NEW COURSE IN HISTORY & HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

H/HPS 185

ANGELS AND MONSTERS:
Cosmology,
Anthropology
and the
Ends of the World.

This course explores late medieval European understandings of the origins, structure, and workings of the cosmos in the realms of theology, physics, astronomy, astrology, magic, and medicine.

Attention is given to the position of humans as cultural creatures at the intersection of nature and spirit; as well as to the place of Christian Europeans in relation to non-Christians and other categories of outsiders within and beyond Europe.

We will particularly focus on the knowledge system that anticipated race theory and racial discrimination in the modern western imagination.

Conducted in English.

Instructor: Wey-Gomez (nwey@caltech.edu)

9 units (3-0-6); third term; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-2:30 PM.