



CURRICULUM GUIDE: OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code	ENGL 224	Course Title	Studies in Science Fiction Literature			
Credit Value	3	Department	English			
No. of weeks	14	Hrs. per week	<i>Lecture</i>	<i>Tutorial</i>	<i>Laboratory</i>	<i>Total</i>
			3	0	0	3
Course Description	This course focuses on science fiction as a literary genre that not only entertains but also informs and enlightens, helping us understand how advances in science and technology can either enhance or undermine social progress, human rights, and democracy. This course is designed to help students study, analyze, appreciate, and enjoy science fiction literature. The course also considers how science fiction literature imagines and might even predict the future.					
Prerequisite(s)	6 credits of first-year English					
Initial Articulation Targets	<i>UBC</i>	<i>SFU</i>	<i>UVic</i>	<i>UNBC</i>	<i>TRU</i>	
	ENGL 243 (3)	ENGL 2XX (3)	ENGL 2XX (1.5)	ENGL 2XX (3)	ENGL 2XXX (3)	
	For updated information on the transferability of this course, please consult the BC Transfer Guide, www.bctransferguide.ca					
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define and explain the characteristics of science fiction literature as a discrete literary genre • Demonstrate their knowledge of the canon of science fiction literature • Discern how the works studied are relevant to contemporary society • Recognize science fiction literature not only as a source of entertainment, but also as a critique of contemporary society • Apply the elements of literary analysis to the study of select works of science fiction literature 					
Content	<p>Core topics – all of the following will be covered:</p> <p>Content may vary according to the instructor's selection from the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Shelley's <i>Frankenstein: or The Modern Prometheus</i> and the genesis of the science fiction genre • The scope of science fiction as a genre • Jules Verne and the popularization of <i>Voyages Extraordinaires</i> • Anthropocentrism and Darwinian theory • Ethnocentrism in colonial literature • Colonial encounters and the development of Anthropology • 19th-century astronomy and the rise of speculative fiction 					



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educational reform, print culture history, and the rise of mass readerships• Major 19th through 21st centuries scientific and technological controversies• The “scramble for Africa”• Utopian/dystopian science fiction literature• Scientific popularization• American postwar ascendancy• The Space Race• Cold War science fiction• Indigenous science fiction <p>Additional topics may also be covered, at the discretion of the instructor.</p>
Methods of Instruction	Lecture, whole-class discussion, small-group workshops and discussion, peer oral presentations, audio-visual presentations, and instructor feedback on assignments.
Required Textbook(s)	<p>The following textbook(s) is/are required, or approved equivalent(s).</p> <p>Students will read six to seven novels selected by the instructor. Recommended novels include (but are not limited to):</p> <p>Aldiss, Brian. <i>Dracula Unbound</i>. House of Stratus, 2002.</p> <p>Asimov, Isaac. <i>Prisoners of the Stars</i>. Doubleday, 1979.</p> <p>Bradbury, Ray. <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>. Ballantine, 1953.</p> <p>Butler, Octavia. <i>Kindred</i>. Beacon Press, 2004.</p> <p>Dick, Philip K. <i>The Man in the High Castle</i>. Putnam, 1962.</p> <p>Haggard. H. Rider. <i>King Solomon’s Mines</i>. OER edition. Originally published 1885.</p> <p>Huxley, Aldous. <i>Brave New World</i>. OER edition. Originally published 1932.</p> <p>Le Guin, Ursula K. <i>The Dispossessed</i>. Harper & Row, 1974.</p> <p>Robinson, Kim Stanley. <i>Red Mars</i>. Random House, 1992.</p> <p>Shelley, Mary. <i>Frankenstein or the Modern Prometheus</i>. OER edition. Originally published 1818.</p> <p>Verne, Jules, <i>Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea</i>. OER edition. Originally published 1871.</p> <p>Wells, H.G., <i>The Time Machine</i>. OER edition. Originally published 1895.</p> <p>Wells, H.G., <i>The War of the Worlds</i>. OER edition. Originally published 1897.</p> <p>Wilson, Daniel. H. <i>Robocalypse</i>. Doubleday, 1979.</p>



Required Equipment and Technology	<p>Students are required to have a computer with internet access.</p> <p>The following resources are provided by the College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office 365 • Student email 		
Homework Hours	At minimum, students can expect one hour of homework for every hour of instructional time.		
Evaluation	<i>Component</i>	<i>% Value</i>	
	Writing assignments	30–45%	
	Midterm examination	15–20%	
	Oral presentation	5–10%	
	Response journal	10–15%	
Final examination	20–25%		
Completion Requirements	The minimum grade to pass this course is D (50%). Unless otherwise stated, a minimum grade of C- (55%) is required for this course to fulfil a prerequisite.		
Course Designer(s)	<p>Garrett Peck, Ph.D., Instructor, Department of English, Alexander College</p> <p>Derek Soles, Ph.D., Head of the English Department, Alexander College</p>	Consultant(s), <i>if applicable</i>	
Dean's Approval	Steve Roe, Ph.D., Dean of Arts and Sciences, Alexander College	Dean's Approval Date	October 20, 2021
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	October 20, 2021	First Term Offered	Fall 2022
Last Review Date	October 20, 2021	Next Review Date	October 20, 2026
Revision History	<p>May 30, 2016. Revision by Derek Soles, Department of English, Alexander College</p> <p>May 10, 2023-minor revision by Graeme Abernethy, Head of English Department, Alexander College.</p>		