### **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**Academic School / Department:** CASS

**Programme:** BA (Hon) Communications: Media Studies and Media

**Production pathways** 

FHEQ Level: 4

**Course Title:** Writing Fantasy and Science Fiction

Course Code: COM 4420

Course Leader: Alex Seago

**Student Engagement Hours:** 120 (standard 3- credit BA course)

Lectures: 22.5 Seminar / Tutorials: 22.5 Independent / Guided Learning: 75

**Semester:** Fall, Spring, Summer

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits

6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

#### **Course Description:**

Science Fiction inspires writers in all kinds of narrative formats (short stories, traditional novels, the film industry, gaming and comics). By exploring different types of writers and media, students will be able to develop their creative writing skills as they learn about the historical and cultural evolution of science fiction. There will be field trips and guest lectures with this course.

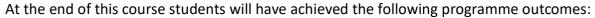
## **Prerequisites:**

None

#### **Aims and Objectives:**

- To develop an understanding of the significance of the genre
- To introduce some of the key themes, developments and authors in the field
- To use the above as resources for developing creative writing skills

### **Programme Outcomes:**



A4 (i)

A4 (iii)

B4 (iii)

C4 (i)

D4 (i)

D4 (ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by the Academic Registry and located

at: <a href="http://www.richmond.ac.uk/program-and-course-specifications/">http://www.richmond.ac.uk/program-and-course-specifications/</a>

## **Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a broad knowledge of key SF writers and the evolution of the genre;
- Demonstrate the ability to comment critically on selected SF texts and media;
- Demonstrate an ability to gather, organise and deploy ideas and integrate them effectively in written drafts;

#### **Indicative Content:**

- Defining SF
- A history of the genre
- The economic significance of the field
- SF's relationship with technology
- Different writers' strategies and approaches to SF
- Observational techniques
- Narrative forms
- Points of view

#### Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

## **Teaching Methodology:**

This creative writing workshop involves some lectures and relevant visits and guest lectures, plus reading and discussion of peer work, sharing works and ideas and receiving peer and instructor feedback. Workshop sessions involve small-group tasks (research/observations) coupled with peer editing.

Indicative Text(s):	Ind	icative	Text	s	):
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Roberts, Adam, *The History of Science Fiction*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., London: Palgrave: 2016 Roberts, Adam, *Writing Science Fiction and Fantasy*, London: Hodder & Stoughton: 2014

# Journals

# Web Sites

See syllabus for complete reading list

# **Change Log for this CSD:**

Nature of Change	Date	Change Actioned by
Ivature or change	Approved &	Academic Registry
		Academic Registry
	Approval Body	
	(School or AB)	