WINTERSESSION CLASSES
Classes begin January 4, 2021 and end on January 22, 2021

HIS 392.30 Folklore & Magic in the British Isles [SBS+]
Brooke Franks

This course investigates folklore, magic, and what would now be considered curious occupations in early modern Britain. Folklore can be described as a body of culture shared by a particular group of people including traditional beliefs, customs, and stories of a community, passed through the generations. While belief in magical beings has long since passed, the effect on British culture remains. During the years of early scientific discovery and the religious turbulence of the Protestant Reformation many people stood in two separate realms fearful to let go of long held beliefs and weary of newly emerging information. Using a transnational approach, the course explores several professions such as alchemists, astrologers, and witch finders alongside common folklore characters such as witches, fairies, and changelings. This course explores the cultural impact of folklore, magic, and occupations that participate in early scientific development on the common people in the British Isles.