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<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
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| Jan 11        | Define dystopia in relation to the sci-fi genre | Common dystopia themes:  
• Perfection gone wrong  
• Impermanence of human plans  
• Moral failure brings about the dystopic world  
• What values endure in the dystopic world – e.g., Justice? |
|               | Reading:                      |        |
|               | Dale Bailey, *The End of the World as We Know It*  
James Howard Kunstler, *World Made By Hand* (Ch. 1-18, 29-37)  
Paolo Bacigalupi, *The Water Knife* (Ch. 1-3) |        |
|               | Film: “1984”                  |        |
| **Week 2**    | Understand and discuss the basic elements of dystopia fiction  
• Character & Plot | Common character types:  
• Hard-boiled hero  
• Cynical collaborator who sees system for what it is but benefits from it  
• Evil villain/psychopath  
• Followers of the rebel or establishment groups |
| Jan 18        | Reading:                      |        |
|               | Elizabeth Bear, “And the Deep Blue Sea”  
Octavia Butler, “Speech Sounds”  
Carol Emshwiller, “The Killers” |        |
|               | Optional: Stephen King as Richard Bachman, *The Running Man*,  
(Minus 100 to Minus 78, Minus 014) |        |
|               | Film: “Terminator”            |        |
| **Week 3**    | Understand and discuss the basic elements of dystopia fiction  
• Setting & Point of view | Common plot types:  
• Last man meets last woman  
• Christ figure sacrifices self to rebuild world  
• Final end of world, hope lost  
• Final end of the world, hope regained  
• Simple people adapt to the dystopic reality |
| Jan 25        | Reading:                      |        |
|               | Stephen King, “The End of the Whole Mess”  
J.G. Ballard, *The Drowned World* (Ch 1 to 3)  
Ira Levin, *This Perfect Day* (Part 1 - Ch. 1-3) |        |
<p>|               | Film: “Blade Runner”          |        |</p>
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| Week 4        | **Understand and discuss** the four classic dystopia scenarios  
• Environmental disaster  
• Nuclear disaster  
**Reading:**  
Jean Louis Trudel, “The Snows of Yesteryear”  
Angela Penrose, “Staying Afloat”  
Ray Bradbury, *The Martian Chronicles*, “There Will Come Soft Rains” and “The Million Year Picnic”  
**Film:** “Mad Max” (original) or “Omega Man” | Common dystopia scenarios:  
• Environmental disaster: Nature, unreliability, unpredictability of the non-human  
• Nuclear disaster: human made, intellectual/vice-based errors |
| Feb 1         |                               |        |
| Week 5        | **Understand and discuss** the four classic dystopia scenarios:  
• Biological disaster  
• Social disaster  
**Reading:**  
Chris Bachelder, “The Eighth Wonder”  
James Van Pelt, “The Last of the O-Forms”  
**Film:** “Soylent Green” or “The Matrix” | Common dystopia scenarios:  
• Biological disaster: disease, fall of the human body  
• Social disaster: fall of civilization, end of plural democracy, formation of rival groups |
| Feb 8         |                               |        |
| Week 6        | **Understand** the purpose of dystopia fiction  
**Author interviews (Youtube): Click link below**  
Margaret Atwood’s take on **what it means to be a “speculative fiction” author and why she writes this fiction** (0:00 to 3:58 min) | Common purposes in writing dystopia:  
• To warn and educate with likely scenarios  
• To entertain with horror and adventure  
• To imagine alternate realities |
| Feb 15        |                               |        |
# RECOMMENDED READINGS SCHEDULE

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<td>Paolo Bacigalupi thinks about issue fiction, how setting makes the argument and how to avoid preaching. Watch from 3:02 to 4:45 min.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>James Howard Kunstler on why he writes non-fiction and fiction on social warning issues. Watch from 0:00 to 1:00 and 7:59 to 9:33 on the value of fiction.</td>
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