

**San José State University**  
**Department of English and Comparative Literature**  
**English 22, Fantasy and Science Fiction, Section 4, Fall 2012**

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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesdays, 12:00-1:00; Thursdays, 3:00-4:00; and by appointment
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-2:45
<b>Classroom:</b>	Boccardo Business Center 120
<b>GE/SJSU Studies Category:</b>	Area C2: Humanities & Arts, Letters

### **Faculty Web Page**

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/Michelle.Hager>. If you navigate to the English 22 page, you can find links to additional fantasy and science fiction resources.

### **Course Description**

Welcome to English 22 (Fantasy and Science Fiction)! This course is a lower-division English literature course, and it fulfills the Area C2 requirement (Humanities & Arts, Letters) of SJSU Core General Education.

English 22 is designed to introduce adult audiences to fantasy and science fiction literature. Though these genres are certainly popular with younger readers, we will focus on literary works for adults. We will discuss the many subgenres of fantasy and science fiction (fairytales, steampunk, high fantasy, low fantasy, urban fantasy, alternate histories, utopias and dystopias, etc.); we will also discuss the strong influence of this type of literature on other mediums, such as graphic novels and video games.

From the *SJSU Course Catalog*: “Students will examine works of literary fantasy and science fiction to understand them as expressions of human intellect and imagination; to comprehend their historical and cultural contexts; and to recognize their diverse cultural traditions. Both contemporary and historical works will be studied.”

You must submit all major out-of-class assignments to **turnitin.com**. Our class ID# is **5264823**, and our password is *dystopia*. Please register with the website as soon as possible.

#### **Prerequisites**

English remediation must be completed.

### **Student Learning Objectives**

#### **Goals (from SJSU General Education Guidelines)**

“Courses in Arts and Letters should give students knowledge and understanding of significant works of the human intellect and imagination. Students will examine the interaction of analytical and creative processes in the production and perception of such works, and the significance of the historical and cultural contexts in which the works are created and interpreted. Courses should enable students to participate in social and cultural communities associated with artistic and literary endeavors, enriching their personal and professional lives.”

#### **Student Learning Objectives**

Core General Education Area C2, Letters courses will enable students to

1. recognize how significant works illuminate enduring human concerns;
2. respond to such works by writing both research-based critical analyses and personal responses;
3. write clearly and effectively.

#### **Content Objectives**

Core General Education Area C2, Letters courses should give students the opportunity to

- examine significant works of the human intellect and imagination;
- understand the historical and cultural contexts in which such specific texts were created; and
- recognize the accomplishments of and issues related to women and diverse cultures reflected in such texts.

### **Academic Policies**

#### **Academic Integrity**

Your commitment to learning is evidenced by your enrollment as a student at San José State University. The academic integrity policy of the university, located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>. Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarizing

(presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade in this course and sanctions by the university.

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

### **Add/Drop Policy**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the policies in the catalog for the current semester at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic calendar at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/Academic\\_Calendars](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/Academic_Calendars). The late drop policy is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. Information about the latest changes and news is available at the “Advising Hub” at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

## **Course Content**

### **Reading**

Since this is a literature course, reading will be assigned on a daily basis, and it is a crucial component of the class. Reading must be completed by the beginning of each class session, and *all* discussions and assignments will be based upon our reading material. It will be impossible to be a successful student in this course if you neglect to complete the daily reading.

### **Literary Analysis Papers**

You are required to write **three** 3-4 page literary analysis papers for **three** of the required novels. You will sign up for your novel selections. The due dates for the literary analysis papers are noted on the syllabus schedule. The three essays are worth 45% of your course grade (450 points, 150 points per paper).

### **Book Talk Project**

For the “Book Talk” project, you will conduct research on a fantasy or science fiction work of your choice (one that is **not** required reading for our class). Everyone in the class will read a different novel, giving us an introduction to about 40 texts. You will submit your choice to me via email early in the semester so I can make sure there are no duplicate selections. There will be sign-ups for presentation dates as noted on the class schedule.

“Book Talk” presentations will include (1) a 5-6 minute oral presentation and (2) handouts for the class. Your handout must include *your* synopsis of the text, three key quotes from the book and explanations of their significance, a brief bibliography of the author’s major works, your literary response to the text, and your rationale for why others should read this novel. Feel free to be creative with the formatting of your handout—you are trying to “sell” the book to your peers. ***Research is required in order to complete the assignment requirements; remember to use quotation marks carefully and cite your sources correctly on the handout.***

The “Book Talk” project is 10% of your course grade (100 points).

### **Final Exam**

The date of the comprehensive final exam is listed on the syllabus schedule. For this test, there will be an essay portion, and you will need to bring a large bluebook to class on the exam date. The exam will be open-book, open-notes. You will find that careful attention to our class discussions and thorough notes regarding the class material will be invaluable for this test. The final exam is worth 20% of your course grade (200 points).

### **Class Work, Participation, and Homework**

We will complete daily work in class that goes toward your participation grade; you will not be able to complete these assignments if you are not present in class. I expect you to attend class daily, come on time, and stay for the full class period. ***Absences and/or tardiness will affect your grade.***

In addition, class participation does not simply mean that you are physically present in class. You must have all class materials, contribute to discussions, actively listen to your peers, and take notes. ***Turn off cell phones or put them on silent mode during the class period; you will lose all participation points for the day if I see your cell phone (this especially includes under the desk/table text messaging—I do see you!). This behavior is both rude and unprofessional.*** Laptop computers and tablets are also forbidden during class time unless you have a documented need for a computer as a note-taking tool.

Class work, day-to-day participation, and homework make up 10% of your course grade (100 points).

### **Quizzes**

You will take a unit quiz for the majority of our required novels. These quizzes will test your completion of the required reading and your deeper understanding of the material. The quizzes are worth 15% of your course grade (150 points).

## Required Texts and Materials

### Novels

- Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid's Tale*, ISBN 9780385490818
- Bradbury, Ray. *Fahrenheit 451*, ISBN 9781451673319
- Card, Orson Scott. *Ender's Game*, ISBN 9780812550702
- Dick, Philip K. *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*, ISBN 9780345404473
- Gaiman, Neil. *Neverwhere*, ISBN 9780060557812
- Le Guin, Ursula K. *A Wizard of Earthsea*, ISBN 9780553262506
- Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*, ISBN 9780393927931

### Other Material Requirements

- *English 22 Course Reader* (to be purchased at Maple Press)
- Large bluebooks for the final exam

## Grading Breakdown and Policies

### Grading Breakdown

• Literary Analysis Papers (3 at 15% each)	45%	(450 points)
• Final Exam	20%	(200 points)
• Quizzes	15%	(150 points)
• Book Talk Project	10%	(100 points)
• Class Work, Participation, and Homework	10%	(100 points)

You can earn up to 1,000 points in this course. Please refer to the point breakdown as outlined below.

930-1,000 points = A (93%-100%)	730-769 points = C (73%-76.9%)
900-929 points = A- (90%-92.9%)	700-729 points = C- (70%-72.9%)
870-899 points = B+ (87%-89.9%)	670-699 points = D+ (67%-69.9%)
830-869 points = B (83%-86.9%)	630-669 points = D (63%-66.9%)
800-829 points = B- (80%-82.9%)	600-629 points = D- (60%-62.9%)
770-799 points = C+ (77%-79.9%)	0-599 points = F (0%-59.9%)

### Late Policy

I am a prompt person, so I expect the same from you. While late work will be accepted up to one week after the due date, it will be graded down significantly. ***For each calendar day that your work is late, it will be graded down one full letter grade.*** If the assignment is turned in after the class period on the assigned due date, it will be graded down half a letter grade. ***After one week, I will no longer accept the assignment.***

If extenuating circumstances apply for any class work, you must contact me *before* the due date in order to request an extension or make necessary accommodations. Turn in your work on time to avoid late penalties.

### **Departmental Grading Policy**

The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined in the official *SJSU Catalog* (“The Grading System”). Grades issued must represent a full range of student performance: A = excellent; B = above average; C = average; D = below average; F = failure.

In English Department courses, instructors will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of the ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs.

### **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook.



## English 22, Fall 2012, Course Schedule

Reading assignments must be *COMPLETED* by the day they are listed!

SLO = Student Learning Objective; CR = *Course Reader* (from the Maple Press)

**ALWAYS bring any books to class from which reading is assigned for the day!**

Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
Thursday, August 23	Introductions, syllabus review, fantasy/science fiction inventory
Tuesday, August 28	Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> (5-40, through end of Volume I, Chapter IV) Maple Press visit—bring money to purchase your <i>Course Reader</i> <b>Literary Analysis Assignment Review and Sign-Up Sheet (date selections)</b>
Thursday, August 30	Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> (40-70, through end of Volume II, Chapter II) Review the Fantasy and Science Fiction Chronologies (CR 2-12 and 67-75) <b>Book Talk Assignment Review and Sign-Up Sheet (date selections)</b>
Tuesday, September 4	Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> (70-125, through end of Volume III, Chapter III) Jones, “The Icons of Science Fiction” (CR 77-87) MLA Formatting Review
Thursday, September 6	Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> (125-END) <b>Book Talk Selections DUE (via email)</b> <b>Frankenstein Unit Quiz (SLO 1-3)</b>
Tuesday, September 11	Card, <i>Ender’s Game</i> (1-65, Chapters 1-6) <b>Literary Analysis Essay for <i>Frankenstein</i> DUE (SLO 1-3)</b>
Thursday, September 13	Card, <i>Ender’s Game</i> (66-119, Chapters 7-8)
Tuesday, September 18	Card, <i>Ender’s Game</i> (120-199, Chapters 9-11) Wells, “The Star” (CR 88-94)
Thursday, September 20	Card, <i>Ender’s Game</i> (200-254, Chapters 12-13) <b>Book Talk Presentations (SLO 1-3)</b>
Tuesday, September 25	Card, <i>Ender’s Game</i> (255-END, Chapters 14-END) <b><i>Ender’s Game</i> Unit Quiz (SLO 1-3)</b>

Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
Thursday, September 27	Dick, <i>Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?</i> (3-60, Chapters 1-5) <b>Literary Analysis Essay for <i>Ender's Game</i> DUE (SLO 1-3)</b>
Tuesday, October 2	Dick, <i>Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?</i> (61-144, Chapters 6-12) <b>Book Talk Presentations (SLO 1-3)</b>
Thursday, October 4	Dick, <i>Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?</i> (145-183, Chapters 13-15) Verne, "An Express of the Future" (CR 95-97)
Tuesday, October 9	Dick, <i>Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?</i> (184-END, Chapters 16-END) <b><i>Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?</i> Unit Quiz (SLO 1-3)</b>
Thursday, October 11	Bradbury, <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> (1-65, Part One) <b>Literary Analysis Essay for <i>Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?</i> DUE (SLO 1-3)</b>
Tuesday, October 16	Bradbury, <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> (67-106, Part Two) <b>Book Talk Presentations (SLO 1-3)</b>
Thursday, October 18	Bradbury, <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> (107-END, Part Three) <b><i>Fahrenheit 451</i> Unit Quiz (SLO 1-3)</b>
Tuesday, October 23	Atwood, <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> (3-75, Chapters 1-13) <b>Literary Analysis Essay for <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> DUE (SLO 1-3)</b>
Thursday, October 25	Atwood, <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> (79-122, Chapters 14-20) James, "Tolkien, Lewis and the Explosion of Genre Fantasy" (CR 14-29)
Tuesday, October 30	Atwood, <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> (123-188, Chapters 21-29) <b>Book Talk Presentations (SLO 1-3)</b>
Thursday, November 1	Atwood, <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> (191-233, Chapters 30-36)
Tuesday, November 6	Atwood, <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> (234-END, Chapters 37-END) <b><i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> Unit Quiz (SLO 1-3)</b>
Thursday, November 8	Gaiman, <i>Neverwhere</i> (1-54, Prologue-Chapter 2) Stevenson, "The Body-Snatcher" (CR 43-54) <b>Literary Analysis Essay for <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> DUE (SLO 1-3)</b>
Tuesday, November 13	Gaiman, <i>Neverwhere</i> (55-134, Chapters 3-5) <b>Book Talk Presentations (SLO 1-3)</b>

Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
Thursday, November 15	Gaiman, <i>Neverwhere</i> (135-181, Chapters 6-8) Poe, “The Fall of the House of Usher” ( <i>CR</i> 55-65)
Tuesday, November 20	Gaiman, <i>Neverwhere</i> (182-253, Chapters 9-12) <b>Book Talk Presentations (SLO 1-3)</b>
Thursday, November 22	<b>NO CLASS—THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY!</b>
Tuesday, November 27	Gaiman, <i>Neverwhere</i> (254-END, Chapters 13-END) <b>Neverwhere Unit Quiz (SLO 1-3)</b>
Thursday, November 29	Le Guin, <i>A Wizard of Earthsea</i> (1-56, Chapters 1-3) Tolkien, “Chapter V: Riddles in the Dark” from <i>The Hobbit</i> ( <i>CR</i> 30-41) <b>Literary Analysis Essay for Neverwhere DUE (SLO 1-3)</b>
Tuesday, December 4	Le Guin, <i>A Wizard of Earthsea</i> (57-140, Chapters 4-7) <b>Book Talk Presentations (SLO 1-3)</b>
Thursday, December 6	Le Guin, <i>A Wizard of Earthsea</i> (141-END, Chapters 8-END)
Tuesday, December 18	<b>Final Examination, 12:15PM-2:30PM (SLO 1-3)</b> Bring pens, bluebooks, novels, and class notes/handouts