



# Events

## New Books in Print

### SCOTT NOEGEL

Near Eastern Languages & Civilization, University of Washington

Thursday, January 24

4:00 pm

Communications 202

Reception to follow

### Nocturnal Ciphers: The Punning Language of Dreams in the Ancient Near East

(American Oriental Society, 2007)

Join Scott Noegel for a presentation and discussion of his book, *Nocturnal Ciphers: The Punning Language of Dreams in the Ancient Near East*.

In *Nocturnal Ciphers* Noegel explores the cultural context and function of word play by ancient Mesopotamian dream interpreters and other divinatory experts, providing insights into the social context of divination and the production of literary texts, the role of writing and script in the divinatory process, the impact of Mesopotamian thought, the authorship of biblical pericopes, the relationship of oneiromancy to prophecy, and the function of ancient Near Eastern literary devices. *Nocturnal Ciphers* thus draws attention to broader theoretical concerns that confront the study of the ancient world.

**Scott Noegel** is Professor and Chair of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization. He is the author of *Egyptian Hieroglyphs Made Easy* (2006) and *Janus Parallelism in the Book of Job* (1996), and co-author of the *Historical Dictionary of Prophets in Islam and Judaism* (2002). Noegel is currently researching a study of wordplay in ancient Near Eastern texts.

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