

**San José State University**  
**Department of English and Comparative Literature**  
**English 22, Fantasy and Science Fiction (GE C2), Section 02 Fall**  
**2013**

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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Mondays and Thursdays 1:30 – 2:30PM Or By Appointment.
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30 - 11:45
<b>Classroom:</b>	DMH 208
<b>GE Category:</b>	Area C2: Humanities & Arts, Letters

### **Course Description**

Welcome to English 22, Fantasy and Science Fiction. This is a lower division English Literature course that meets General Education requirements for Area C2: Humanities & Arts, Letters. According to the 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." In this class in particular, I have created a reading list of mostly contemporary Science Fiction and Fantasy works with an eye toward exploring racial and sexual politics in genre fiction. By no means, however, should this limit our discussions to just these dimensions.

**Prerequisites** English remediation must be completed.

### **Course Goals and 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/>.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

- Barker, Clive. *Abarat*. Harper Collins. ISBN: 9780060596378
- Cline, Ernest. *Ready Player One*. Random House. ISBN: 9780307887443
- Fforde, Jasper. *The Eyre Affair*. Penguin. ISBN: 9780142001806
- Heinlein, Robert. *Friday*. Random House. ISBN: 9780345309884
- LeGuin, Ursula K. *A Wizard of Earthsea*. Random House. ISBN: 9780553262506
- Morgenstern, Erin. *The Night Circus*. Random House. ISBN: 9780307744432
- 2 Large Green Books for Examinations

### Canvas

This class has an online presence through Canvas. Login at <https://sjsu.instructure.com/>

## Classroom Protocol

Students will come to class every day and prepared to discuss that day's readings. I reserve the right to eject any student who comes to class unprepared. Unpreparedness is defined as not having done the readings and not having the materials necessary for class. The class will be a mélange of small and large group discussions, lectures, student presentations, debates, and activities necessary to facilitate the learning process. Electronic devices such as smartphones and laptops are allowed, as they can be useful in looking up information during class, but I again reserve the right to refuse their use should they become distractions (e.g. facebook during lectures). Also, all cell phones should be silenced (or put on vibrate) before class. I will dance if your cell phone goes off.

## Assignments and Grading Policy

**Grading:** A-F.

### Grade Distribution:

- Out of Class Essays: 300 Points (3 at 100 Points each)
- Group Presentation: 100 Points
- Midterm Exam: 200 Points

- Message Board Participation: 100 Points
- Quizzes: 100 Points
- Final Exam: 200 Points
  - Total: 1000 Points

### **Assignments and Grading Policy:**

**Reading:** English 22 is a literature course, and thus, by definition, reading intensive. This class aims for quality of reading, not quantity. All readings listed on the calendar must be finished by the class time for the date listed. For example: If the calendar listing for September 25<sup>th</sup> includes Robert Browning's "Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came," you must have this poem read before we meet for class on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Class participation is based predominantly on the readings, so to ensure full credit you must complete the readings by class time and be prepared to participate orally and in writing.

**Writing:** There are several writing assignments in this class: three out of class essays and weekly reader responses. Writing is like any skill: the more you practice, the better you get.

**Out of Class Essays:** You will write three out of class essays over the course of the semester. Each essay will be a minimum of 1000 words long (3-4 pages long depending on font). These three assignments will come from a potential assignment pool of six essays. It is up to you to choose which three you are most interested in writing. Each of the six essays has a hard deadline. Missing that deadline means missing the opportunity to turn in that essay for credit. All assignments must be turned into Canvas. I will not accept hardcopies this semester.

There will be significant point deductions for not using MLA, or for improper or missing citations. Part of MLA guidelines require the essay be typed in a 12-point font, double-spaced, with one-inch margins on all sides, and with your name and page number in the header. Essays must be turned in on time.

- Essays must be turned into turnitin.com.
- Late Essay Policy: There are no late essays
- Word length requirements are listed on the calendar and on essay assignment sheets.
- Specific instructions will be on assignment sheets.
- A note about minimum requirements: All minimum requirements listed on the writing prompts must be met in order to pass the assignment. Passing is a C. To receive an A you must exceed the requirement

**Quizzes:** You will have a series of quizzes throughout the semester, given in several forms. These can be anything from multiple-choice to short answer essay questions to matching. I reserve the right to announce and not announce quizzes as I see fit and will always be on some aspect of the reading

**Midterm Exam:** There is a midterm exam on Thursday, October 10. This exam will include a series of short answer essays written in a large green examination book.

**Final Exam:** There is a final exam in this class on Wednesday, December 11, at 9:45 AM. This exam will be a series of short answer essays written in a large green examination book.

### **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

### **SJSU Peer Connections**

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in

the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

## 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) at <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. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)

### English 22, Fall 2013, Course Schedule

Aba=Abarat; WoE=Wizard of Earthsea; TNC=The Night Circus; TEA=The Eyre Affair; RPO=Ready Player One; Fri=Friday

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Thursday, August 22	Introduction: What is Science Fiction Sci Fi, Fantasy, Pop Culture, and Society
2	Tuesday, August 27	WoE, Chapters 1-3 {SLO 1} Not Your Typical Fantasy Hero
	Thursday, August 29	WoE, Chapters 4-6 {SLO 1}
3	Tuesday, September 3	WoE, Chapters 7-8 {SLO 1}
	Thursday, September 5	WoE, Chapters 9-end {SLO 1}
4	Tuesday, Sept. 10	<b>Out of Class Essay Choice 1 Due. {SLO 1,2,3}</b> Fri, Chapters I-VIII {SLO 1} Women who kick butt: Feminism in Sci Fi
	Thursday, Sept. 12	Fri, Chapters IX-XV {SLO 1}

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
5	Tuesday, Sept. 17	Fri, Chapters XVI-XX {SLO 1}
	Thursday, Sept. 19	Fri, Chapters XXI-XXIV {SLO 1}
6	Tuesday, Sept. 24	Fri, Chapters XXV-XXIX {SLO 1}
	Thursday, Sept. 26	Fri, Chapters XXX-end. {SLO 1}
7	Tuesday, October 1	<b>Out of Class Essay Choice 2 Due. {SLO 1,2,3}</b> Aba, Prologue - Part One: Morningtide {SLO 1} Young Adult Science Fiction and Fantasy
	Thursday, October 3	Aba, Part Two: Twilight and Beyond {SLO 1}
8	Tuesday, October 8	Midterm Exam on WoE and Friday. Bring Green Book.
	Thursday, October 10	Aba, Part Three: Where is When? {SLO 1}
9	Tuesday, October 15	Aba, Part 4: Wicked Strange, Chapters 22-27 {SLO 1}
	Thursday, October 17	Aba, Part 4: Chapters 28-end {SLO 1}
10	Tuesday, October 22	<b>Out of Class Essay Choice 3 Due. {SLO 1,2,3}</b> TEA, Chapters 1-9 {SLO 1} The Intersections of Literature and Genre
	Thursday, October 24	TEA, Chapters 9-18 {SLO 1}
11	Tuesday, October 29	TEA, Chapters 19-27 {SLO 1}
	Thursday October 31	TEA, Chapters 25-36 {SLO 1}
12	Tuesday, November 5	<b>Out of Class Essay Choice 4 Due. {SLO 1,2,3}</b> TNC, Anticipation and Part I {SLO 1}

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	Thursday, November 7	TNC, Part II {SLO 1}
13	Tuesday, Nov. 12	TNC, Part III {SLO 1}
	Thursday, Nov. 14	TNC, Part IV and V {SLO 1}
14	Tuesday, Nov. 19	<b>Out of Class Essay Choice 5 Due. {SLO 1,2,3}</b> RPO, Level One through Chapter 9 {SLO 1}
	Thursday, Nov. 21	RPO, Level One through Chapter 16 {SLO 1} Group Presentations {SLO 2}
15	Tuesday, Nov. 26	RPO, Level Two {SLO 1} Group Presentations {SLO 3}
	Thursday, Nov. 28	Thanksgiving: NO CLASS
16	Tuesday, December 3	<b>Out of Class Essay Choice 6 Due. {SLO 1,2,3}</b> RPO Level Three to the end. {SLO 1} Group Presentations {SLO 2}
	Thursday, December 5	Last Day of Class. Group Presentations {SLO 2}
	Wednesday, Dec. 11, 9:45 AM	<b>Final Exam</b> <b>Bring Green Book.</b>

### Important SJSU dates Fall 2013

Tuesday	August 19	Fall Semester Begins
Thursday	August 21	First Day of Instruction – Classes Begin
Tuesday	September 2	Labor Day – No Class
Tuesday	September 3	Last Day to Drop Courses Without an Entry on Record (D)
Tuesday	September 10	Last Day to Add Courses & Register Late (A)
Tuesday	November 11	Veterans Day
Thur-Friday	Nov 28-29	Thanksgiving Break
Tuesday	December 9	Last Day of Instruction – Last Day of Classes
Tuesday	December 10	Study/Conference Day (no classes or exams) (SC)
Wed-Friday	Dec 11-13	Final Examinations (exams)
Mon-Tuesday	Dec 16-17	Final Examinations (exams)
Thursday	December 18	Final Examinations Make-Up Day (MU)
Thursday	December 19	Grade Evaluation Day (G)
Friday	December 20	Grades Due From Faculty - End of Spring Semester (G)

