

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### ENG 450: Science Fiction

#### Course Description

A study of the classic themes and ideas in use in Science Fiction literature, in conjunction with a historical analysis of the changes that have occurred in the genre from its formative years to the present day.

#### General Course Information

Number of Units/Weeks	4/10
#Hours Lecture/#Hours Laboratory/#Hours ELPs*	40/0/80
Prerequisite(s)	ENG 110
Co-requisites (s)	None
Course Developer(s)	Vani Neelakantan, MS (update T.J. Glynn)
Date Approved / Last Review	October 2011 / May 2015

\*Enhanced Learning Projects

#### Learning Outcomes

- Identify the themes and categories of science fiction
- Describe the development of the science fiction
- Analyze the sociological, historical, and scientific developments presented in science fiction
- Critique the plot, characters, and themes in science fiction

#### Instructional Methods Employed in this Course

- Lecture and reading assignments
- Hands-on exercises and library activities
- Research
- Student presentations
- Build on prior knowledge and experience of students to enhance richness of class activities

#### Information Resources for this Course

##### Textbook

Evans, A., & Middletown, C. (2010). The Wesleyan anthology of science fiction. Middletown, Connecticut: Wesleyan University Press.

Gernsback, H. (2014). Ralph 124c 41. Eastford, Connecticut: Martino Fine Books.

Lowry, L. (2014). Giver quartet. Boston, Masschusetts: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

#### Other Resources

Blade runner [Motion picture on DVD]. (2007). Distributed by Warner Home Video.

GalaxyQuest [Motion picture on DVD]. (2000). DreamWorks Home Entertainment.

Invasion of the body snatchers [Motion picture on DVD]. (2007). Universal.

#### Table/Topics & Assignments

##### Types of Assignments:

Lecture -

Considered Lecture Hours

Classroom Discussion -

Considered Lecture Hours

In Class Critique -

Considered Lecture Hours

Delivering Oral Presentations -

Considered Lecture Hours

In Class (IC) Exercise -

Considered Lecture Hours

Reading -

Considered Enhanced Learning Project (ELP), work done outside of class

WebClass lesson (non-online courses) -

Considered ELP, work done outside of class

Lab Work -

Considered Lab Hours

Quiz, Midterm or Final -

Considered Lecture Hours

Week 1						
Type	Topic/Description	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time	Point Value	Due
LEC 1A	Introduction to Course	1	0	0	0	

LEC 1B	Introduction to Science Fiction	1	0	0	0	
IC EX 1A	Watch <i>Galaxy Quest</i>	2	0	0	0	
HW 1A	Listen to <i>War of the Worlds</i> performed by the Mercury Theater	0	0	1	0	
HW 1B	Read <i>Conversation of Eiros &amp; Charmion</i>	0	0	0.5	0	
HW 1C	Read <i>Journey to the Center of the Earth</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1	0	
HW 1D	Reading Response	0	0	1	50	Week 1
HW 1E	Midterm: Movie Analysis	0	0	4	200	Week 5
Week 1 Total		4	0	7.5	250	
Week 2						
Type	Topic/Description	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time	Point Value	Due
LEC 2A	Before the Genre	4	0	0	0	
HW 2A	Read <i>The Machine Stop</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	3	0	
HW 2B	Read <i>Ralph 124C 41+</i> (chap. 1-7)	0	0	9	0	
HW 2C	Reading Response	0	0	1	50	Week 2
Week 1 Total		4	0	13	50	
Week 3						
Type	Topic/Description	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time	Point Value	Due
LEC 3A	Birth of Science Fiction	4	0	0	0	
HW 3A	Read <i>Conquest of Gola</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1.5	0	
HW 3B	Read <i>Shambleau</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	2.5	0	
HW 3C	Read <i>Only a Mother</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1	0	
HW 3D	Reading Response	0	0	1	50	Week 3

Week 3 Total		4	0	6	50	
Week 4						
Type	Topic/Description	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time	Point Value	Due
LEC 4A	The Golden Age Begins	4	0	0	0	
HW 4A	Read <i>There Will Come</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1	0	
HW 4B	Read <i>Specialist</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1.5	0	
HW 4C	Read <i>Liberation of the Earth</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1.5	0	
HW 4D	Read <i>Golem</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	0.5	0	
HW 4E	Reading Response	0	0	1	50	Week 4
Week 4 Total		4	0	4.5	50	
Week 5						
Type	Topic/Description	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time	Point Value	Due
LEC 5A	Science and Fears in the Cold War	2.5	0	0	0	
IC EX 5A	Watch <i>Invasion of the Body Snatchers</i>	1.5	0	0	0	
HW 5A	Read <i>We Can Remember</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	2	0	
HW 5B	Read <i>Passengers</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1	0	
HW 5C	Read <i>Super Toys</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1	0	
HW 5D	Final: Book Analysis	0	0	4	250	Week 9
Week 5 Total		4	0	9	250	
Week 6						
Type	Topic/Description	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time	Point Value	Due
LEC 6A	Science Fiction Re-Defined	4	0	0	0	
HW 6A	Read <i>Speed Stack</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1	0	
HW 6B	Read <i>7<sup>th</sup> Voyage</i> in	0	0	1.5	0	

	Wesleyan Anthology					
HW 6C	Read <i>When It Changed</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1	0	
HW 6D	Reading Response	0	0	1	50	Week 6
Week 6 Total		4	0	4.5	50	
<b>Week 7</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time	Point Value	Due
LEC 7A	The Rise of Uncertainties	4	0	0	0	
HW 7A	Read <i>Speech Sounds</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	2	0	
HW 7B	Read <i>Computer Friendly</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	2	0	
HW 7D	Reading Response	0	0	1	50	Week 7
Week 7 Total		4	0	5	50	
<b>Week 8</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time	Point Value	Due
LEC 8A	The Takeover of Technology	2	0	0	0	
IC EX 8A	Watch <i>Blade Runner</i>	2	0	0	0	
HW 8A	Read <i>The Giver</i>	0	0	18	0	
HW 8B	Reading Response	0	0	1	50	Week 8
Week 8 Total		4	0	19	50	
<b>Week 9</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time	Point Value	Due
LEC 9A	Y2K: Life on the Brink	4	0	0	0	
HW 9A	Read <i>Rogue Farm</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1	0	
HW 9B	Read <i>Exhalation</i> in Wesleyan Anthology	0	0	1.5	0	
HW 9C	Read <i>Black Science</i>	0	0	8	0	
Week 9 Total		4	0	11.5	0	

Week 10						
Type	Topic/Description	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time	Point Value	Due
LEC 10A	21 <sup>st</sup> Century and the Future	2	0	0	0	
IC EX 10A	Student Presentations	2	0	0	100	Week 10
P 10A	Participation points	0	0	0	100	Week 10
Week 10 Total		4	0	0	200	

### Course Hours Summary

Week	Topic	Lec Time	Lab Time	ELP Time
1	Introduction to Course Materials/Introduction to Science Fiction	4	0	7.5
2	Before the Genre	4	0	13
3	Birth of Science Fiction	4	0	6
4	Golden Age Begins	4	0	4.5
5	Science and Fears During the Cold War	4	0	9
6	Science Fiction Re-Defined	4	0	4.5
7	Rise of Uncertainties	4	0	5
8	Take Over of Technology	4	0	19
9	Y2K: Life on the Brink	4	0	11.5
10	21 <sup>st</sup> Century and the Future	4	0	0
Total		40	0	80

### Table/Point Breakdown

Week	Assignment	Possible Points	Percent of Grade
1	Reading Response	50	5%
2	Reading Response	50	5%
3	Reading Response	50	5%
4	Reading Response	50	5%
5	Midterm: Movie Analysis	200	20%
6	Reading Response	50	5%
7	Reading Response	50	5%
8	Reading Response	50	5%
10	Final: Book Analysis	250	25%
10	Student Presentations	100	10%
10	Participation	100	10%
Total		1000	