

COURSE OUTLINE
ENGL-211
Science through Science Fiction
3 Credits

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

Science through Science Fiction focuses on themes of controversial scientific discovery and innovation, exploring both the wonder and the danger. Students view films and read short stories and novels and illustrate comprehension of scientific background and literary concepts through class discussion, essay exams and literary projects. This course is writing intensive. Prerequisite: ENGL-121. (3 hours weekly)

Statement on General Education and Liberal Learning

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize literary terms, concepts, critical strategies and stylistic characters in the texts studied.
2. Demonstrate critical and independent thinking in the interpretation of texts.
3. Write analytically about literary works, using appropriate research and documentation.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of ways the literature studied reflects its intellectual, social, historical, and cultural contexts.
5. Evaluate the power of literature to address personal values and goals and to challenge human endeavors.
6. Synthesize the scientific influences on literature in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries.

Major Topics

- I. Origins of Science Fiction
- II. Post World War II Science Fiction
- III. The 1960s styles in Science Fiction
- IV. Contemporary Science Fiction through Short Story

Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but may include exams, papers and class participation. Specific writing assignments will require at least 2,500 words of formal academic writing, as well as informal in-class assignments to explore ideas and respond to class materials.

Other Course Information

This course is an Interdisciplinary and Emerging Issues core course, a Literature and Humanities core course, and a Humanities, English, and Arts and Sciences elective.