



HS Science Fiction Literature

Robert Lawrence

rlawrence@westharpeth.org



Prerequisites:

- This course is open to 9th-12th grade students.
- Students must have the ability to read a maximum of 70 pages per week and engage in class discussion on the reading.
- Ability to write a 5-paragraph essay



Course Description:

This class is for people who like Star Wars and Star Trek, Doctor Who and Mr. Spock.

By reading Science Fiction – both Christian and non-Christian, students will be challenged as believers to understand more deeply what they believe in the context of their pleasure reading.

Additionally, students' non-Christian peers are watching the same movies and reading the same books. Having a solid understanding of science fiction and its ideas, as well as Christian-based responses to those ideas, will allow them to profess their faith more effectively when discussing these concept and topics.



Commitment:

- This course meets on Thursdays.
- Reading, Reading, and some Writing. Writing will ask questions concerning the meaning of the story, ask what the Christian response to the story is, and ask about the critique of culture in the story.
- Students should expect to read around 70 pages per week maximum.
- As this is a discussion-based class, students must be comfortable and willing to participate in weekly class discussions.



A typical class will look like...

Class will be structured as follows:

- discussion/lecture with supplementary writing tasks designed to guide the student in responding to the literature
- in-class quizzes
- group work so that students can practice discussing these texts among their friends



Books and Supplies*

Out of the Silent Planet

by C.S. Lewis



The Martian Chronicles

by Ray Bradbury



Childhood's End

by Arthur C. Clarke



*Stories, texts and videos posted on Schoology (supplied by instructor)