

<b>TITLE</b>	Science Fiction and Fantasy
<b>SI MODULE CODE</b>	77-6680-00S
<b>CREDITS</b>	20
<b>LEVEL</b>	6
<b>JACS CODE</b>	W800
<b>SUBJECT GROUP</b>	English
<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<i>Humanities</i>
<b>MODULE LEADER</b>	<i>Justin Hill</i>

<b>MODULE STUDY HOURS (based on 10 hours per credit)*</b>			
<b>Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities</b>	<b>Placement (if applicable)</b>	<b>Independent Guided Study</b>	<b>Total Number of Study Hours</b>
<b>36</b>		<b>164</b>	<b>200</b>

### **MODULE AIM**

This module introduces students to a range of classic and contemporary science fiction and fantasy. Students will read texts like a writer, analysing the texts in terms of craft, in order to identify the techniques which are key to writing effectively within the genre. They will be given the opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas on this topic. Students will be asked to write their own science fiction/fantasy, increasing their own range as writers by drawing on the techniques and craft gleaned from the set texts.

### **MODULE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By engaging successfully with this module a student will be able to

1. Read like a writer, i.e. Read critically, with an awareness of the novelist's techniques and strategies in constructing a work of fiction.
2. Reflect critically on the elements which are key to effective within the respective genres, through close analysis of the text.
3. Develop the ability to incorporate the use of some of these techniques in your own writing.
4. Develop crucial editorial skills through analysis and feedback on peer texts, and receive and use constructive feedback from fellow students.

### **INDICATIVE CONTENT**

- novels, novellas and short stories
- articles and reviews reflecting the process of creative writing
- group discussions on writing practice
- writing exercises that stimulate imaginative engagement
- workshops where fiction is critiqued by peers and tutor
- feedback on submitted fiction from the tutor
- one-to-one tutorials
- Analysis of the development of science fiction and fantasy, and of contemporary trends in the genre

## **LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT - STRATEGY AND METHODS**

Students will be supported in their learning, to achieve the above outcomes, in the following ways

The module is organised around one seminar per week. The seminars will focus on tutor-led discussion of one text per week examining each writer's treatment of specific elements like setting, language, structure, plot and style. Students will be given short writing exercises in which they can attempt some of the techniques identified in the set texts. Students will also be asked to consider notions of publishability and to explore outlets and markets for science fiction and fantasy through online research. Students will be asked to submit ongoing work for workshopping by peers and tutor, and to give each other constructive feedback, which they will draw upon in rewriting and revising the work.

### **ASSESSMENT TASK INFORMATION**

For final submission the requirement is an essay of 2000 words on one or more of the set texts, analysing the techniques the writer has employed to create successful science fiction or fantasy. The student will also be asked to provide a finished piece of original science fiction or fantasy (short story or chapter of a novel) of 3-4,000 words. The student will have received critical feedback on both pieces of work, and been given the opportunity to revise the work, before submission.

<b>Task No.*</b>	<b>Short Description of Task</b>	<b>SI Code EX/CW/PR</b>	<b>Task Weighting %</b>	<b>Word Count or Exam Duration**</b>	<b>In-module retrieval available</b>
1	Creative writing	CW	70	2-3000 words	Y / N
2	Essay	CW	30	1500 words	Y / N

### **FEEDBACK**

Students will receive feedback on their performance in the following ways

- You will meet and talk to your tutor in seminars and individual tutorials.
- Feedback for written draft work will be given during these seminars.
- Students will provide peer support and feedback in seminars.
- The essay and portfolio – delivered by students for assessment at the end of the module will be responded to through written feedback.

## **LEARNING RESOURCES FOR THIS MODULE (INCLUDING READING LISTS)**

### **Selected Reading List**

*The Chrysalids* John Wyndham  
'Bloodchild' (short story) Octavia Butler  
*Riddley Walker* Russell Hoban  
*Childhood's End* Arthur C. Clarke  
*Embassytown* China Mieville  
*The Left Hand of Darkness* Ursula K LeGuin

*The Time Machine* H.G. Wells  
*Brave New World* Aldous Huxley  
*Memoirs of a Survivor* Doris Lessing  
*Death of Grass* John Christopher  
*The Drowned World* J.G. Ballard

- **Module Documentation**

A module handbook will include the module description, programme, list of assessment tasks, assessment criteria and tutors' contact details.

- **Blackboard**

This module is supported by a Blackboard site. This will provide seminar information, and electronic copies of some resources, as well as the module documentation.

- **IT Resources**

You will be referred to a range of electronic resources including the University's databases and relevant web material.

- **Bibliography**

A list of primary and secondary resources will be made available on the module Blackboard site, including a fuller background reading list.

## SECTION 2 MODULE INFORMATION FOR STAFF ONLY

### MODULE DELIVERY AND ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

#### MODULE STATUS - INDICATE IF ANY CHANGES BEING MADE

NEW MODULE	Y
EXISTING MODULE - NO CHANGE	
Title Change	Y
Level Change	
Credit Change	
Assessment Pattern Change	
Change to Delivery Pattern	
Date the changes (or new module) will be implemented	2015/16

**MODULE DELIVERY PATTERN** - Give details of the start and end dates for each module. If the course has more than one intake, for example, September and January, please give details of the module start and end dates for each intake.

	Module Begins	Module Ends
Course Intake 1	Sept/2016	Jan 2017
Course Intake 2	Sept 2017	Jan 2017
Course Intake 3	Sept 2018	Jan 2018

Is timetabled contact time required for this module?	Y
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Are any staff teaching on this module non-SHU employees?	N
If yes, please give details of the employer institution(s) below	
What proportion of the module is taught by these non-SHU staff, expressed as a percentage?	

#### MODULE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Indicate how the module will be marked	
*Overall PERCENTAGE Mark of 40%	Y
*Overall PASS / FAIL Grade	N

#### SUB-TASKS

Will any sub-tasks (activities) be used as part of the assessment strategy for this module?	N
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#### FINAL TASK

According to the Assessment Information shown in the Module Descriptor, which task will be the LAST TASK to be taken or handed-in? (Give task number as shown in the Assessment Information Grid in Section 1 of the Descriptor)	Task No. 2
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#### NON-STANDARD ASSESSMENT PATTERNS

MARK 'X' IN BOX IF MODULE ASSESSMENT PATTERN IS NON STANDARD, eg ALL TASKS MUST BE PASSED AT 40%. NB: Non-standard assessment patterns are subject to faculty agreement and approval by Registry Services - see guidance. notes.	
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**REVISIONS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reason</b>
June 2016	Large Scale Modification DB3HU04-1516
July 2017	Operational change approved by Humanities Departmental Board 21/06/17