

Tamkang University Academic Year 102, 2nd Semester Course Syllabus

Course Title	SCIENCE FICTION LITERATURE AND FILM	Instructor	BRINK, DEAN ANTHONY
Course Class	TGFXB0A ELECTIVES COURSES BY COLLEGE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES, 0A	Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Selective ◆ One Semester ◆ 2 Credits
D e p a r t m e n t a l A i m o f E d u c a t i o n			
<p>I . Establish the basis of professional knowledge and strengthen interdisciplinary learning ability in order to keep up with the needs of the latest social trends.</p> <p>II. Foster independent thinking and practical applications and fortify individual study and the spirit of group cooperation.</p> <p>III. Strengthen students' English listening, speaking, reading and translation abilities.</p> <p>IV. Nurture students' sense of accomplishment.</p> <p>V. Nurture students' international outlook and develop abilities in intercultural communication.</p>			
D e p a r t m e n t a l c o r e c o m p e t e n c e s			
<p>A. To meet the established ability level required by each department for graduation.</p> <p>B. To have the ability to collect information and to give written and oral reports.</p> <p>C. To have the ability of independent thinking, group cooperation and communication.</p> <p>D. To have the ability of self-study on the internet.</p> <p>E. To hold an international outlook and cross-cultural perspective.</p>			
Course Introduction	<p>In this survey of science fiction film and literature we primarily focus on viewing and analyzing films and clips from films to understand their contexts and what social issues define the period of their production or interest. The focus of the course will be on issues in science fiction as a genre and historically, with emphasis on explorations of the relation of technology to the individual and society, as well as ideological and psychoanalytic consideration. The course is taught in English and students are required to attend class and present one PowerPoint based on their research.</p>		

The Relevance among Teaching Objectives, Objective Levels and Departmental core competences

I. Objective Levels (select applicable ones) :

- (i) Cognitive Domain : C1-Remembering, C2-Understanding, C3-Applying,
C4-Analyzing, C5-Evaluating, C6-Creating
- (ii) Psychomotor Domain : P1-Imitation, P2-Mechanism, P3-Independent Operation,
P4-Linked Operation, P5-Automation, P6-Origination
- (iii) Affective Domain : A1-Receiving, A2-Responding, A3-Valuing,
A4-Organizing, A5-Characterizing, A6-Implementing

II. The Relevance among Teaching Objectives, Objective Levels and Departmental core competences :

- (i) Determine the objective level(s) in any one of the three learning domains (cognitive, psychomotor, and affective) corresponding to the teaching objective. Each objective should correspond to the objective level(s) of ONLY ONE of the three domains.
- (ii) If more than one objective levels are applicable for each learning domain, select the highest one only. (For example, if the objective levels for Cognitive Domain include C3, C5, and C6, select C6 only and fill it in the boxes below. The same rule applies to Psychomotor Domain and Affective Domain.)
- (iii) Determine the Departmental core competences that correspond to each teaching objective. Each objective may correspond to one or more Departmental core competences at a time. (For example, if one objective corresponds to three Departmental core competences: A, AD, and BEF, list all of the three in the box.)

No.	Teaching Objectives	Relevance	
		Objective Levels	Departmental core competences
1	To learn to analyze the conventions used in science fiction films and to recognize the subtexts.	C4	ABCDE
2	To become critical of media in general, understand the ideological uses of film and television in our societies.	C2	ABCDE
3	To write an original critique comparing two SF films not covered in the class.	C3	ABCDE

Teaching Objectives, Teaching Methods and Assessment

No.	Teaching Objectives	Teaching Methods	Assessment
1	To learn to analyze the conventions used in science fiction films and to recognize the subtexts.	Lecture, Discussion, Appreciation, Simulation, Practicum, Problem solving	Written test, Practicum, Report, Participation
2	To become critical of media in general, understand the ideological uses of film and television in our societies.	Lecture, Discussion, Appreciation, Simulation, Practicum, Visit, Problem solving	Written test, Practicum, Report, Participation
3	To write an original critique comparing two SF films not covered in the class.	Lecture, Discussion, Appreciation, Simulation, Practicum, Visit, Problem solving	Written test, Practicum, Report, Participation

This course has been designed to cultivate the following essential qualities in TKU students

Essential Qualities of TKU Students	Description
◆ A global perspective	Helping students develop a broader perspective from which to understand international affairs and global development.
◆ Information literacy	Becoming adept at using information technology and learning the proper way to process information.
◆ A vision for the future	Understanding self-growth, social change, and technological development so as to gain the skills necessary to bring about one's future vision.
◆ Moral integrity	Learning how to interact with others, practicing empathy and caring for others, and constructing moral principles with which to solve ethical problems.
◆ Independent thinking	Encouraging students to keenly observe and seek out the source of their problems, and to think logically and critically.
◆ A cheerful attitude and healthy lifestyle	Raising an awareness of the fine balance between one's body and soul and the environment; helping students live a meaningful life.
◆ A spirit of teamwork and dedication	Improving one's ability to communicate and cooperate so as to integrate resources, collaborate with others, and solve problems.
◆ A sense of aesthetic appreciation	Equipping students with the ability to sense and appreciate aesthetic beauty, to express themselves clearly, and to enjoy the creative process.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Subject/Topics	Note
1	103/02/17 ~ 103/02/23	Introduction. Overview of history of SF (Sci-Fi) film	Various reading assignments will be announced in class and made available in teaching platform / online.
2	103/02/24 ~ 103/03/02	Continue introduction to issues in SF film. Begin Robots and Cyborg Dystopias: Have read: Isaac Asimov, from I, Robot (1950). View films/clips: I, Robot (2004), Bicentennial Man (1999), Wall-e (2008)	
3	103/03/03 ~ 103/03/09	Review basics of SF film study. Begin: Science and Science Fiction Issues Facing Us Today: Where might genetic engineering lead? Preview/clips: Gattaca 千鈞一髮 (1997)	
4	103/03/10 ~ 103/03/16	Capitalism and Technology: Philip K. Dick, from Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? Clips from Blade Runner (1982)	From week 4, second hour of class consists of student PowerPoint presentations.
5	103/03/17 ~ 103/03/23	Science Fiction as Ideological Critique and Allegory: View clips from various Invasion of the Body Snatchers films (1956 and 1978), other films.	Second hour, student presentations.

6	103/03/24 ~ 103/03/30	Cyberpunk: View: The Matrix (駭客任務, film, 1999)	Second hour, student presentations.
7	103/03/31 ~ 103/04/06	What is the posthuman? The singularity? Have read: Vernor Vinge' s essay, "Singularity" (1993) View clips: The Terminator (1984), Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles (TV series, 2008-2009)	Second hour, student presentations.
8	103/04/07 ~ 103/04/13	Alien Slime: The Alien series of films. Read: Žižek, Lacanian interpretation of Alien (excerpts). View film: Alien (1979)	Second hour, student presentations.
9	103/04/14 ~ 103/04/20	After the Apocalypse: View clips: Omega Man (1973) and I Am Legend (2007)	Second hour, student presentations.
10	103/04/21 ~ 103/04/27	Midterm Exam Week	
11	103/04/28 ~ 103/05/04	Environmental Issues in SF Film View clips: Silent Running (1972) and Soylent Green (1973), others	Second hour, student presentations.
12	103/05/05 ~ 103/05/11	War and Colonialism: Avatar (2009), others	Second hour, student presentations.
13	103/05/12 ~ 103/05/18	The Star Trek Future(s): View clips from TV series and recent film: Star Trek (2009)	Second hour, student presentations.
14	103/05/19 ~ 103/05/25	Gender Dystopias: Margaret Atwood, from The Handmaid' s Tale (1985) View clips: The Handmaid' s Tale (1990), The Stepford Wives (1975)	Second hour, student presentations.
15	103/05/26 ~ 103/06/01	Gendered SF: View clips: A Boy and his Dog (1975), Barbarella (1968), others	Second hour, student presentations.
16	103/06/02 ~ 103/06/08	A look at "the end of the world" in various SF films	Second hour (whole hour, if necessary), student presentations.
17	103/06/09 ~ 103/06/15	The Reshaping of SF Film in the late 1970s: View clips: Star Wars (1977), others	Second hour (whole hour, if necessary), student presentations.
18	103/06/16 ~ 103/06/22	Final Exam Week	
Requirement	<p>Class attendance is mandatory. Absences will be graded as follows: each day absent, -2 based on final grade. Be sure to sign the ming-dan each class and to be available when I call your name to answer questions (also -2 if absent).</p> <p>Please note that most class materials and all the exams are in English.</p> <p>Note: There are no make-up exams in this course; both exams are during midterm and finals weeks. Be sure to include Chinese name and student number on exams and paper (presented at end of semester). Papers carefully written in the student's voice receive high scores. Always provide citations for your sources and include a "Works Cited" page at the end of your papers.</p> <p>Research papers and presentations must consist of original research. Any ideas taken from other sources must be acknowledged by using reference notation (any style of bibliography is acceptable). You will be graded in part on quality of references (i.e., Wikipedia references are low, student guide websites very low, academic books and articles very high).</p>		

Teaching Facility	Computer, Projector
Textbook(s)	See teaching platform.
Reference(s)	
Number of Assignment(s)	(Filled in by assignment instructor only)
Grading Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Attendance : 10.0 % ◆ Mark of Usual : 10.0 % ◆ Midterm Exam : 20.0 % ◆ Final Exam : 20.0 % ◆ Other (Research Essay(Eng1)) : 40.0 %
Note	<p>This syllabus may be uploaded at the website of Course Syllabus Management System at http://info.ais.tku.edu.tw/csp or through the link of Course Syllabus Upload posted on the home page of TKU Office of Academic Affairs at http://www.acad.tku.edu.tw/CS/main.php.</p> <p>※ Unauthorized photocopying is illegal. Using original textbooks is advised. It is a crime to improperly photocopy others' publications.</p>