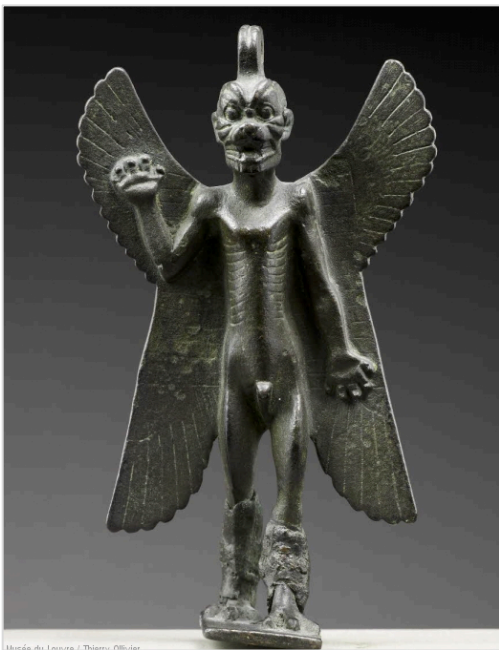

Quarter/Year	Course Number	Day/Time	Instructor
Fall 2020	ART-HIST 319/HUM 370	TR 11:20-12:40	Gunter
Course Title	Degree/Distro Fulfillment		
Monsters, Art, and Civilization	pre-1400; non-Euro-American		



Griffins, sphinxes, demons, and other fabulous creatures appear frequently in the art of ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, and the Eastern Mediterranean world. They stand at the intersection of the normal and abnormal, the natural and unnatural. Why did these images become so widespread, and what cultural functions did they serve? Can we connect their invention and dissemination with key moments in human history and cross-cultural interaction? What was the role of material representations of the supernatural in preventing and healing disease and other human misfortune? This course explores the supernatural subject in ancient art with new perspectives drawn from art history, history, anthropology, and archaeology. We will examine a wide range of objects and representations (including sculptures, figurines, seals, amulets, and other media) along with ancient texts that help us understand their meaning and function.

Required Textbooks

All course readings will be posted on CANVAS or available electronically through NU Libraries.

Assessments

Written responses to assigned readings; participation in class discussions; final essay probing current approaches to specific groups of objects .