

## Summer 2022

<b>AP/EN 2172 3.0M (S2)</b>	Apocalyptic Science Fiction
<b>Course Director:</b>	Tanya Taylor Email: ttaylor@yorku.ca Virtual Office Hour(s): TBD
<b>Time:</b>	Fully Online
<b>Delivery Format:</b>	<b>√ ONLINE – (asynchronous delivery) – There is no set course meeting time. Students may engage with course content/materials 24/7.</b>
<b>Description:</b>	<p>“The explosion of the atom bomb and subsequent development of a deadly nuclear arsenal which could destroy the world was the great catalyst in questioning the value of science and technology and the modern civilization they produced. The possibility of the destruction of the human species and life on earth promoted an apocalyptic imagination that portrayed the human species coming to an end. Cautionary warnings concerning potential misuse of science and technology have become a defining feature of the best imaginative fiction of our time”</p> <p>As Best and Kellner astutely observe, some of the best imaginative fiction of our time has been engaged with technology, the human condition, and the end of civilization yet science fiction is still marginalized by mainstream culture and academia. This course will consider the (post)apocalyptic as both genre and mode; as both a major branch of fantastic literature and a speculative scenario in literature, radio, film, manga, graphic novels and gaming. The specific learning objectives of this course are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. to define the (post-)apocalyptic genre, mindful of how it has developed in relation to shifting historical, technological and cultural contexts;</li> <li>2. to understand how the apocalypse functions as a meaningful scenario/mode that can extend beyond generic and media boundaries;</li> <li>3. to develop a critical vocabulary that will enable informed and multidisciplinary analyses of a variety of (post)apocalyptic works in diverse media;</li> <li>4. to identify and develop the requisite skills for academic writing, including: thesis formulation, argumentation, MLA formatting and scholarly research methodology.</li> </ol>
<b>Category:</b>	D
<b>Historical Requirement:</b>	N/A
<b>Requirements:</b>	This course is divided into weekly units of instruction. Each week, students are required to (a) complete required readings/viewings, (b) complete online lectures, (c) complete 8-10 minute Academic

	<p>Skills Tutorials w/Online Quizzes, and (d) post to an asynchronous discussion forum.</p> <p>Diagnostic Essay 20%  Research Essay 30%  Final Online Exam 30%  Academic Skills Tutorials &amp; Quizzes 10%  Asynchronous Discussion Forum Participation 10%</p>
<p><b>Reading List:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selections from “Genesis”, “The Book of Mark”, and “The Revelation of St. John the Divine”</li> <li>• Darko Suvin, “On the Poetics of the Science Fiction Genre”</li> <li>• David Ketterer, “Science fiction and Allied Literature”</li> <li>• Isaac Asimov, “Nightfall”</li> <li>• Arthur C. Clarke, “The Star”</li> <li>• E.M. Forster, “The Machine Stops”</li> <li>• H.G. Wells, <i>The Time Machine</i></li> <li>• H.G. Wells, <i>The War of the Worlds</i> (novella + 1938 Radio Broadcast)</li> <li>• Pierre Boulle, <i>Planet of the Apes</i></li> <li>• <i>Planet of the Apes</i> (dir. Schaffner, 1968)</li> <li>• Walter Miller Jr., <i>A Canticle for Leibowitz</i></li> <li>• Richard Matheson, <i>I am Legend</i></li> <li>• Susan Sontag, “Notes on Camp”</li> <li>• <i>Mars Attacks!</i> (dir. Burton, 1996)</li> </ul> <p style="color: blue;">*All required readings/viewings will be provided through the class eClass site</p>
<p><b>Open To:</b></p>	<p>Yr 2, 3, 4</p>