Moberly Area Community College
Common Syllabus
LAL251 Science Fiction

Instructor:
Office number:
Office hours:
Contact information:
Classroom number:
Class days and time:

Catalog Description: *LAL251 Science Fiction (3-0-3)
Students explore science fiction and fantasy through study of short stories, novels, and films. (SP)

Prerequisite/Co-requisite: none.

Text(s):

Title: *Fahrenheit 451
Author: Bradbury
Edition 2012
Publisher: S&S

Title: *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep
Author: Dick
Edition: 1975
Publisher: Random

Title: *Brave New World
Author: Huxley
Edition: 1946
Publisher: Harper
ISBN: 978-0-06-085052-4

Title: *Frankenstein w/Revisions
Author: Shelley
Edition: Revised 2003
Publisher: Penguin
ISBN: 978-0-14-143947-1

Title: *The Time Machine
Author: Wells
Edition: 1992
Purpose of Course: This course will provide the students with an understanding of the rise, development, and modern state of science fiction and fantasy as distinct and self-perpetuating literary genres. The material history of the cultures that produce/have produced these genres will also be examined with a view toward understanding the present by thinking about the ways writers in the past have imagined the future.

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

- Demonstrate a familiarity with the major names, works, themes, and modes of the science fiction and fantasy literary traditions;
- Explain the historical contexts which produced those works;
- Demonstrate the ability to think independently and critically about literature as a cultural artifact;
- Demonstrate basic research skills using material original, primary, and secondary;
- Demonstrate basic skills in critical thinking, reading, and writing.
- Write college-level English; and
- Communicate orally at college-level standards.

Course Content: The course will focus on a close reading of each text informed by historical and cultural lecture and discussion.

Assessment of Student Learning: (Student outcomes of the above objectives that will constitute the student’s final grade may be measured through, but not limited to, the following: objective and essay examinations, quizzes, oral presentations, class participation, small group work, and/or projects. If class participation counts towards a student’s final grade, then the instructor will describe what behaviors s/he will accept for credit to be earned; identify the percentage that class participation is worth; and explain how s/he tracks participation.)

Determining percentage weight of components is, of course, the instructor’s prerogative. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>2 @ 100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One short essay (“Artistic option”)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One long essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Think pieces</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>10 @ 4%</td>
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Participation and discussion questions -- 10%

Grading Scale:
100%-90% = A  
89%-80% = B  
79%-70% = C  
69%-60% = D  
59% or below = F

Expected Study Time Commitments: Students should expect to spend approximately 2 to 4 hours per week studying, reading, and working on assignments for each registered credit hour. For example, 6 to 12 study hours per week may be expected for a 3 credit hour class.

Description of Major Assignment(s)/Project(s): (as an example)
Each day you will bring two questions based on the day’s reading to share with the class to help stimulate discussion. There will be two tests: a mid-term and a non-comprehensive final. Each of the tests will be identification, short answer and essay. Your short paper (3-4 pages) should be a report, review or reception history for a single chosen work. You also have an “artistic” option: instead of a short paper, you may exercise your creativity by writing your own science fiction or fantasy story or by painting, drawing, etc., a scene from our readings. Your artistic creation will be graded on level of complexity and accuracy. Your long paper (6-8 pages) will be an original argument based on primary sources and supported by secondary ones. The think pieces are your reaction(s) to what you have read; each is approximately 500 words. They should not be mere plot summary. You must complete ten, but can turn in no more than two per week.

Schedule of Student Assignments/Activities: Instructors will identify a Student Assignment/Activities schedule. Instructors have the prerogative to construct the schedule by class periods, weeks, or an overview of topics to be covered.

Statement to Connect Course with General Education Outcomes: In compliance with MACC’s General Education Outcomes, the student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

- **Valuing**: Students will demonstrate the ability to understand the moral and ethical values of a diverse society; and to appreciate the values of diversity, equity, and sustainability.

College / Instructor Policies:

Academic Dishonesty: MACC board policy is as follows: “Academic dishonesty by students damages institutional credibility and unfairly jeopardizes honest students; therefore, it will not be tolerated in any form.” Forms of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to the following: violations of copyright law, plagiarism, fabrication, cheating, collusion, and other academic misconduct. Incidents of dishonesty regarding assignments, examinations, classroom/laboratory activities, and/or the submission of misleading or false information to the College will be treated seriously. The procedure for handling academic dishonesty is outlined in the Student Handbook (Policy Handbook M.010). In cases of alleged academic dishonesty, the burden of proof is on the student, not on the instructor.
Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all class sessions for which they are enrolled. The College reserves the right to drop or withdraw students from courses due to lack of attendance.

Students need to be aware that dropping/being dropped from a course and their last date of attendance in the course may impact their financial aid.

MACC faculty are required to track attendance and report lack of attendance. An instructor must complete the appropriate steps to drop a student within one week following the student’s violation of the attendance policy. Additionally, a student’s attendance rate will be calculated based upon the first day the academic session begins (not the student’s date of enrollment in the course). If a student does not attend a course as defined below, the student will be dropped as “Never Attended.”

Term Length Drop Calculations

16-week: Any student who misses two (2) consecutive weeks of class will be dropped from the course by the instructor unless acceptable justification is provided by the student and the student still has the opportunity to be successful in the course.

8-week: Any student who misses one (1) consecutive week of class will be dropped from the course by the instructor unless acceptable justification is provided by the student and the student still has the opportunity to be successful in the course.

4-week: Any student who misses two (2) consecutive days of class will be dropped from the course by the instructor unless acceptable justification is provided by the student and the student still has the opportunity to be successful in the course.

Intersession: Any student who misses one (1) day of class will be dropped from the course by the instructor unless acceptable justification is provided by the student and the student still has the opportunity to be successful in the course.

Acceptable justification may include, but is not limited to, family emergencies, illness or injury, college-approved co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, and religious holidays.

Definition of Course Attendance

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<tr>
<th>In Seat Course</th>
<th>Physically attending scheduled, face-to-face, class meetings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Virtual Course</td>
<td>Being present, via appropriate platform, for scheduled class meetings/activities</td>
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| Hybrid Course | Physically attending scheduled, face-to-face, class meetings and active participation in the online portion of the course which may include any or all of the following:  
- Completion of quizzes or exams during class meetings and online  
- Submission of assignments during class meetings and online  
- Participation in discussions during class meetings and online |
|---|---|
| Online Course | Active participation in an online course includes the following:  
- Completion of quizzes or exams  
- Submission of assignments  
- Participation in threaded discussions |

Simply logging into the Learning Management System (Canvas) and/or accessing the course and course related material does not constitute active participation for the online component of hybrid courses or for online courses. *(Policy Handbook, I.090 & M.095)*

**Tardiness:** Per instructor’s policy

**Make-up and late work:** Per instructor’s policy

**Extra-credit work:** Per instructor’s policy

**Student Email:** MACC Mail is the official student email system at MACC. Official college communication is sent via this email system. Students are responsible for checking their MACC Mail account regularly. Students may also receive notifications and reminders from MACC through the online learning platform. However, students should remain aware that the online learning platform messaging system and MACC Mail (student email) system are two separate systems.

**ADA Statement:** Students who have disabilities that qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act may register for assistance through the Office of Access and ADA Services. Students are invited to contact the Access Office to confidentially discuss disability information, academic accommodations, appropriate documentation and procedures. For more information, please call either the Moberly office at (660) 263-4100 x 11240 or the Columbia office at (573) 234-1067 x 12120, or visit our web page at [http://www.macc.edu/index.php/services/access-office](http://www.macc.edu/index.php/services/access-office).

**Title IX Statement:** MACC maintains a strict policy prohibiting sexual misconduct in any form, including sexual harassment, sexual discrimination, and sexual violence. All MACC employees, including faculty members, are considered mandated reporters of sexual misconduct and as such are expected to contact the Title IX Coordinator when they become aware, in conversation or in writing, of an incident of sexual misconduct. For more information on this policy or to learn about support resources, please see [http://www.macc.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy](http://www.macc.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy) (links to an external site) or contact Ms. Cheryl Lybarger, MACC’s Title IX Coordinator, at 660-263-4110, ext. 11369 or CherylLybarger@macc.edu.