

# **Alchemical Transformation**

## **A Series of Courses at the Philosophical Research Society Los Angeles**

**with Dennis William Hauck**

In this empowering class, the ancient discipline of alchemy is presented as a functional system of personal transformation. Although they spoke of furnaces, retorts, and chemicals, the alchemists were really talking about changes taking place in their own bodies, minds, and souls. They developed unique terminology and specific formulae that apply to all levels of human experience. No change is complete unless it takes place simultaneously on all three levels of reality – the physical, the mental, and the spiritual. Each of these levels is examined from the viewpoint of alchemical operations.

### **Course Sessions and Topics**

This course is organized into ten, one-hour audio sessions. The introductory session on *Egyptian Hermetics and the Roots of Alchemy* is presented in both audio and video formats to better acquaint the student with the instructor. The ten sessions are designed to build on each other in a thoughtful and effective development of the subject matter. Therefore, the tapes should be studied in their sequential order:

- Session I Egyptian Hermetics and the Roots of Alchemy
- Session II The Development of Alchemistic Philosophy
- Session III Working with the Archetypal Elements
- Session IV The Pattern of Creation – As Above, So Below
- Session V The Perfection of the First Matter
- Session VI Working in the Inner Laboratory
- Session VII Secret Formula of Transformation
- Session VIII Perfecting the Lunar Stone – Bodily Alchemy
- Session IX Perfecting the Solar Stone – Psychological Alchemy
- Session X Perfecting the Stellar Stone – Spiritual Alchemy

**Dennis William Hauck, M.S.**, Mathematics, University of Vienna; practicing alchemist for over twenty years. Author of “*Secret of the Emerald Tablet: A Translation of the Work of Dr. Gottlieb Latz,*” “*The Emerald Tablet: Alchemy for Personal Transformation,*” etc.

**Required Reading:** “*The Emerald Tablet: Alchemy for Personal Transformation*” by Dennis William Hauck. Available to students at a 10% discount from the Philosophical Research Society Bookstore (800-548-4062).

**Recommended Reading:**

“*Alchemical Studies*” by Dr. Carl Gustav Jung (Princeton University Press)  
“*Alchemy: An Introduction to the Symbolism and the Psychology*” by Dr. Marie-Louise von Franz (Inner City Books).

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**Student Learning Objectives for This Course**

- Objective 1: Students will understand the development and history of the Hermetic tradition, from its roots in Egypt to modern times.
- Objective 2: Students will follow the development of alchemical thought from its beginnings with Egyptian philosophers to its refinement in Carl Jung’s alchemical work and the rise of transpersonal psychology.
- Objective 3: Students will learn how the alchemists tried to work with archetypal energies to align their consciousness with the transpersonal powers.
- Objective 4: Students will become familiar with the alchemical operations and universal pattern of transformation revealed in the Emerald Tablet.
- Objective 5: Students will come to an understanding of the ineffable and mysterious First Matter, as well as the meaning of the Philosopher’s Stone into which it is transmuted.
- Objective 6: Students will engage in guided meditations actually used by alchemists to perfect the personality and overcome the falseness of ego to reveal spiritual essences within.
- Objective 7: Students will learn how the alchemists applied the same alchemical methods on all three levels on which the Great Work took place: the physical world, the mental plane, and the spiritual realm.
- Objective 8: Students will apply esoteric techniques used by Taoist and Yogic alchemists to purify and heal the human body and its organs.
- Objective 9: Students will experience alchemical change within themselves as they use the operations of alchemy to transmute chaotic emotions and thoughts into the focused light of purified consciousness.
- Objective 10: Students will come to view alchemy as a spiritual technology – a unique science with soul – that has many concepts in common with modern quantum physics and cosmology.

## **Course Outline – Weeks 1 through 5**

The following outline gives some suggestions and a brief description of how to pace your self-study program and gauge your progress. Special attention should be made to assure the minimum required course activities are completed throughout the academic quarter.

**Required Reading:** Review textbook material in Chapters 1-9.

**Lecture:** Listen to lecture tapes 1-5.

**Course Objectives:** Complete the objectives for lectures 1-5.

**Assessment Experience:** Written Paper (5-pages). Summarize the philosophy underlying alchemy in your own words and contrast its precepts with modern ideas in science and religion. Be sure to comment on the One Thing, the One Mind, the Doctrine of Correspondences, and other key concepts presented in the Emerald Tablet, which is itself a succinct summary of this philosophy. Submit your completed paper to your instructor at the address below.

## **Course Outline – Weeks 6 through 10**

**Required Reading:** Review textbook material in Chapters 9-25.

**Lecture:** Listen to lecture tapes 6-10.

**Course Objectives:** Complete the objectives for lectures 6-10.

**Assessment Experience:** Written Paper (5-pages). Discuss each of the seven steps in the formula of transformation in terms of the elements with which it works, and then explain how the operation applies in the laboratory, in the psychology of the alchemist, and on the spiritual level. Relate at least one of your personal life experiences to each alchemical operation. Submit your completed paper to your instructor at the address below.

## **Considerations in Course Grading**

Evaluations of papers submitted for this course will be based on the following criteria:

- 1) The student's ability to specifically address the topics outlined in each paper.
- 2) The student's ability to apply and use the information presented in the course tapes and text.
- 3) The depth and clarity of the student's expression of his or her personal experiences, observations, and reflections on the course material.
- 4) The student's ability to write clearly and concisely.