

FYE 1600-33

First Year Experience: Science Fiction

Fall 2019

Seminar: Monday & Wednesday 11:30 AM - 12:20 PM, RTT 303

Writing Workshop: Tues 11:20 AM - 12:35 PM, Fri 11:30 AM - 12:20 PM, RTT 303

Lecture: Thursday 11:20 AM - 12:35 PM, Chapman Auditorium (CGC 126)

INSTRUCTORS FOR FYE 1600-33

SEMINAR

DR. LAUREN TUREK

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OFFICE: CGC 220D

OFFICE HOURS: MW 1-2PM TH 10-11AM

PEER TUTOR: LINDSEY BONIN

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WRITING WORKSHOP

DR. TODD BARNETT

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OFFICE HOURS: TW 1-2:30

PEER TUTOR: ANTHONY TRESKA

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Course Description

Science fiction is often thought of as a literature of the imagination, or a literature of the future or of other worlds. In this First-Year Experience, however, students will find that science fiction critiques and comments on the world we live in today as much as it speculates about the future. Students will read several classic novels, short stories, and films that confront such timeless themes as politics and religion, humanity and technology, gender and environmentalism. The approach will be eclectic, borrowing methods and perspectives from the natural and social sciences as well as the humanities. The combination of reading, writing, and discussion offers students a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in the liberal arts experience as they journey “where no one has gone before.”

The FYE meets five days a week. On Thursdays, all sections of the Science Fiction FYE will meet together in Chapman Auditorium, where an invited lecturer will speak on the reading assigned for that week, or a topic associated with that reading. On MW/TF, students will meet in their classrooms, alternating between writing and seminar instructors.

Texts

1. Mary Shelley. *Frankenstein*. Ed. J. Paul Hunter, Second Norton Critical Edition. New York: WW Norton, 2012.
2. Orson Scott Card. *Ender's Game*. New York: Tor Books, 1992.
3. Ursula K. LeGuin. *The Lathe of Heaven*. New York: Scribner, 1971.
4. Neal Stephenson. *Snow Crash*. New York: Bantam, 1992.
5. Graff, Gerald and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing* (4th edition, 2018)—**required for Writing Workshop section.**
6. Required short stories available on TLEARN; assigned films available on TriniTV; additional materials distributed in paper or electronic (e.g., TLEARN, email) form.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the First Year Experience (FYE), students will have demonstrated the ability to analyze and interpret sophisticated texts and ideas through:

1. analytical and argumentative writing
2. reasoned discussion of substantive issues
3. oral presentations
4. locating and evaluating diverse information sources to enhance their understanding of course materials

Assignments

Common Learning Experiences (CLEs)

Students will be responsible for asking questions of the guest lecturers immediately following each Thursday lecture.

Writing Workshop Sub-Section

The Writing Workshop component of the course will focus on critical reading, writing, and thinking skills, emphasizing writing as an analytic and persuasive activity. We will concentrate on close reading, carefully developed argument, critical analysis, and editing techniques in an attempt to foster the kinds of writing that you will be asked to do throughout your academic career.

Requirements: **6 assignments**. All assignments, readings, and papers are due at the beginning of class on the assigned dates and must be completed in order to pass the course. Late work will be penalized with a lowered grade for each day late. Essays over four days late will not be accepted. All cell phones should be put away during class. Texting and emailing during class are strictly forbidden.

Seminar Sub-Section

Students will hand in **10 assignments** throughout the term. The topics of these brief assignments will deal with the reading assignments and the lecture content. Since the ideas for the assignments will grow out of class discussion and lectures, attendance and active, intelligent class participation are mandatory and will be considered in the final course grade.

Oral participation is an integral part of the course and gives the students an opportunity to try out ideas for the paper assignments. Students should also arrive at the seminars armed with questions about the texts under discussion.

There will be one midterm examination during the course of the semester and a cumulative final exam, all involving short essays and identifications.

No late work will be accepted.

General Expectations for Seminars and Writing Workshops:

Readings: Instructors expect students to have read assignments carefully by the assigned dates and to come to class prepared to discuss the readings. Please bring the readings to all classes and lectures.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. Excessive absences and repeated lateness will result in a lowered course grade. Attendance will be taken at all common experience lectures and both class sub-sections. Be sure to check in with the designated peer tutor either before or after the common experience lectures.

Laptops, cell phones, and other electronic devices: Please don't use electronic devices during CLE lectures and do not use cell phones in class unless instructed to do so. Laptops are permissible if they are used only for notetaking. If you are doing non-FYE work on your laptop during class, you will not be allowed to use it.

Academic Integrity

We expect students to abide by the Academic Honor Code to which they pledged upon enrollment. Instructors expect all students to be thoroughly familiar with the [Honor Code](https://inside.trinity.edu/policies/honor-code) (available at: <https://inside.trinity.edu/policies/honor-code>).

With increasing use of Internet sources and "cut and paste" technology, it is all too easy to plagiarize the work of others. This can happen especially when you are rushed, tired, and generally stressed. Whether intentional, or due simply to forgetting to include proper citations, or especially to failing to exercise due caution in using your own wording when paraphrasing another's words, or neglecting to indicate by quotation marks the actual words of another author, it is still plagiarism!

Needless to say, there are other forms of academic dishonesty than plagiarizing from the Internet. Please be aware of other behaviors such as unauthorized collaboration that constitute violations of academic integrity in its various forms.

The instructors have a basic faith in the integrity of students and their desire to live in a world where fairness and trust are dominant features of the way we conduct our lives in community with others. Understanding and observing academic integrity are part of building that world of fairness and trust, right here at Trinity. However, should we become aware of violations of academic integrity, we will file the necessary charges with the Academic Honor Council.

If you have any questions or doubts relating to academic integrity regarding any assignments for this class, including what help you may or may not receive on any given assignment, PLEASE ASK YOUR INSTRUCTORS!

Peer Tutors

Each section of the FYE has a peer tutor for the writing workshop and a peer tutor for the seminar. They attend their respective classes as well as the weekly common learning experiences. They are involved in class discussions and are available to talk with you outside of class. The peer tutors for both the writing workshop and seminar sections can be particularly helpful as you develop your ideas for your papers or as you prepare to lead class discussion. They read and comment on, but do not grade, student work. The professors alone make the final decision concerning all grades.

Grading

Writing Workshop Sub-Section:

Six essays: 70%

Class participation (class discussion, oral presentations, information literacy): 30%

Seminar Sub-Section:

Midterm: 15%

Final: 25%

Ten Small assignments: 40%

Class participation (comprised, at least in part, of oral presentations): 20%

Students will receive one grade for the course. This six-credit grade is determined jointly by the writing workshop instructor and the first-year seminar instructor at the end of the semester.

Student improvement in each sub-section will be taken into account in determining the final grade.

Lecturers for Common Learning Experiences (in order of first appearance)

Dennis Ugolini (Department of Physics and Astronomy)

Heather Sullivan (Department of Modern Languages and Literatures)

Katherine Troyer (Collaborative)

Betty Curry (Academic Success)

Paulette Curtis (Notre Dame)

Lauren Turek (Department of History)

Shana McDermott (Department of Economics)

Mackenzie Brown (Department of Religion, emeritus)

Kimberlyn Montford (Department of Music)

Duane Coltharp (Department of English)

Aaron Delwiche (Department of Communication)

Todd Barnett (Department of History)

Jim Shinkle (Department of Biology)

Course Calendar and Requirements

Date	Readings/Screenings	Assignments for Dr. Barnett	Assignments for Dr. Turek
Aug. 18	FYE/NSO movie, <i>WALL-E</i> (2008) – August 18, 4-6:30, NH 040		
Aug. 21	Introductions		
Aug. 22	CLE: Science in Science Fiction (Dennis Ugolini)		
Aug. 23	Vonnegut, “Harrison Bergeron”; Asimov, “Reason”; Godwin, “Cold Equations”	<i>They Say/I Say</i> (TSIS), p. xiii – p. 18, complete Exercise 1 and bring hard copy to class	
Week 2			
Aug. 26	Vonnegut, “Harrison Bergeron”; Asimov, “Reason”; Godwin, “Cold Equations”		
Aug. 27	<i>Frankenstein</i> 3-105, ch. I.I – II.IX	TSIS Ch. 1, be ready to complete Exercise 1 in class; TSIS Ch. 2, complete Exercise 1 and bring hard copy to class	
Aug. 28	<i>Frankenstein</i> 3-105, ch. I.I – II.IX		
Aug. 29	CLE: The New Prometheus: Human—Posthuman (Heather Sullivan)		
Aug. 30	<i>Frankenstein</i> 107-161, ch. III.I – III.VII	TSIS Ch. 3; How Writers Teach Writing Handout, be ready to share your literary Poltergeists	
Week 3			
Sept. 2	Labor Day (No Classes)		
Sept. 3	<i>Frankenstein</i> 107-161, ch. III.I – III.VII	WW Essay #1 due via TLearn by 9 am, bring printed copy to class	
Sept. 4	<i>Frankenstein</i> 107-161, ch. III.I – III.VII		Seminar Response Paper #1 Due
Sept. 5	CLE: Light(years), Camera, Action: Film and Sci-Fi (Katherine Troyer)		
Sept. 6	Movie: <i>Blade Runner</i> (1982)	TSIS Ch. 4; TSIS Ch. 5, complete Exercise 1 and be ready to discuss your findings in class	
Week 4			
Sept. 9	Movie: <i>Blade Runner</i> (1982)		
Sept. 10	Movie: <i>Ex Machina</i> (2015)	In-class essay: bring laptops to watch Blade	

		Runner and bring Frankenstein books for reference	
Sept. 11	Movie: <i>Ex Machina</i> (2015)		Seminar Response Paper #2 (Movie Review) Due
Sept. 12	CLE: Academic Success (Betty Curry)		
Sept. 13	overflow	Continue in-class essay; TSIS Ch. 6, be ready to complete Exercise 1 in class	
Week 5			
Sept. 16	overflow		SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS 1
Sept. 17	Movie: <i>Planet of the Apes</i> (1968)	Bring final hard copy of in-class essay to class; TSIS Ch. 7, be ready to complete Exercise 2 in class with your own essay	
Sept. 18	Movie: <i>Planet of the Apes</i> (1968)		
Sept. 19	CLE: It is Indeed a Madhouse: Upending the Social Order in the Original <i>Planet of the Apes</i> Series (Paulette Curtis)		
Sept. 20	<i>Ender's Game</i> , 1-69, chapters 1-7	TSIS Ch. 8, complete Exercise 1 and bring hard copy to class	
Week 6			
Sept. 23	<i>Ender's Game</i> , 1-69, chapters 1-7		
Sept. 24	<i>Ender's Game</i> , 70-159, ch. 8-12	Revised WW Essay #1 due via TLearn by 9 am, bring printed copy to class <i>with original essay attached</i>	
Sept. 25	<i>Ender's Game</i> , 70-159, ch. 8-12		Seminar Response Paper #3 Due
Sept. 26	CLE: Science Fiction in Historical Context (Lauren Turek)		
Sept. 27	<i>Ender's Game</i> , 160-226, ch. 13-15	Close Reading examples, in-class	
Week 7			
Sept. 30	<i>Ender's Game</i> , 160-226, ch. 13-15		
Oct. 1	Hao Jingfang, "Folding Beijing"	Close Reading continued; WW reassessment	
Oct. 2	Hao Jingfang, "Folding Beijing"		Seminar Response Paper #4 Due
Oct. 3	CLE: Economics and Conflict: Is Science Fiction So Far-Fetched? (Shana McDermott)		
Oct. 4	Movie: <i>Children of Men</i> (2006)	WW reassessment	

Week 8			
Oct. 7	Movie: <i>Children of Men</i> (2006)		Seminar Response Paper #5 (Movie Review) Due
Oct. 8	overflow		
Oct. 9	overflow		
Oct. 10	CLE: Midterm Exam (in the classroom)		
Oct. 11	Mid-semester Recess (NO CLASSES)		
Week 9			
Oct. 14	<i>Lathe of Heaven</i> 1-50, chapters 1-4	Essay #2 due via TLearn by 11:55 pm	
Oct. 15	<i>Lathe of Heaven</i> 1-50, chapters 1-4	Bring printed copy of Essay #2 to class	
Oct. 16	<i>Lathe of Heaven</i> 51-111, ch. 5-7		Seminar Response Paper #6 Due
Oct. 17	CLE: The Dao of Dreaming: Ursula K. LeGuin's <i>The Lathe of Heaven</i> (Mackenzie Brown)		
Oct. 18	<i>Lathe of Heaven</i> 51-111, ch. 5-7		
Week 10			
Oct. 21	<i>Lathe of Heaven</i> 112-184, ch. 8-11		
Oct. 22	<i>Lathe of Heaven</i> 112-184, ch. 8-11		
Oct. 23	Radio: <i>Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i> , episodes 1-6 (1978)		Seminar Response Paper #7 Due
Oct. 24	CLE: The Sound of Science..... Fiction (Kimberly Montford)		
Oct. 25	Radio: <i>Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i> , episodes 1-6 (1978)		
Week 11			
Oct. 28	overflow		SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS 2
Oct. 29	overflow	Revised WW Essay #2 due via TLearn by 9 am, bring printed copy to class <i>with original essay attached</i>	
Oct. 30	<i>Snow Crash</i> 1-153, chapters 1-15		Seminar Response Paper #8 Due
Oct. 31	CLE: <i>Snow Crash</i> and the Politics of Cyberpunk (Duane Coltharp)		
Nov. 1	<i>Snow Crash</i> 1-153, chapters 1-15		
Week 12			
Nov. 4	<i>Snow Crash</i> 154-287, chapters 16-31		
Nov. 5	<i>Snow Crash</i> 154-287, chapters 16-31		
Nov. 6	<i>Snow Crash</i> 288-412, chapters 32-47		
Nov. 7	CLE: Lessons from the Virtual World Gold Rush (Aaron Delwiche)		
Nov. 8	<i>Snow Crash</i> 288-412, chapters 32-47		
Week 13			
Nov. 11	<i>Snow Crash</i> 413-559, chapters 48-71		Seminar Response Paper #9 Due

Nov. 12	<i>Snow Crash</i> 413-559, chapters 48-71		
Nov. 13	overflow		SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS 3
Nov. 14	CLE: “KAPOW! WHAM! ZAP!” The Impact of Comic Books on Science Fiction (Todd Barnett)		
Nov. 15	overflow	Final Essay (Essay 3) Rough Draft due via TLearn by 9 am, bring printed copy to class; <i>all students are required to schedule a meeting with the WW peer tutor to discuss their draft during the week of 11/18</i>	
Week 14			
Nov. 18	Tiptree, “Love is the Plan, the Plan is Death”; Le Guin, “Coming of Age in Karhide”; Butler, “Bloodchild”		Seminar Response Paper #10 Due
Nov. 19	Tiptree, “Love is the Plan, the Plan is Death”; Le Guin, “Coming of Age in Karhide”; Butler, “Bloodchild”		
Nov. 20	overflow		SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS 4
Nov. 21	CLE: The Evolution of Sex (Jim Shinkle)		
Nov. 22	Movie: <i>Alien</i> (1979)		
Week 15			
Nov. 25	Movie: <i>Alien</i> (1979)		
Nov. 26	Evals, wrap-up		
Nov. 27-29	Thanksgiving Break (No Classes)		
Week 16			
Dec. 2	Evals, wrap-up		
Dec. 3	Celebration (Fiesta Room)		
Final Examination Monday, December 9, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM Revised Final Essay (Essay 3) Due via TLearn by Tuesday, December 10, 11:55 PM			