



CENTRE FOR BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES

Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror

MPU3362
(2 credits)

2022

Module Guide

TITLE: SCIENCE FICTION, FANTASY AND HORROR

COURSE CODE: MPU 3362

LEVEL: Semester 1

PROGRAMME: Bachelor of Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Biomedical Sciences, Medical Biotechnology, Nutrition, Dietetics with Nutrition, Psychology

CONTENT SYNOPSIS

This module explores science fiction, fantasy and horror, and the concepts and theories associated to them. Students will be encouraged to explore each genre critically and practically, by analyzing selected texts and by making comparisons to social contexts. Issues and areas to be discussed in this respect will include: fantasy worlds; space and technology; dystopia and social class; metaphors of the 'alien'; super-heroes; and the uncanny. These subjects will be studied across a variety of creative expressions, including short stories, novels, and prose and film extracts. Interpretation and adaptation of these texts will also enable students to appreciate and understand the widespread popularity of sci-fi, fantasy and horror in a variety of forms and media.

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this module are to introduce students to:

1. define and analyse the literary elements inherent in science fiction, fantasy and horror;
2. evaluate the concept of genre and, through comparisons with selected social contexts, discuss the ways in which it depicts society.
3. critically evaluate the value and appeal of science fiction, fantasy and horror;
4. creatively respond to the works on science fiction, fantasy and horror.
5. critically evaluate the role of science-fiction in influencing technological advancements in medicine and health

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

CLO1: explain key concepts and elements of science fiction, fantasy and horror

CLO2: examine the science fiction, fantasy and horror genres and relate them to societal issues

CLO3: interpret any one of the science fiction, fantasy and horror genres through presentations or exhibitions

LEARNING HOURS

TEACHING & LEARNING CONTACT HOURS:

Lecture	9hours
Tutorial	15hours
Workshop	3hours

TOTAL 28 hours

TOTAL LEARNING HOURS:

Lecture	9 hours
Tutorial	15hours
Workshop	3hours
Assessment (Continuous & Examination)	20hours
Independent Learning	33 hours
TOTAL	80 hours

ASSESSMENTS

Formative Assessment:

Response to in-class discussions.

Continuous Assessment

Assignment 40%

This assignment is designed to allow students to demonstrate their ability to integrate their analytical skills of literary works to academic communication. Students are to prepare an outline of the essay and write an essay of not less than 1,500 words on issues raised in text/s from the reading list and make comparison with real life issues, as agreed by the lecturer, and to present a summary of their discussion.

Project 30%

Students are to work on one project and plan an arts-based initiative with an inspirational theme agreed by the lecturer.

End of Module Examination

Online Synchronous 30%

The written examination is for 1 hour and 30 minutes. The paper has one section. The questions are open-ended based on texts discussed in class. Students will be required to respond in essay form. Answer TWO questions only.

SYLLABUS:

1. Introduction to science fiction genre (L:1hr, T:1hr)
2. Icons of Science Fiction (Online L:1hr)
3. Science Fiction Text 1 (T:2hr)
4. Science fiction and the life sciences (Online L:1hr)
5. Science Fiction Text 2 (T:2hr)
6. Introduction to fantasy genre (L:1hr, T:1hr)
7. The Hero's Journey (Online L:1hr)
8. Speculative fiction and the Arts (O:3hrs)
9. Fantasy Text 1 (T:2hr)
10. Fantasy Text 2 (T:2hr)
11. Literary analysis (T:1hr, Online L:1hr)
12. Introduction to horror genre (L:1 hr, T:1hr)
13. Iconography of horror (Online L:1hr)
14. Horror Text 1 (T:2hr)
15. Horror and fear (Online L:1hr)
16. Horror Text 2 (T:2hr)

ATTENDANCE RELATED REQUIREMENTS

This module has a total of 10 sessions for teaching and learning including presentations. Students who fail to achieve 75% attendance will be at risk of failing the module.

READING LIST:

1. Burgess, Michael & Bartle L.R. 2002. Reference Guide to Science fiction, fantasy and Horror. University of Minnesota.
2. Martin Willis. 2006. Mesmerists, Monsters, and Machines: Science Fiction and the Cultures of Science in the Nineteenth Century. Kent State University Press.
3. Browning J.E. and Picart C.J. 2009. Draculas, Vampires, and Other Undead Forms: Essays on Gender, Race and Culture. Scarecrow Press.