

# FILM A109: SCIENCE FICTION FILM

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	09/23/2020
Top Code	061210 - Film History and Criticism
Units	3 Total Units
Hours	54 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 54)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	No
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Open Entry/Open Exit	No
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S)
Associate Arts Local General Education (GE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area 3 Arts and Humanities 3A Theory (OC1)</li> </ul>
Associate Science Local General Education (GE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area 3A Arts (OSC1)</li> <li>Area 3B Humanities (OSC2)</li> </ul>
California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Ca-GETC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ca-GETC 3A Arts (3A)</li> </ul>
Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IGETC 3A Arts (3A)</li> </ul>
California State University General Education Breadth (CSU GE-Breadth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CSU C1 Arts (C1)</li> </ul>

## Course Description

Participants will explore the long history of Science Fiction film starting in early the 1900s to the modern era, to gain a deeper understanding of the genre, its social significance and underlying meaning for symbols and characters. Successful structure of a Science Fiction film, as well as key figures in the development of the genre will be explored. Enrollment Limitation: FILM A109H; students who complete FILM A109 may not enroll in or receive credit for FILM A109H. Transfer Credit: CSU; UC.

## Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Analyze and evaluate the historical development and impact of significant Science Fiction works in film and television.
2. Evaluate the historical and cultural contexts that influenced the production and thematic development of Science Fiction films.
3. Recognize genre trends within decades and how they align with the social and political climate.

## Course Objectives

- 1. Identify the importance of the Science Fiction genre in film and television.
- 2. Recognize decade by decade trends in story structure.
- 3. Analyze how the genre has been a mirror for social awareness or change.
- 4. Discuss meanings behind plots and characters in select films.
- 5. Explain the evolution of ideas on specific themes or topics

- 6. Analyze future trends in Science Fiction film.
- 7. Critique Science Fiction films with a personal thesis behind analysis and critique.

## Lecture Content

1. Introduction/Establishing the genre a. What is Science Fiction film? b. Why was it one of the first genres created c. Why is it a powerful medium/genre today2. Pre-1940 Science Fiction Films3. Disaster and alien films of the 1950 s4. 1960 s mind expansion films and their relation to Science Fiction literature5. Box office success of the 1970 s Science Fiction Film6. Cyborgs of the 1980 s7. Feminism in Science Fiction film8. Technology in the genre9. Episodic Science Fiction television10. Science Fiction as a mode of social change

## Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)

## Instructional Techniques

Lectures Slide presentation Film screenings Critique of selected films Guided class discussions

## Reading Assignments

Reading assignments from textbooks and handouts 2 to 3 hours a week.

## Writing Assignments

Film critiques and discussion posts, as well as a library workshop, will be assigned. 2 to 3 hours a week.

## Out-of-class Assignments

A total of four film critiques will be completed and used to assess critical thinking and explore the genre. 30 hours total

## Demonstration of Critical Thinking

Film critique In class discussions Multiple choice tests

## Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration

Film critique Online discussions In class discussions Written paper on topic of instructors choice

## Eligible Disciplines

Film studies: Master's degree in film, drama/theater arts, or mass communication OR bachelor's degree in any of the above AND master's degree in media studies, English, or communication OR the equivalent. Master's degree required.

## Textbooks Resources

1. Required Booker, M. Keith. Alternate Americas: Science Fiction Film and American Culture : Science Fiction Film and American Culture, ed. Praeger, 2006 Rationale: This selection is being used to cover films from the 1950 to the 1990's. It has the critical information about Science Fiction Film within these decades. The books listed are ones that we can provide to the students for free. 2. Required Cornea, Christine. Science Fiction Cinema : Between Fantasy and Reality, ed. New Brunswick, N.J. : Edinburgh University Press, 2007 Rationale: This selection is used specifically to illustrate the difference between the masculine blockbuster era of science fiction film in the 1980's and the rise of the feminine science fiction hero of the 1970's and 1980's. 3. Required Telotte, J. P. 2008 . The Essential Science Fiction Television Reader, ed. The University Press of Kentucky, 2008 Rationale: This reading was selected to highlight

the importance of science fiction television spanning from the 1960's to 2005. The books listed are ones that we can provide to the students for free.

### **Periodicals Resources**

1. . Survivor, Warrior, Mother, Savior: The Evolution of the Female Hero In Apocalyptic Science Fiction Film of the Late Cold War, Implicit Religion Volume Vol. 19 Issue 3 2016 2. Sladek, Karel. FUTURE ETHICAL CHALLENGES AS PORTRAYED IN SCIENCE FICTION FILMS, Komunik cie Volume Vol. 20 Issue 1A 2018