

# THE SHIELD OF ACHILLES:

## ITS RELATION TO *THE ILIAD* AS A WHOLE

With a Particular Focus on the Trial Scene

by

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Author of: *Homer and the Sacred City*,  
"Reading the Shield of Achilles:  
Anger, Terror, and Delight"  
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**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2010**

**LYNCH AUDITORIUM**

**Schedule:**

4:00 - Lecture by Dr. Scully  
&

7:00 - Respondent & Discussion  
Dr. John Alvis

Author of: *Divine Purpose and Heroic Response*  
*in Homer and Virgil: The Political Plan of Zeus*

**Questions to Consider:**

- What is the relation between the shield's "miniature depiction of the universe" and the warrior who carries it?
- What does the shield suggest about Zeus, the social order, the polis, and forms of prosperous social cohesion? How does the portrait of humankind and the cosmos on it compare and contrast with similar portraits in the poem as a whole?
- How do the shield's trial scene and restoration of order through payment relate to the *Iliad's* other stories -- especially Achilles' -- about seeking justice through ransom?
- Why are there no gods in the city of peace?
- Does this cosmos look forward to or away from Plato's *Republic*?

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