



## DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

### COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2018

#### EN1220 (A3 & B3): Texts and Contexts – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Anna Lapointe      **PHONE:** 780-539-2992  
**OFFICE:** C-420      **E-MAIL:** [alapointe@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:alapointe@gprc.ab.ca)  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Mondays 3:00-3:50; Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:00-2:00 pm; or  
by appointment

#### CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course will explore a specific issue (to be determined by the instructor) using a variety of genres and media. Instruction will include essay writing skills.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** Successful completion of Alberta English 30 (or equivalent of grade 12 English). This course will fulfill 3 credits of requirements for most programs that specify 6 credits of first year or Junior English. Normally, no more than 6 credits of first year English or equivalent may be taken for credit.

#### REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

- Butler, Octavia E. *Kindred*. Beacon Press.
- Vandermeer, Ann & Jeff, eds. *The Big Book of Science Fiction*. Vintage Books.

#### RECOMMENDED RESOURCE:

Students need access to a writing guide which details grammar rules, structures of writing, and MLA-style documentation consistent with the **eighth** edition of the *MLA Handbook*. (Most used writing handbooks will not meet that last criterion.)

Students are encouraged to use the free online resource *The Purdue OWL* for this purpose: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

Students who prefer to use a print reference may wish to purchase:

- Babington, Doug, et al. *The Broadview Pocket Guide to Writing*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition revised.

Please do not buy the unrevised 4<sup>th</sup> edition, as it includes outdated information on documentation practices.

**DELIVERY MODE:** Lecture and discussion

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Students will read and critically analyze a variety of science fiction texts, and articulate their conclusions in clear, structured writing, with an emphasis on academic essay forms.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and describe a variety of science fiction subtypes
- Articulate in outline the history of the science fiction genre
- Critically analyze texts with reference to symbolic language, structure, and patterns of language
- Make connections between different texts in terms of both specific content and genre evolution
- Write academic literary analysis essays using science fiction texts as primary sources

**TRANSFERABILITY:** UA, UC, UL, AU, GMU

**\*Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca> or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at

<http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlinesearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2>

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

Quizzes	10%
Essay 1	15%
Essay 2	25%
Response papers	(2 x 5%) = 10%
Attendance and Participation	10%
Final Exam	30%

Assignments will be assessed according to university-level standards of writing, including (but not limited to) spelling, grammar, compositional coherence, and critical thinking. Grading standards will rise in the course of the term. All assessments will be given as letter grades. **Due dates are posted on Moodle.**

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

**COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

Readings must be completed **before** the class in which they are taken up. Please ensure you have the day's text available to you in class (either on paper or electronically). This schedule is subject to change. Alterations will be posted on Moodle. Except for *World War Z*, all readings are drawn from *The Big Book of Science Fiction*. The first page of each story is indicated after the title. Please ensure (use the page numbers) that you are reading the correct story, as some titles repeat.

Class 1: Welcome  
Class 2: Introduction to Science Fiction (xiii-xxxi)  
Class 3: "Sultana's Dream" (9); "The Comet" (53)  
Class 4: "September 2005: The Martian" (164); "The Star" (270).  
Class 5: Essay writing 1 (no advance reading)  
Class 6 "Beyond Lies the Wub" (215); "Let Me Live in a House" (252)  
Class 7: "The Voices of Time" (403); "Day Million" (508)  
Class 8: "2 B R O 2 B" (446); "'Repent, Harlequin!' Said the Ticktockman" (491)  
Class 9: "Vaster Than Empires and More Slow" (577)  
Class 10: Essay writing 2 (no advance reading)  
Class 11: "Aye, and Gomorrah" (527), "When It Changed" (602)  
Class 12: "And I Awoke and Found Me Here on the Cold Hill's Side" (608)  
Class 13: "Swarm" (720); "New Rose Hotel" (794)  
Class 14: "Blood Music" (740)  
Class 15: "Bloodchild" (755)  
Class 16: Essay writing 3 (no advance reading)  
Class 17: "The Lake Was Full of Artificial Things" (830); "Gorgonoids" (1002)  
Class 18: "The Poetry Cloud" (1076)  
Class 19: "Story of Your Life" (1097)  
Class 20: "Craphound" (1126)  
Classes 21-24: *Kindred*  
Class 25: Review for Exam  
Exam date TBA. Please ensure that you are available for the entire exam period.

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Student responsibilities are posted in detail on Moodle, along with a list of frequently asked questions. Please review that material as soon as possible, as you are responsible for it.

### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. **Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.**

**\*\*Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.