A comprehensive survey of ancient Christian Gnosticism, one of the earliest branches of early Christianity notorious for its promise of salvation through a firsthand knowledge (gnosis) of the divine. Principal readings are drawn from the famous “Nag Hammadi Library.” The course concludes with an overview of modern uses and misuses of the term “gnostic”—a broad category that encompasses the poetry of William Blake, the fiction of Kafka and Melville, psychoanalysis, the New Age movement, and various brands of postmodernism.

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Tuesdays and Thursdays  
3:30PM-4:45PM  
General Education Requirements: HS, WB