

Syllabus: English 261, Science Fiction

	INSTRUCTOR:	Chris Riseley
	OFFICE:	North Santiam Hall 211
	OFFICE HOURS:	Tues. Thurs. 9 to 10 & 11:30 to noon
	TELEPHONE:	541-917-4573
	E-MAIL:	chris.riseley@linnbenton.edu
	PREREQUISITE:	<b>PREREQUISITE:</b> College level reading and writing skills (WR121) are strongly recommended for success in this course.
	Textbooks:	Canticle for Leibowitz by Walter M. Miller 1984 Masterpieces: The Best Science Fiction of the Twentieth Century, Edited by Orson Scott Card  OPTIONAL: Audiobooks are available for both Canticle for Leibowitz and Ender's Shadow at <a href="http://www.audible.com">www.audible.com</a> . Audible frequently offers promotions that allow new users to get one or two downloads for free.
	Final Exam Time:	TBA
	COURSE DESCRIPTION:	Explores Science Fiction, fantasy and speculative futures through popular fiction. Discusses content, styles, techniques and conventions of the genre.

	<p><b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Describe how science fiction and other types of speculative literature illuminate the human condition.</li> <li>● Explain how science fiction and other types of speculative literature explore the religious, philosophical, social, ethical, political, and/or aesthetic ideals of differing cultures.</li> <li>● Interpret science fiction and other types of speculative literature through critical reading.</li> <li>● Participate in activities that encourage personal awareness, growth, and/or creativity through the experience of science fiction and other types of speculative literature.</li> <li>● Write and speak confidently about one's own and others' ideas regarding science fiction and other types of speculative literature.</li> </ul>														
	<p><b>COURSE ASSESSMENT:</b></p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Reading Checks</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Digital Responses</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Presentation</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paper 1</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Midterm</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paper/Project 2</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Exam</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </table>	Reading Checks	100	Digital Responses	100	Presentation	100	Paper 1	100	Midterm	100	Paper/Project 2	100	Final Exam	100
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Paper/Project 2	100															
Final Exam	100															
	<p>Learning Activities:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lecture</li> <li>● Small groups and reports to class</li> <li>● Videos</li> <li>● Oral reports from students</li> <li>● Performance readings</li> </ul>														
	<p><b>COURSE CONTENT:</b></p>	<p><b>THEMES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The historical, social and literary context for each work.</li> <li>● The elements of each kind of short</li> </ul>														

		<p>science fiction narrative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The connections to be made about the authors and their works.</li></ul> <p>CONCEPTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Early roots in fiction: the grandparents of science fiction.</li><li>• The eras: 19th Century, The decades of the 20th Century.</li><li>• Kinds of SCI FI: First Contact, Space War, Aliens, Gender, Parody, Cyberpunk, Other.</li><li>• The Novum or "new thing" as a SCI FI device.</li><li>• Ideas from science used to generate SCI FI.</li><li>• Adaptation of fiction into movies: shared worlds vs. one time.</li></ul> <p>ISSUES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How do these works compare/contrast to other writers, genres, and works of fiction.</li><li>• How do these works compare/contrast with each other and other SCI FI works?</li><li>• How can diversity be enhanced by reading science fiction?</li><li>• What part of American culture do these works represent?</li></ul> <p>SKILLS: To reach the learning outcomes, the student will need to master the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe how science fiction and other types of speculative literature illuminate the human condition.</li><li>• Explain how science fiction and other types of speculative literature explore the religious, philosophical, social, ethical, political, and/or aesthetic ideals of differing cultures.</li><li>• Interpret science fiction and other types of speculative literature through</li></ul>
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		<p><b>Students who may need accommodations</b> due to documented disabilities, or who have medical information which the instructor should know, or who need special arrangements in an emergency, should speak with the instructor during the first week of class. If you think you may need accommodation services, please contact Center for Accessibility Resources, 541-917-4789.</p>