

## **EMCC Course Proposal**

**Cealláigh S. MacCath-Moran**

- ENG 223: Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature
- Department: English
- Resources: Classroom
- Catalog Description:
  - Emphasizes techniques for close reading and writing about elements of Science Fiction and Fantasy literature including characters, points of view, plots, settings, themes, and symbolism. Students will read Science Fiction and Fantasy literature alongside instructional material that guides them through the close reading and writing processes. Weekly written responses to reading and two comprehensive essays are required.
- Distribution Area:
  - English-Humanities
  - 200-Level Elective
  - 3 Credit Hours
- Core Competencies:
  - *Communication* – Students will be required to write weekly responses to reading and craft two comprehensive essays. In addition, students will be required to communicate about what they have read during in-class discussions.
  - *Critical Thinking and Scientific Reasoning* – Students will be required to employ critical thinking techniques to a close reading of extra-canonical literature and develop the skills necessary to write a substantive literary analysis of what they have read.
- Course Objectives:
  - *Introduce* students to the unique voice of Speculative Fiction literature.
  - *Teach* students how to read Speculative Fiction literature.
  - *Teach* students how to write about Speculative Fiction literature.
  - *Encourage* students to evaluate the literature they read on the merit of its content rather than the merit of its presence/absence in the literary canon.
  - *Prepare* students for future literature courses by building the above-mentioned reading, writing, and evaluation skills.
- Proposed Audience:
  - Any EMCC student who wishes to explore Speculative Fiction and earn credit for an EMCC English-Humanities elective.
- Transferability:
  - This course should transfer to other institutions as a 200-Level, English-Humanities distribution elective.
- Challenge Exam:
  - Two comprehensive literary analyses will be required instead of a challenge exam.

# Proposed Syllabus for ENG 223: Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature

## Instructor

Cealláigh S. MacCath-Moran

## Contact Information

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## Office Hours

By Appointment

## Texts:

- The Prentice Hall Anthology of Science Fiction and Fantasy. Garyn G. Roberts, Ed. Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall, 2001.
- Roberts, Edgar V. Writing About Literature, Brief Tenth Edition. Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall, 2003.

## Course Description

Emphasizes techniques for close reading and writing about elements of Science Fiction and Fantasy literature including characters, points of view, plots, settings, themes, and symbolism. Students will read Science Fiction and Fantasy literature alongside instructional material that guides them through the close reading and writing processes. Weekly written responses to reading and two comprehensive essays are required.

## Performance Objectives

- *Introduce* yourself to the unique voice of Speculative Fiction literature.
- *Learn* how to read Speculative Fiction literature.
- *Learn* how to write about Speculative Fiction literature.
- *Learn* to evaluate the literature you read on the merit of its content rather than the merit of its presence/absence in the literary canon.
- *Prepare* yourself for future literature courses by building the above-mentioned reading, writing, and evaluation skills.

## Grading

Responses to Reading	500-1000 Words	50%
Comprehensive Essays	2000-2500 Words	40%
Attendance & Participation	Weekly	10 %

## Attendance

Your assignments are due on time, in class, on the date specified. You must hand them in. I do not accept late papers except in cases of documentable emergency. There are no exceptions to this rule.

## Participation

Your participation is important to me and to your fellow students. This isn't math or rocket science, it's literature, and we all want to know what you think about it. We'll be reading aloud quite a bit in class, and I'll ask you to share not only your best reading voice but also your best insights.

*Please Note: EMCC is committed to providing an equal opportunity for students and complies with all state and federal equal opportunity laws. Students with documented disabilities will be accommodated in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation act of 1973 and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1991. If you have a hidden disability, you must disclose the disability and provide documentation to the Coordinator of Disability Services in Room 251 Maine Hall or call 941-4671 before any accommodation can be made.*

## Proposed 12-Week Course Outline

<b>Week 1</b>	<p><i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i></p>	<p>The Use Of References And Tenses In Writing About Literature/Archetypal Stories WAL Appendix C (and) Mary W. Shelley “The Mortal Immortal: A Tale” A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about</p>
<b>Week 2</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i></p>	<p>The Use Of References And Tenses In Writing About Literature/Archetypal Stories Preliminary Studies In Writing About Literature/Archetypal Stories WAL Pages 1-25 (and) Edgar Allen Poe “The Fall of the House of Usher” A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about</p>
<b>Week 3</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i></p>	<p>Preliminary Studies In Writing About Literature/Archetypal Stories Further Preliminary Studies In Writing About Literature/Dark Fantasy WAL Pages 26-45 (and) H.P. Lovecraft “The Colour Out of Space” A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about</p>
<b>Week 4</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i></p>	<p>Further Preliminary Studies In Writing About Literature/Dark Fantasy Writing About A Close Reading/Dark Fantasy WAL Chapter 2 (and) Shirley Jackson “The Lottery” A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about</p>
<b>Week 5</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i></p>	<p>Writing About A Close Reading/Dark Fantasy Writing About Character/High Fantasy WAL Chapter 3 (and) J.R.R. Tolkien “Riddles in the Dark” A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about</p>
<b>Week 6</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i> <i>Also Due:</i></p>	<p>Writing About Character/High Fantasy Writing About Point Of View/High Fantasy WAL Chapter 4 (and) Tanith Lee “Red As Blood” A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about Your First Comprehensive Literary Analysis (Fantasy)</p>
<b>Week 7</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i></p>	<p>Writing About Point Of View/High Fantasy Writing About Plot And Structure/Science Fiction WAL Chapter 5 (and) Marion Zimmer Bradley “Exiles of Tomorrow” A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about</p>
<b>Week 8</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i></p>	<p>Writing About Plot And Structure/Science Fiction Writing About Setting/Science Fiction WAL Chapter 6 (and) Phillip K. Dick “We Can Remember It for You Wholesale” A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about</p>
<b>Week 9</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i></p>	<p>Writing About Setting/Science Fiction Writing About An Idea Or A Theme/Science Fiction WAL Chapter 7 (and) Orson Scott Card “Ender’s Game” A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about</p>
<b>Week 10</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i></p>	<p>Writing About An Idea Or A Theme/Science Fiction Writing About Metaphors And Similes/Science Fiction WAL Chapter 8 (and) Octavia Butler “Bloodchild” A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about</p>
<b>Week 11</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Lecture:</i> <i>Read:</i> <i>Write:</i> <i>Also Due:</i></p>	<p>Writing About Metaphors And Similes/Science Fiction Writing About Symbolism And Allusions/Current Selections in Speculative Fiction WAL Chapter 9 (and) A Current Speculative Fiction selection TBA A two-page response to the story that utilizes the techniques you have just read about Your second comprehensive literary analysis (Science Fiction)</p>
<b>Week 12</b>	<p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Due:</i></p>	<p>Writing About Symbolism And Allusions/Current Selections in Speculative Fiction Your final two-page response to reading that utilizes the techniques you have just read about</p>



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