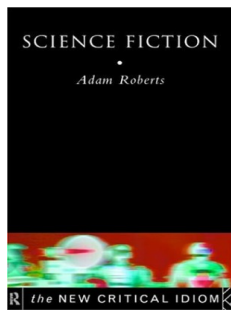


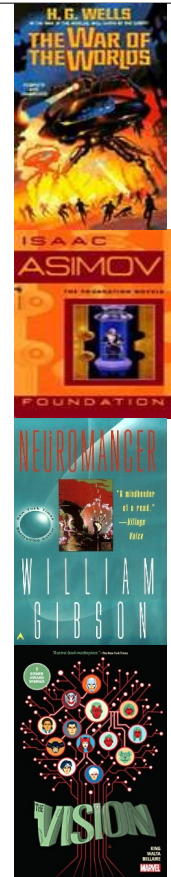
## Course Description:

This course will explore the boundaries of Science Fiction as a complex genre with significant social and cultural ramifications. We will also pay particular attention to the unique features of this often marginalized genre. What constitutes a work of Science Fiction, and how and where does Science Fiction resist such impositions? Particular attention will be paid to issues of science-anxiety, escapism, the body, the cyberpunk aesthetic, posthumanism, and SF postmodernism. The primary concern of the course is to facilitate close reading and analysis in class discussion and written assignments. Students are required to read critically and carefully and complete all tasks set before them.



## Required Texts:

Asimov, Isaac - Foundation  
King et al., Vision - Director's Cut  
Gibson, William - Neuromancer  
Roberts, Adam - Science Fiction  
Wells, H.G. - War of the Worlds  
Courseware Package (Bookstore):



## Courseware Package Contents:

- Aldiss - "Supertoys Last all Summer Long"
- Asimov - "The Last Question"
- Bradbury - "The Veldt"
- Butler - "Bloodchild"
- Clarke - "The Star"
- Delany - "Driftglass"
- Di Filippo - "Victoria"
- Dick - "We Can Remember it for you Wholesale"
- Forde - "The Gift"
- Landis - "A History of the Human and Post-Human Species"
- Mieville - "Jack"
- Russ - "When it Changed"
- Silverberg - "Passengers"
- Shelley - Excerpts from *Frankenstein*
- Sterling - "Homo Sapiens Declared Extinct"
- Tiptree - "The Women Men Don't See"
- Wilson - "The Great Goodbye"

## Assignments:

### Final Essay

**35%**

This will be the culmination of your work in class, a 2,000 word paper. I will provide topic lists (as opposed to a thesis statement). This assignment will be due after the completion of the regular course lectures.

### Discussion Forum

**10%**

Each lecture will end with discussion questions. 5 times throughout the year, I expect you to post a 100-200 word response to a discussion question in the appropriate forum. You get 1 mark for each.

### Maker Project

**15%**

This assignment will require each student working alone or as part of a group to create something within the SF genre. Options will include a podcast, an edited anthology, short fiction, an RPG campaign, or a video essay (amongst others). Estimated time commitment will be 6-10 hours.

### Content Tests (x2):

**40%**

Straightforward questions that will address your understanding of both the readings, and of various concepts and perspectives discussed in lecture.

Note: All written work submitted late will be subject to a penalty of 10 marks (out of 100) per day, including weekends.

## Schedule (subject to alteration)

Winter 2023

Week	Readings	Assignment	Films
1	Syllabus		
2	Wells; Shelley (CP)		
3	Wells; Forde (CP)		Metropolis
4	Asimov; Roberts (Ch 2)		
5	Asimov; Aldiss; Clarke		2001: A Space Odyssey
6	Butler (CP); Russ (CP); Tiptree (CP); Roberts (Ch 3)	Content Test #1	
7	Silverberg (CP); Delaney (CP); Roberts (Ch 4)	Maker Project Proposal	Ex Machina
8	Gibson; Dick (CP); Roberts (Ch 5)		
9	Gibson; Asimov (CP); Bradbury (CP)		Ex Machina (again)
10	Di Filippo (CP); Mieville (CP)		
11	Sterling (CP); Landis (CP); Wilson (CP)	Maker Project	
12	King; Roberts (Ch 6)		
After:	FINAL ESSAY & CONTENT TEST #2		

**Academic Integrity:** To maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo and its Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo (AFIW) are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. See the UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage for more information.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to University of Waterloo Policy 71 - Student Discipline. For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances.

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals.

**Note for Students with Disabilities:** The AccessAbility Services office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

**Service Animal:** If/when in-person classes resume, please note that your instructor may be accompanied by a service animal. Said animal is hypoallergenic, but if anyone has any concerns or a fear of dogs, please do let me know and we can arrange a reasonable accommodation.