Cabalah and the Tree of Life
Instructor: Dr. Sharonah Frederick
1 session: Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2016
1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Friendship Village Tempe in the Village Center, Private Dining Room

**Lecture:** In the mystical forms of Judaism that developed in 13th century Spain, one form above all took center stage: the book called The Zohar, written at the end of the 13th century by Rabbi Moises de Leon. Three hundred years later, the exiles from Spain in Jerusalem adopted its teachings and embodied them in famous diagram of the Tree of Life. This class will focus on the meanings of that complex and fascinating diagram.

**Instructor:** Sharonah Fredrick, PhD, is the assistant director of the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (ACMRS) at ASU. She earned her doctorate in Hispanic literature at Stony Brook University, a master’s degree in renaissance and medieval history from Tel Aviv University, a bachelor’s degree in Latin American anthropology from SUNY Buffalo, and an English teaching certificate from the International TEFL Teachers Consortium in Guadalajara, Mexico. Her research focuses on the impact of the early modern period in Latin America and on the effects of the Spanish and Portuguese conquests on the Native American peoples and on Africans in the New World. She is particularly interested in the manifestations of Pre-Columbian religion in epics authored in Latin America in the 16th through 18th centuries, and issues of cultural survival and religious syncretism. She enjoys exploring the world of Celtic pre-Christian myth, and the medieval literature of Sephardic Jewish culture.

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