and Professional Practice*: Chapter 3
- Priestess Practicum proposal development
- Dedication ceremony/full moon ritual
- Altar creation/tending
- **Ritual theory:** sacred space & ritual basics

## Month Two

### May: Maiden Unit, Part Two

#### Broad Themes:

- Working with Maidens
- Creating Ceremony and Ritual
- Reconnecting the Thread
- Building Connection and Community

*May 6*

- Working with Maidens
- Priestess as Midwife\*
- Restoring Women to Ceremony
- Reading: *Ethics and Professional Practice*, pg 107
- **Ritual theory:** restoring women to ceremony

- Practicum project proposal due
- **Ritual theory:** Pink Tents/mother-daughter rituals

*May 20: Integration Week*

- a sacred pause
- self-priestessing
- flower magic

*May 13*

- Daily practices
- More About Maidens
- Maiden Activation Meditation & Ceremony

## Month 2, Continued

### Mother Unit begins

#### Broad Themes:

- Roles and Responsibilities
- Ethics
- Program Development
- Group Dynamics

*May 27*

- Role of the priestess
- Wearing the Goddess: The Priestess as Counselor-Mentor
- Ethics and Boundaries
- Reading: *Stepping into Ourselves*, Roles p.159-190, 211-225, 243-255. *Ethics and Professional Practice*, Chapters 2 & 12. *Ritual Facilitation*, section four, p. 213-228.
- **Ritual theory:** Roles, Part 1 and 2

*June 3*

- The Doorway Between Worlds
- Differences Between Ceremony and Ritual
- The Witch Wound
- Reading: *Ritual Facilitation*, section one, p. 9-72. *Ethics and Professional Practice*, Chapter 4-5.
- **Ritual theory:** Circle Basics, Women's Circles + Red Tents

## Month 3

### June: Mother Unit continues

#### Broad Themes:

- Purposes of Ritual
- Intentional Ceremony Creation
- Managing Energy

*June 10*

- The Key that Unlocks the Door: The Priestess as Ritualist/Ceremonialist

- Purposes of Ritual
- Speaking to the Goddess
- Priestess as Ceremonialist
- Womanrunes and Women's Circles
- Reading: *Ritual Facilitation*, section four, p. 124-177.
- **Ritual theory:** Midwifing Wisdom
- **Ritual Theory:** weaving a ritual “basket”

*June 17*

- The Priestess in the Arena
- Imperfectly Perfect
- Strengths and Weaknesses
- Summer Ritual

## Month 4

**July:**

*July 1*

- A Sacred Pause
- Self-Priestessing
- Unraveling and Rewilding

*July 8*

- Liminal Space

**Crone Unit begins**

**Broad themes:**

- Leadership
- group dynamics
- group survival

- Reading: *Spiritual Mentoring*, Chapters 2-3. *Ethics and Professional Practice*, Chapter 6.
- **Ritual theory:** “real life ritual” (retreat recap and analysis)

*June 24*

- Body of Woman Ceremony and Pelvic Clearing
- Reading: *Ritual Facilitation*, section two, p. 74-92.
- Reading: *Ritual Facilitation*, section three, p. 94-118.
- **Ritual theory:** Mother Blessings

- fears
- emergence
- accepting the mantle

*July 15*

- Leadership and Group Dynamics
- Responsibility, Mentorship, and Pedestals
- The "Wobble"
- Reading: *Spiritual Mentoring*, Chapters 4-6
- **Ritual theory:** ritual analysis

*July 22*

- The Unfolding Spiral: Priestess as Teacher
- Feminist Ritual Theology: Celebrating Her
- Reading: *Ritual Facilitation*, section four, p. 178. *Spiritual Mentoring*, Chapter 7.
- **Ritual theory:** group complications

## Month Five

**August:**

**Crone Unit continues**

*July 29*

- Knowing a Priestess
- Hands
- Warrior Priestess
- Too Small or Too Big?
- First Fruits Ritual
- **Ritual theory:** priestessing and power

- **Ritual theory:** rituals for our sons, rituals with children

*August 12*

**Sacred Pause**

*August 19*

*August 5*

- Spiritual Mentoring
- Rooted in Transformation
- Priestessing and Fear
- Goddess Wheel of the Year assignment

- Priestess as Shamanic Path
- Candle-Wax Priestessing
- Red Tent Resources
- Power Spot Ritual
- Reading: *Stepping into Ourselves*, Toolkit section, p. 291.

- **Ritual theory:** ritual as a teacher

*August 26*

## **Month Six, Final Month**

### **September:**

*September 9*

- Priestess Blessing Bag
- Priestess Activation Ceremony
- Fall Ritual
- Reading: *Stepping into Ourselves*, p. 482

*September 16*

- Practicum completion and final paper
- **Ritual theory:** Women's rituals and systemic change

- 14-16, live retreat
- processing and wrap-up