

Englit 1699
Spring 2003
Bishop

LIT 1699

Science Fiction Films
crn: 38803 englit 1699
DL 209 1-4:50 Fridays
Dr. Ellen Bishop
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Course Description

This course is designed for students who are interested in film studies and in Science Fiction as a genre. We will explore questions about what Science Fiction is and how it has influenced and been influenced by American culture since the early days of film. We will focus on the last 25 years or so: the post Industrial Light and Magic revolution—and the emergence of Science Fiction as a significant film genre with enormous cultural interest.

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to be on time and prepared for class. Since we only meet once a week and no one in their right mind would want to miss this class, absences will adversely affect grades. Class participation is seriously expected. Also, students are expected to be respectful of each other and to know how to disagree without being either disagreeable or insulting to others in the class.

Students will be required to write two papers 10-12 pages in length. One paper will be due at mid-term (February 28th) and one at the end of the semester. The first paper will be on an SF film made before 1960; the second one will be on a film made after 1960 that we do not screen in class. These papers and class "quality" participation will each count as 33% of the final grade.

Schedule

1/10/03 Metropolis Lang 1927, Trip to the Moon Melies 1902

"Estrangement and Cognition" Suvin (packet)

"Screening Space" Vivian Sobchack (packet)

"Metropolis" Patalas (packet)

Introduction to AZ

1/17/03 The Terminator Cameron 1984

"Time Travel, Primal Scene, and the Critical Dystopia" Pennley (packet)

1/31/03 Star Trek: Generations Carson 1994

"Commodity Futures" Byers AZ

2/7/03 Close Encounters of the Third Kind Spielberg 1977

- "Child/Alien/Father: Patriarchal Crisis and Generic Exchange"
Vivian Sobchack (packet)
- 2/14/03 The Day the Earth Stood Still Wise 1951
"The Imagination of Disaster" Sontag (packet)
- 2/21/21 Forbidden Planet Wilcox 1956
"Monsters from the Id" Tarratt (packet)
- 2/28/03 Invasion of the Body Snatchers Seigel 1956
"The Mummy's Pool" Kawin (packet)
- 3/14/03 Alien Scott 1979
"Reimagining the Gargoyle: Psychoanalytic Notes on Alien"
Greenberg packet
- 3/21/03 The Thing Carpenter 1982
"You've Got to Be Fucking Kidding!" Neale AZ
- 3/28/03 Liquid Sky Tsukerman 1982
"Androids and Androgyny" Berstrom (packet)
- 4/4/03 Blade Runner Scott 1982
"Ramble City" Bruno AZ
- 4/18/03 The Matrix Wachowski Brothers 1996