

Course discipline/number/title: ENGL 2282: Dystopian Literature

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. MnTC Goals (if any): Goal 6/Humanities - the Arts, Literature and Philosophy, Goal 9/Ethical and Civic Responsibility

This course is a survey of major works of dystopian literature/fiction. In its portrayals of future societies, dystopian literature often offers critical commentary about contemporary socio-cultural, political, and/or scientific trends from the mid-20th century until the present. Works of literature/fiction studied in this course may include classics such as *Brave New World*, *1984*, and *The Handmaid's Tale* as well as more contemporary works such as *The Hunger Games*. College-level reading and writing recommended.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): April, 2017

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

1. Major dystopian novels and short stories.
2. Dystopian films.
3. Historical, political, socio-cultural, scientific, and philosophical contexts, concepts, and terminology pertinent to dystopian literature.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge about the rich history of dystopian literature and the historical, political, socio-cultural, scientific, and philosophical contexts behind the works.
2. Analyze and critically respond to works of dystopian literature.
3. Examine how works of dystopian literature offer criticism of contemporary political and societal trends/trajectories.
4. Reflect on the ethical dimensions of social, political, and scientific issues raised by dystopian literature.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):

Goal 6/The Humanities-the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy: The student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

Goal 9/Ethical and Civic Responsibility: The student will be able to:

1. Examine, articulate, and apply their own ethical views.
2. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.
3. Recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:

Methods may include but are not limited to:

1. Objective exams
2. Essay exams
3. Short interpretive essays
4. Research papers/projects
5. Individual and/or group presentations
6. Class attendance, participation, discussion (face to face, or online)

G. RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S) ADDRESSED:

Communication. Students will communicate appropriately for their respective audiences.

Critical Thinking. Students will think systematically and explore information thoroughly before accepting or formulating a position or conclusion.

H. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None