|  |
| --- |
| 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: | **PREREQUISITE:** 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 [www.audible.com](http://www.audible.com). 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. |
|  | WR 121 LEARNING OUTCOMES: | * Recognize how literature helps in understanding the human condition. * Interpret literature through critical reading. * Demonstrate how literature enhances personal awareness and creativity. * Write and speak confidently about their own and others' ideas. |
|  | COURSE ASSESSMENT: | Reading Checks 100  Digital Responses 100  Presentation 100  Paper 1 100  Midterm 100  Paper/Project 2 100  Final Exam 100 |
|  | Learning Activities: | * Lecture * Small groups and reports to class * Videos * Oral reports from students * Performance readings |
|  | **COURSE CONTENT:** | THEMES:   * The historical, social and literary context for each work. * The elements of each kind of short science fiction narrative. * The connections to be made about the authors and their works.   CONCEPTS:   * Early roots in fiction: the grandparents of science fiction. * The eras: 19th Century, The decades of the 20th Century. * Kinds of SCI FI: First Contact, Space War, Aliens, Gender, Parody, Cyberpunk, Other. * The Novum or "new thing" as a SCI FI device. * Ideas from science used to generate SCI FI. * Adaptation of fiction into movies: shared worlds vs. one time.   ISSUES:   * How do these works compare/contrast to other writers, genres, and works of fiction. * How do these works compare/contrast with each other and other SCI FI works? * How can diversity be enhanced by reading science fiction? * What part of American culture do these works represent?   SKILLS: To reach the learning outcomes, the student will need to master the following skills:   * Describe how science fiction and other types of speculative literature illuminate the human condition. * Explain how science fiction and other types of speculative literature explore the religious, philosophical, social, ethical, political, and/or aesthetic ideals of differing cultures. * Interpret science fiction and other types of speculative literature through critical reading. * Participate in activities that encourage personal awareness, growth, and/or creativity through the experience of science fiction and other types of speculative literature. * Write and speak confidently about one's own and others' ideas regarding science fiction and other types of speculative literature. |
|  |  | **Students who may need accommodations** due to docum  ented disabilities, or who have medical  information which the instructor should know, or  who need special arrangement  s 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 Re  sources, 541-917-4789. |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |