

HS203

Science Fiction

3-0-0-6

This course explores the long-established literary genre of science fiction through certain representative texts. The topics for discussion range from alien invasion, cyborgs, global catastrophe, and space travel to utopian and dystopian future societies. In our examination of these texts, we will consider questions regarding the impact of science and technology on "global culture"; the intimate relationship between technological development and the history of warfare in the 20th century, the use of alien narratives to explore issues about race; the ways gender and sexuality have been transformed by scientific advances; and the complexities of human government and power.

Texts:

1. Raymond William, "Science Fiction", *Science Fiction Studies*, 15.3 (1988).
2. Select chapters from Tom Shippey (ed), *The Oxford Book of Science Fiction Stories*, Oxford: OUP, 1992.

References:

1. Camille Bacon-Smith, *Science Fiction Culture*, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania, 2000.
2. Adam Roberts, *Science Fiction*, London: Routledge, 2000.