

Assignment #4: Composite Charts

A composite chart in astrology is a type of chart created by calculating the midpoints between two individuals' planets, angles, and sensitive points (like the Sun, Moon, Ascendant, etc.). It is used to understand the dynamics of a relationship as a whole, rather than focusing on each individual's chart. Essentially, the composite chart represents the "relationship entity" itself, showing how the two people interact and what kind of energy is created between them.

To create a composite chart, the positions of the planets in each individual's natal chart are averaged, and midpoints are found between them. For example, if one person's Sun is at 10 degrees Aries and the other person's Sun is at 20 degrees Aries, the midpoint would be at 15 degrees Aries—this would be the composite Sun. This is done for all major points in the chart.

Key aspects of a composite chart:

1. The Composite Sun: This represents the core purpose or identity of the relationship. It shows what the relationship is meant to express or evolve toward.
2. The Composite Moon: This indicates the emotional needs and how the relationship provides emotional security, as well as the underlying emotional tone.
3. The Composite Ascendant: This shows the outward expression of the relationship—how the relationship presents itself to others in a moment-to-moment way.
4. Planetary Placements: Each planet's position in the composite chart will show the specific areas of life that are activated in the relationship (for example, Venus might show how love is expressed, Mars how energy and conflict are handled).

Assignment #4: Composite Charts

Composite Chart Assignment: Analyzing Relationship Dynamics

Identify the "relationship entity" created between two people by looking at their composite chart and compare these findings to the individual charts in synastry.

1. Choose Your Synastry Pairings: Using the synastry charts you have worked on in class, create a composite chart for each relationship (In AstroGold choose "Create Subsidiary Chart").

2. Study Each Composite Chart: Look at the following elements of the composite chart and analyze how they describe the relationship's identity:
 - Sun and Moon Placement: What is the core energy of the relationship (Sun)? What emotional needs does the relationship cater to (Moon)?
 - Ascendant: How does the relationship move through and present itself to the outside world?
 - Mercury, Venus, and Mars: How does the relationship communicate (Mercury)? What is the style of love and affection (Venus)? How does it approach action and desire (Mars)?
 - Outer Planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto): What long-term or transformative forces are at play in this relationship?
 - Aspects: Which planets are in major aspect? What dynamics do these aspects suggest about how the relationship functions or faces challenges?

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3. Questions for Reflection:

- What does the composite chart reveal about the “relationship entity”?
 - What is the relationship’s overall character and purpose?
 - Is there a strong or weak sense of identity in the composite chart?
 - Are there any unique placements or significant aspects that point to the deeper role of the relationship?
- Do you get new information from the composite chart that you didn’t see in the synastry?
 - How does the composite chart expand on or change your understanding of the relationship dynamics as shown in the synastry?
 - Do the composite chart placements reveal any hidden dynamics or potential for growth in the relationship?
- Do you notice any repeating or confirming information from the synastry in the composite chart?
 - Do key synastry aspects show up in the composite chart, confirming your earlier insights into the relationship?
 - Are there any patterns (i.e., same planets in key signs, similar aspects) that keep coming up across the composite charts?

4. Conclusion: After completing your analysis of the composite chart, summarize your findings. How does the composite chart help you understand the “relationship entity” more deeply compared to the synastry alone? Reflect on how these charts work together to provide a fuller picture of relationship dynamics.

*You must have accurate birth times for both people in order to know the houses, angles, and exact moon placement.
