Wallenpaupack Area School District
Planned Course Curriculum Guide

Department:
English

Name of Course:
Science Fiction and Technology in Literature (CTE)

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of science fiction literature from around the world and will explore the rich history of science fiction, from its ancient roots to its modern manifestations. Students will examine how speculative storytelling reflects cultural anxieties, aspirations, and technological advancements across centuries. Through a variety of texts - including myths, short stories, novels and novellas, and television and film mediums - students will analyze recurring themes and the genre's evolution. This course encourages students to think critically about the genre's cultural and technological relevance while fostering creativity and analytical skills. Students will also delve into the current trends and advancements of science/tech and sci-fi literary study by reading scholarly journals and other articles that will refine their literacy and communication skills.

Even more so, this course evaluates the future through science fiction; it looks at the best and worst future possibilities if present trends in society and present human traits continue. To do so, we will read and respond to fiction and nonfiction literature, engage in discussions, and further investigate philosophical and literary questions that arise within the texts. By the end of the course, students are expected to understand the genre, engage critically with the texts, and identify the broad societal impact of the science fiction genre.

Initial Creation Date (if applicable) and Revision Dates:

August 19th, 2024
August 28th, 2025
October 13th, 2025

Wallenpaupack Area School District Curriculum	
COURSE: Science Fiction and Technology in Literature	**GRADE/S: 11th and 12th**
UNIT 1: Origins of Speculation in Ancient and Medieval Texts	**TIMEFRAME: One Semester**

PA COMMON CORE/NATIONAL STANDARDS:

Reading Literature (PA CC.1.3)

- **CC.1.3.11–12.A**: Determine and analyze the theme or central idea of a text and its development over the course of the text.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.B**: Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.C**: Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.D**: Evaluate how an author's point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.F**: Analyze how multiple texts address similar themes or topics.

Writing (PA CC.1.4)

- **CC.1.4.11–12.A**: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas.
- **CC.1.4.11–12.B**: Develop and analyze the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts.
- **CC.1.4.11–12.M**: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events.
- **CC.1.4.11–12.T**: Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

Speaking & Listening (PA CC.1.5)

- **CC.1.5.11–12.A**: Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions.
- **CC.1.5.11–12.D**: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly and concisely.

National Common Core Standards

- **Standard 2**: Students read a wide range of literature from many periods in many genres.
- **Standard 3**: Students apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate texts.

- **Standard 6**: Students apply knowledge of language structure, conventions, and genre to create, critique, and discuss texts.
- **Standard 11**: Students participate as knowledgeable, reflective, creative, and critical members of a variety of literacy communities.

UNIT OBJECTIVES (SWBATS):

Literary Analysis & Interpretation

- Analyze how ancient and medieval texts use speculative elements to explore philosophical or societal ideas.
- Identify and explain recurring science fiction motifs (e.g., utopias, otherworldly journeys, mythic technology) in early literature.
- Compare themes and narrative structures in ancient/medieval texts with those in modern science fiction.

Historical & Cultural Context

- Describe the historical and cultural contexts that shaped ancient and medieval speculative literature.
- Evaluate how early texts reflect the scientific, religious, and philosophical beliefs of their time.

Critical Thinking & Discussion

- Engage in thoughtful discussions about the ethical and philosophical questions raised in foundational texts.
- Defend interpretations of texts using textual evidence and historical context.

Writing & Composition

- Write analytical essays that connect ancient or medieval texts to modern science fiction themes.
- Compose original speculative narratives inspired by ancient or medieval settings, characters, or ideas.

Creative & Multimodal Expression

- Create visual or multimedia projects that illustrate the influence of ancient speculative ideas on modern science fiction.
- Present research or creative work clearly and effectively to peers.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES/ACTIVITIES:

Instructional Strategies for Teachers

- **Close Reading & Textual Analysis**
  - Focus on themes, symbolism, narrative structure, and genre conventions.
  - Analyze authorial choices and their impact on meaning.
- **Socratic Seminars**
  - Facilitate student-led discussions around philosophical and ethical questions raised in the texts.
- **Comparative Literature Approach**
  - Compare science fiction texts with works from other genres or media (e.g., film, graphic novels).
- **Historical & Cultural Contextualization**
  - Explore the socio-political context in which the work was written and how it influences the narrative.
- **Genre Studies**
  - Examine the evolution of science fiction and its subgenres (cyberpunk, dystopian, space opera, etc.).
- **Project-Based Learning**
  - Encourage students to create projects that synthesize literary analysis with creative or research components.
- **Interdisciplinary Integration**
  - Connect literature with science, technology, ethics, and philosophy.
- **Creative Writing Workshops**
  - Use science fiction writing prompts to help students explore speculative storytelling.
- **Media Literacy**
  - Analyze adaptations and representations of science fiction in film, television, and games.
- **Reader Response Theory**
  - Encourage personal interpretations and emotional reactions to texts.

Types of Student Activities

- **Literary Analysis Essays**
  - Focused on themes like identity, technology, dystopia, or post-humanism.
- **Debates**
  - Topics like AI rights, space colonization ethics, or surveillance in society.
- **Creative Writing**
  - Write short stories, alternate endings, or world-building exercises.
- **Multimedia Projects**
  - Create podcasts, video essays, or digital presentations analyzing a text.
- **Role-Playing & Simulations**
  - Act out scenes or simulate decision-making in speculative scenarios.

- **Book Reviews & Blog Posts**
  - Write for a public audience, practicing critical and persuasive writing.
- **Annotated Bibliographies**
  - Research and compile sources on science fiction themes or authors.
- **Concept Mapping**
  - Visualize connections between characters, themes, and speculative elements.
- **Peer Teaching**
  - Students lead mini-lessons or presentations on specific texts or concepts.
- **Reading Journals**
  - Reflective entries tracking thoughts, questions, and thematic insights.

ASSESSMENTS (Diagnostic/Benchmark/Formative/Summative):

Analytical Assessments

1. **Literary Analysis Essay**
   - Focused on themes, character development, symbolism, or genre conventions.
2. **Comparative Essay**
   - Compare two science fiction texts or a text with its film adaptation.
3. **Critical Response Paper**
   - Short essays reacting to specific passages or ideas in the text.
4. **Thematic Presentation**
   - Students present on a recurring theme across multiple works (e.g., AI, dystopia, space travel).
5. **Annotated Texts**
   - Students annotate a passage with literary and thematic insights.

Creative Assessments

1. **Original Science Fiction Story**
   - Students write their own short story using genre conventions.
2. **World-Building Project**
   - Design a fictional world with maps, cultures, technologies, and histories.
3. **Alternate Ending or Scene Rewrite**
   - Rewrite a scene or ending to explore different narrative possibilities.
4. **Multimedia Adaptation**
   - Create a podcast, video, or comic adaptation of a scene or concept.
5. **Character Diary or Journal**
   - Write from the perspective of a character, exploring their thoughts and motivations.

Research-Based Assessments

1. **Research Paper**

- Investigate a scientific, philosophical, or historical concept related to the text.

2. **Author Study**
   - Explore the life, influences, and body of work of a science fiction author.
3. **Genre Evolution Timeline**
   - Create a timeline showing the development of science fiction and its subgenres.
4. **Ethical Issue Report**
   - Analyze a real-world ethical issue (e.g., AI, genetic engineering) through the lens of science fiction.

Discussion & Oral Assessments

1. **Socratic Seminar Participation**
   - Graded on preparation, engagement, and depth of thought.
2. **Debate**
   - Structured debates on speculative or philosophical questions raised in the texts.
3. **Book Talk or Review**
   - Present a persuasive review of a science fiction book.
4. **Podcast Episode**
   - Students record a discussion or analysis of a text or theme.

Collaborative & Project-Based Assessments

1. **Group Presentation**
   - Analyze a text or theme collaboratively and present findings.
2. **Literary Magazine or Anthology**
   - Compile student work into a themed publication.
3. **Interactive Timeline or Map**
   - Create a visual representation of events or settings in a story.
4. **Science Fiction Convention Simulation**
   - Students role-play as authors, critics, or fans presenting their work.

Reflective & Formative Assessments

1. **Reading Journals**
   - Ongoing reflections on readings, questions, and insights.
2. **Exit Tickets**
   - Quick written responses at the end of class to gauge understanding.
3. **Peer Reviews**
   - Students critique each other's work using rubrics.
4. **Self-Assessment**
   - Reflect on personal growth, strengths, and areas for improvement.

DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION (Acceleration/Enrichment):

Acceleration Strategies

For students who grasp concepts quickly and need more challenge:

1. **Independent Study Projects**
    - Allow students to explore advanced science fiction themes (e.g., transhumanism, quantum storytelling) or authors in depth.
2. **Advanced Literary Theory Integration**
    - Introduce concepts like postmodernism, structuralism, or speculative realism in analyzing texts.
3. **Dual Enrollment or Cross-Curricular Options**
    - Pair with philosophy, ethics, or science courses for deeper interdisciplinary exploration.
4. **Extended Reading Lists**
    - Include more complex or lesser-known works (e.g., Stanisław Lem, Octavia Butler, Samuel R. Delany).
5. **Leadership Roles in Group Work**
    - Assign roles like discussion facilitator, peer editor, or seminar leader.
6. **Creative Publication Opportunities**
    - Submit work to student literary magazines or science fiction writing contests.

Enrichment Strategies

To deepen understanding and engagement for all learners:

1. **Author Studies**
    - Explore the life, influences, and body of work of key science fiction authors.
2. **Genre Mashups**
    - Encourage students to write or analyze stories that blend science fiction with other genres (e.g., noir, romance, historical fiction).
3. **World-Building Workshops**
    - Dive into the mechanics of creating believable speculative worlds.
4. **Ethical Dilemma Debates**
    - Use scenarios from texts to debate real-world implications (e.g., cloning, AI governance).
5. **Multimedia Analysis**
    - Compare literature with film adaptations, graphic novels, or video games.
6. **Guest Speakers or Virtual Author Talks**
    - Invite science fiction writers or scholars to discuss their work and the genre.

Modification Strategies

To support students with learning differences or language needs:

1. **Simplified Texts or Summaries**
    - Provide accessible versions of complex readings or scaffolded summaries.
2. **Graphic Organizers**
    - Use visual tools to help students track plot, character development, and themes.
3. **Flexible Assessment Options**
    - Allow students to demonstrate understanding through art, audio, video, or performance.
4. **Chunked Assignments**
    - Break tasks into manageable steps with clear checkpoints.
5. **Guided Reading Questions**
    - Offer targeted prompts to support comprehension and critical thinking.
6. **Peer Support & Collaborative Learning**
    - Pair students for reading, discussion, or writing tasks to build confidence and skills.
7. **Use of Audiobooks & Text-to-Speech Tools**
    - Support auditory learners and those with reading challenges.

RESOURCES (Technology Based Resources, Text Resources, etc.):

Technology-Based Resources

1. **Digital Annotation Tools**
    - *Hypothesis*, *Kami*, or *Perusall* for collaborative text annotation and discussion.
2. **Learning Management Systems (LMS)**
    - Platforms like *Schoology* to organize materials, discussions, and assignments.
3. **AI & Chatbots**
    - Use tools like ChatGPT for brainstorming, writing prompts, or literary analysis support.
4. **Virtual Reality (VR) & Augmented Reality (AR)**
    - Explore immersive sci-fi environments or simulations (e.g., *Titans of Space*, *Mission to Mars*).
5. **Multimedia Creation Tools**
    - *Canva*, *Adobe Spark*, or *WeVideo* for student projects like trailers, posters, or video essays.
6. **Podcasting Platforms**
    - Use *Anchor* or *Soundtrap* for students to create sci-fi themed podcasts or audio reviews.
7. **Online Discussion Forums**
    - *Padlet*, *Flipgrid* or others for asynchronous discussions and peer feedback.
8. **Digital Libraries & Archives**

- *Project Gutenberg*, *Internet Archive*, or *Libby* for free access to classic sci-fi texts.

Other Types of Sources

1. **Science & Ethics Articles**
   - Use journals like *Scientific American*, *Nature*, or *MIT Technology Review* to connect fiction with real-world science.
2. **Author Interviews & Talks**
   - TED Talks, YouTube interviews, or podcasts featuring sci-fi authors discussing their work and ideas.
3. **Online Courses & MOOCs**
   - Platforms like *Coursera*, *edX*, or *FutureLearn* offer courses on science fiction, literature, and speculative storytelling.
4. **Fan Communities & Wikis**
   - Explore *Fandom*, *Reddit*, or *TV Tropes* for genre conventions and fan interpretations.
5. **Creative Writing Resources**
   - *NaNoWriMo*, *Reedsy*, or *Writer's Digest* for writing prompts and publishing advice.

KEY VOCABULARY:

- **Mythopoeia** – The creation of myth; often used to describe early speculative narratives.
- **Allegory** – A story with a hidden meaning, often moral or political.
- **Cosmology** – The study or theory of the origin and structure of the universe.
- **Utopia/Dystopia (proto-concepts)** – Early ideas of ideal or flawed societies.
- **Apocalyptic literature** – Texts dealing with end-times or divine revelation.
- **Natural philosophy** – Pre-modern science; the study of nature and the physical universe.
- **Hermeticism** – Esoteric tradition influencing speculative thought.
- **Bestiary** – Medieval texts cataloging real and imaginary creatures.

Wallenpaupack Area School District Curriculum	
COURSE: Science Fiction and Technology in Literature	**GRADE/S: 11th and 12th**
UNIT 2: Enlightenment and Early Science Fiction	**TIMEFRAME: One Semester**

PA COMMON CORE/NATIONAL STANDARDS:

Reading Literature

- **CC.1.3.11–12.A**: Determine and analyze the theme or central idea of a text and its development over the course of the text.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.B**: Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.C**: Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.D**: Evaluate how an author's point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

Writing

- **CC.1.4.11–12.A–F**: Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- **CC.1.4.11–12.M–T**: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

Speaking and Listening

- **CC.1.5.11–12.A**: Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions.
- **CC.1.5.11–12.D**: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly and logically.

National Common Core Standards

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

- **Reading**: Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.
- **Writing**: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- **Speaking and Listening**: Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats.

- **Language**: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage.

UNIT OBJECTIVES (SWBATS):

Literary Analysis & Historical Context

- Analyze how Enlightenment ideals (reason, progress, individualism) influenced early science fiction narratives.
- Compare and contrast Enlightenment texts with early science fiction works to identify thematic continuities and divergences.
- Evaluate the role of scientific discovery and philosophical inquiry in shaping speculative fiction.

Critical Thinking & Interpretation

- Interpret allegorical and symbolic elements in early science fiction texts.
- Assess the impact of historical context on authorial intent and literary style.
- Debate the ethical implications of scientific advancement as portrayed in literature.

Writing & Communication

- Compose analytical essays that argue how Enlightenment thought is reflected in early science fiction.
- Create original speculative fiction pieces inspired by Enlightenment themes.
- Present research findings on Enlightenment thinkers and their influence on literary movements.

Collaboration & Discussion

- Engage in Socratic seminars to explore philosophical questions raised in texts.
- Collaborate on group presentations analyzing the evolution of science fiction from Enlightenment roots.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES/ACTIVITIES:

Instructional Strategies for Teachers

- **Close Reading & Textual Analysis**
  - Focus on themes, symbolism, narrative structure, and genre conventions.
  - Analyze authorial choices and their impact on meaning.
- **Socratic Seminars**
  - Facilitate student-led discussions around philosophical and ethical questions raised in the texts.

- **Comparative Literature Approach**
  - Compare science fiction texts with works from other genres or media (e.g., film, graphic novels).
- **Historical & Cultural Contextualization**
  - Explore the socio-political context in which the work was written and how it influences the narrative.
- **Genre Studies**
  - Examine the evolution of science fiction and its subgenres (cyberpunk, dystopian, space opera, etc.).
- **Project-Based Learning**
  - Encourage students to create projects that synthesize literary analysis with creative or research components.
- **Interdisciplinary Integration**
  - Connect literature with science, technology, ethics, and philosophy.
- **Creative Writing Workshops**
  - Use science fiction writing prompts to help students explore speculative storytelling.
- **Media Literacy**
  - Analyze adaptations and representations of science fiction in film, television, and games.
- **Reader Response Theory**
  - Encourage personal interpretations and emotional reactions to texts.

Types of Student Activities

- **Literary Analysis Essays**
  - Focused on themes like identity, technology, dystopia, or post-humanism.
- **Debates**
  - Topics like AI rights, space colonization ethics, or surveillance in society.
- **Creative Writing**
  - Write short stories, alternate endings, or world-building exercises.
- **Multimedia Projects**
  - Create podcasts, video essays, or digital presentations analyzing a text.
- **Role-Playing & Simulations**
  - Act out scenes or simulate decision-making in speculative scenarios.
- **Book Reviews & Blog Posts**
  - Write for a public audience, practicing critical and persuasive writing.
- **Annotated Bibliographies**
  - Research and compile sources on science fiction themes or authors.
- **Concept Mapping**
  - Visualize connections between characters, themes, and speculative elements.
- **Peer Teaching**
  - Students lead mini-lessons or presentations on specific texts or concepts.
- **Reading Journals**

- Reflective entries tracking thoughts, questions, and thematic insights.

ASSESSMENTS (Diagnostic/Benchmark/Formative/Summative):

Analytical Assessments

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4. **Thematic Presentation**
   - Students present on a recurring theme across multiple works (e.g., AI, dystopia, space travel).
5. **Annotated Texts**
   - Students annotate a passage with literary and thematic insights.

Creative Assessments

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2. **World-Building Project**
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Research-Based Assessments

1. **Research Paper**
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2. **Author Study**
   - Explore the life, influences, and body of work of a science fiction author.
3. **Genre Evolution Timeline**
   - Create a timeline showing the development of science fiction and its subgenres.
4. **Ethical Issue Report**

- Analyze a real-world ethical issue (e.g., AI, genetic engineering) through the lens of science fiction.

Discussion & Oral Assessments

1. **Socratic Seminar Participation**
   - Graded on preparation, engagement, and depth of thought.
2. **Debate**
   - Structured debates on speculative or philosophical questions raised in the texts.
3. **Book Talk or Review**
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Collaborative & Project-Based Assessments

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Reflective & Formative Assessments

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2. **Exit Tickets**
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3. **Peer Reviews**
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Acceleration Strategies

For students who grasp concepts quickly and need more challenge:

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2. **Advanced Literary Theory Integration**
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3. **Dual Enrollment or Cross-Curricular Options**
    - Pair with philosophy, ethics, or science courses for deeper interdisciplinary exploration.
4. **Extended Reading Lists**
    - Include more complex or lesser-known works (e.g., Stanisław Lem, Octavia Butler, Samuel R. Delany).
5. **Leadership Roles in Group Work**
    - Assign roles like discussion facilitator, peer editor, or seminar leader.
6. **Creative Publication Opportunities**
    - Submit work to student literary magazines or science fiction writing contests.

Enrichment Strategies

To deepen understanding and engagement for all learners:

1. **Author Studies**
    - Explore the life, influences, and body of work of key science fiction authors.
2. **Genre Mashups**
    - Encourage students to write or analyze stories that blend science fiction with other genres (e.g., noir, romance, historical fiction).
3. **World-Building Workshops**
    - Dive into the mechanics of creating believable speculative worlds.
4. **Ethical Dilemma Debates**
    - Use scenarios from texts to debate real-world implications (e.g., cloning, AI governance).
5. **Multimedia Analysis**
    - Compare literature with film adaptations, graphic novels, or video games.
6. **Guest Speakers or Virtual Author Talks**
    - Invite science fiction writers or scholars to discuss their work and the genre.

Modification Strategies

To support students with learning differences or language needs:

1. **Simplified Texts or Summaries**
    - Provide accessible versions of complex readings or scaffolded summaries.
2. **Graphic Organizers**

- Use visual tools to help students track plot, character development, and themes.

3. **Flexible Assessment Options**
   - Allow students to demonstrate understanding through art, audio, video, or performance.
4. **Chunked Assignments**
   - Break tasks into manageable steps with clear checkpoints.
5. **Guided Reading Questions**
   - Offer targeted prompts to support comprehension and critical thinking.
6. **Peer Support & Collaborative Learning**
   - Pair students for reading, discussion, or writing tasks to build confidence and skills.
7. **Use of Audiobooks & Text-to-Speech Tools**

   - Support auditory learners and those with reading challenges.

RESOURCES (Technology Based Resources, Text Resources, etc.):

Technology-Based Resources

1. **Digital Annotation Tools**
   - *Hypothesis*, *Kami*, or *Perusall* for collaborative text annotation and discussion.
2. **Learning Management Systems (LMS)**
   - Platforms like *Schoology* to organize materials, discussions, and assignments.
3. **AI & Chatbots**
   - Use tools like ChatGPT for brainstorming, writing prompts, or literary analysis support.
4. **Virtual Reality (VR) & Augmented Reality (AR)**
   - Explore immersive sci-fi environments or simulations (e.g., *Titans of Space*, *Mission to Mars*).
5. **Multimedia Creation Tools**
   - *Canva*, *Adobe Spark*, or *WeVideo* for student projects like trailers, posters, or video essays.
6. **Podcasting Platforms**
   - Use *Anchor* or *Soundtrap* for students to create sci-fi themed podcasts or audio reviews.
7. **Online Discussion Forums**
   - *Padlet*, *Flipgrid* or others for asynchronous discussions and peer feedback.
8. **Digital Libraries & Archives**
   - *Project Gutenberg*, *Internet Archive*, or *Libby* for free access to classic sci-fi texts.

Other Types of Sources

1. **Science & Ethics Articles**

- Use journals like *Scientific American*, *Nature*, or *MIT Technology Review* to connect fiction with real-world science.

2. **Author Interviews & Talks**
   - TED Talks, YouTube interviews, or podcasts featuring sci-fi authors discussing their work and ideas.
3. **Online Courses & MOOCs**
   - Platforms like *Coursera*, *edX*, or *FutureLearn* offer courses on science fiction, literature, and speculative storytelling.
4. **Fan Communities & Wikis**
   - Explore *Fandom*, *Reddit*, or *TV Tropes* for genre conventions and fan interpretations.
5. **Creative Writing Resources**

   - *NaNoWriMo*, *Reedsy*, or *Writer's Digest* for writing prompts and publishing advice.

KEY VOCABULARY:

- **Rationalism** – Belief in reason as the primary source of knowledge.
- **Empiricism** – Knowledge through sensory experience and observation.
- **Satire** – Use of humor or irony to critique society or politics.
- **Speculative voyage** – Fictional journeys exploring unknown lands or concepts.
- **Mechanism** – Philosophical view that natural processes are mechanically determined.
- **Scientific utopia** – Ideal societies based on reason and scientific principles.
- **Anthropocentrism** – Human-centered worldview, often challenged in SF.
- **Technological determinism** – Idea that technology shapes society's development.

Wallenpaupack Area School District Curriculum	
COURSE: Science Fiction and Technology in Literature	**GRADE/S: 11th and 12th**
UNIT 3: Victorian and Early 20th Century Science Fiction	**TIMEFRAME: One Semester**

PA COMMON CORE/NATIONAL STANDARDS:

Reading Literature (RL):

- **RL.9-10.1 / RL.11-12.1**: Cite strong textual evidence to support analysis.
- **RL.9-10.2 / RL.11-12.2**: Determine themes and analyze development.
- **RL.9-10.3 / RL.11-12.3**: Analyze how complex characters develop and interact.
- **RL.9-10.4 / RL.11-12.4**: Interpret figurative language and word choice.
- **RL.9-10.5 / RL.11-12.5**: Analyze author's structural choices.
- **RL.9-10.6 / RL.11-12.6**: Analyze point of view and tone.

Writing (W):

- **W.9-10.1 / W.11-12.1**: Write arguments with clear reasoning and evidence.
- **W.9-10.2 / W.11-12.2**: Write informative/explanatory texts.
- **W.9-10.3 / W.11-12.3**: Write narratives using effective techniques.
- **W.9-10.9 / W.11-12.9**: Draw evidence from literary texts to support analysis.

Speaking and Listening (SL):

- **SL.9-10.1 / SL.11-12.1**: Initiate and participate in collaborative discussions.
- **SL.9-10.4 / SL.11-12.4**: Present information clearly and persuasively.

National Common Core Standards:

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.11-12.1 to RL.11-12.10**: Emphasize critical reading, analysis of literary elements, and integration of multiple interpretations.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.11-12.1 to W.11-12.10**: Focus on argumentative, informative, and narrative writing.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.11-12.1 to SL.11-12.6**: Develop speaking and listening skills for academic discourse.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.11-12.1 to L.11-12.6**: Mastery of language conventions and vocabulary.

UNIT OBJECTIVES (SWBATS):

 Analyze how Victorian and early 20th-century authors used speculative elements to critique society, science, and technology.

 Compare and contrast themes of industrialization, progress, and dystopia across multiple texts.
 Evaluate the historical and cultural contexts that shaped early science fiction narratives.
 Interpret figurative language, symbolism, and narrative structure in foundational science fiction texts.
 Develop arguments about the relevance of early science fiction to contemporary issues.
 Create original writing that emulates the style and themes of Victorian speculative fiction.
 Present findings from literary research in oral and written formats.
 Collaborate in discussions to explore philosophical and ethical questions raised by early science fiction.
 Synthesize multiple interpretations of a text, including film adaptations or modern retellings.
 Reflect on how early science fiction shaped the genre and influenced modern literature.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES/ACTIVITIES:

Instructional Strategies for Teachers

1. **Close Reading & Textual Analysis**
    - Focus on themes, symbolism, narrative structure, and genre conventions.
    - Analyze authorial choices and their impact on meaning.
2. **Socratic Seminars**
    - Facilitate student-led discussions around philosophical and ethical questions raised in the texts.
3. **Comparative Literature Approach**
    - Compare science fiction texts with works from other genres or media (e.g., film, graphic novels).
4. **Historical & Cultural Contextualization**
    - Explore the socio-political context in which the work was written and how it influences the narrative.
5. **Genre Studies**
    - Examine the evolution of science fiction and its subgenres (cyberpunk, dystopian, space opera, etc.).
6. **Project-Based Learning**
    - Encourage students to create projects that synthesize literary analysis with creative or research components.
7. **Interdisciplinary Integration**
    - Connect literature with science, technology, ethics, and philosophy.
8. **Creative Writing Workshops**
    - Use science fiction writing prompts to help students explore speculative storytelling.
9. **Media Literacy**
    - Analyze adaptations and representations of science fiction in film, television, and games.

10. **Reader Response Theory**
    - Encourage personal interpretations and emotional reactions to texts.

Types of Student Activities

1. **Literary Analysis Essays**
    - Focused on themes like identity, technology, dystopia, or post-humanism.
2. **Debates**
    - Topics like AI rights, space colonization ethics, or surveillance in society.
3. **Creative Writing**
    - Write short stories, alternate endings, or world-building exercises.
4. **Multimedia Projects**
    - Create podcasts, video essays, or digital presentations analyzing a text.
5. **Role-Playing & Simulations**
    - Act out scenes or simulate decision-making in speculative scenarios.
6. **Book Reviews & Blog Posts**
    - Write for a public audience, practicing critical and persuasive writing.
7. **Annotated Bibliographies**
    - Research and compile sources on science fiction themes or authors.
8. **Concept Mapping**
    - Visualize connections between characters, themes, and speculative elements.
9. **Peer Teaching**
    - Students lead mini-lessons or presentations on specific texts or concepts.
10. **Reading Journals**
    - Reflective entries tracking thoughts, questions, and thematic insights.

ASSESSMENTS (Diagnostic/Benchmark/Formative/Summative):

Analytical Assessments

6. **Literary Analysis Essay**
    - Focused on themes, character development, symbolism, or genre conventions.
7. **Comparative Essay**
    - Compare two science fiction texts or a text with its film adaptation.
8. **Critical Response Paper**
    - Short essays reacting to specific passages or ideas in the text.
9. **Thematic Presentation**
    - Students present on a recurring theme across multiple works (e.g., AI, dystopia, space travel).
10. **Annotated Texts**
    - Students annotate a passage with literary and thematic insights.

Creative Assessments

1. **Original Science Fiction Story**
    - Students write their own short story using genre conventions.
2. **World-Building Project**
    - Design a fictional world with maps, cultures, technologies, and histories.
3. **Alternate Ending or Scene Rewrite**
    - Rewrite a scene or ending to explore different narrative possibilities.
4. **Multimedia Adaptation**
    - Create a podcast, video, or comic adaptation of a scene or concept.
5. **Character Diary or Journal**
    - Write from the perspective of a character, exploring their thoughts and motivations.

Research-Based Assessments

1. **Research Paper**
    - Investigate a scientific, philosophical, or historical concept related to the text.
2. **Author Study**
    - Explore the life, influences, and body of work of a science fiction author.
3. **Genre Evolution Timeline**
    - Create a timeline showing the development of science fiction and its subgenres.
4. **Ethical Issue Report**
    - Analyze a real-world ethical issue (e.g., AI, genetic engineering) through the lens of science fiction.

Discussion & Oral Assessments

1. **Socratic Seminar Participation**
    - Graded on preparation, engagement, and depth of thought.
2. **Debate**
    - Structured debates on speculative or philosophical questions raised in the texts.
3. **Book Talk or Review**
    - Present a persuasive review of a science fiction book.
4. **Podcast Episode**
    - Students record a discussion or analysis of a text or theme.

Collaborative & Project-Based Assessments

1. **Group Presentation**
    - Analyze a text or theme collaboratively and present findings.
2. **Literary Magazine or Anthology**
    - Compile student work into a themed publication.
3. **Interactive Timeline or Map**

- Create a visual representation of events or settings in a story.

4. **Science Fiction Convention Simulation**
   - Students role-play as authors, critics, or fans presenting their work.

Reflective & Formative Assessments

1. **Reading Journals**
   - Ongoing reflections on readings, questions, and insights.
2. **Exit Tickets**
   - Quick written responses at the end of class to gauge understanding.
3. **Peer Reviews**
   - Students critique each other's work using rubrics.
4. **Self-Assessment**
   - Reflect on personal growth, strengths, and areas for improvement.

DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION (Acceleration/Enrichment):

Acceleration Strategies

For students who grasp concepts quickly and need more challenge:

1. **Independent Study Projects**
   - Allow students to explore advanced science fiction themes (e.g., transhumanism, quantum storytelling) or authors in depth.
2. **Advanced Literary Theory Integration**
   - Introduce concepts like postmodernism, structuralism, or speculative realism in analyzing texts.
3. **Dual Enrollment or Cross-Curricular Options**
   - Pair with philosophy, ethics, or science courses for deeper interdisciplinary exploration.
4. **Extended Reading Lists**
   - Include more complex or lesser-known works (e.g., Stanisław Lem, Octavia Butler, Samuel R. Delany).
5. **Leadership Roles in Group Work**
   - Assign roles like discussion facilitator, peer editor, or seminar leader.
6. **Creative Publication Opportunities**
   - Submit work to student literary magazines or science fiction writing contests.

Enrichment Strategies

To deepen understanding and engagement for all learners:

1. **Author Studies**

- Explore the life, influences, and body of work of key science fiction authors.

2. **Genre Mashups**
   - Encourage students to write or analyze stories that blend science fiction with other genres (e.g., noir, romance, historical fiction).
3. **World-Building Workshops**
   - Dive into the mechanics of creating believable speculative worlds.
4. **Ethical Dilemma Debates**
   - Use scenarios from texts to debate real-world implications (e.g., cloning, AI governance).
5. **Multimedia Analysis**
   - Compare literature with film adaptations, graphic novels, or video games.
6. **Guest Speakers or Virtual Author Talks**
   - Invite science fiction writers or scholars to discuss their work and the genre.

Modification Strategies

To support students with learning differences or language needs:

1. **Simplified Texts or Summaries**
   - Provide accessible versions of complex readings or scaffolded summaries.
2. **Graphic Organizers**
   - Use visual tools to help students track plot, character development, and themes.
3. **Flexible Assessment Options**
   - Allow students to demonstrate understanding through art, audio, video, or performance.
4. **Chunked Assignments**
   - Break tasks into manageable steps with clear checkpoints.
5. **Guided Reading Questions**
   - Offer targeted prompts to support comprehension and critical thinking.
6. **Peer Support & Collaborative Learning**
   - Pair students for reading, discussion, or writing tasks to build confidence and skills.
7. **Use of Audiobooks & Text-to-Speech Tools**

   - Support auditory learners and those with reading challenges.

RESOURCES (Technology Based Resources, Text Resources, etc.):

Technology-Based Resources

1. **Digital Annotation Tools**
   - *Hypothesis*, *Kami*, or *Perusall* for collaborative text annotation and discussion.
2. **Learning Management Systems (LMS)**
   - Platforms like *Schoology* to organize materials, discussions, and assignments.

3. **AI & Chatbots**
    - Use tools like ChatGPT for brainstorming, writing prompts, or literary analysis support.
4. **Virtual Reality (VR) & Augmented Reality (AR)**
    - Explore immersive sci-fi environments or simulations (e.g., *Titans of Space*, *Mission to Mars*).
5. **Multimedia Creation Tools**
    - *Canva*, *Adobe Spark*, or *WeVideo* for student projects like trailers, posters, or video essays.
6. **Podcasting Platforms**
    - Use *Anchor* or *Soundtrap* for students to create sci-fi themed podcasts or audio reviews.
7. **Online Discussion Forums**
    - *Padlet*, *Flipgrid* or others for asynchronous discussions and peer feedback.
8. **Digital Libraries & Archives**
    - *Project Gutenberg*, *Internet Archive*, or *Libby* for free access to classic sci-fi texts.

Other Types of Sources

6. **Science & Ethics Articles**
    - Use journals like *Scientific American*, *Nature*, or *MIT Technology Review* to connect fiction with real-world science.
7. **Author Interviews & Talks**
    - TED Talks, YouTube interviews, or podcasts featuring sci-fi authors discussing their work and ideas.
8. **Online Courses & MOOCs**
    - Platforms like *Coursera*, *edX*, or *FutureLearn* offer courses on science fiction, literature, and speculative storytelling.
9. **Fan Communities & Wikis**
    - Explore *Fandom*, *Reddit*, or *TV Tropes* for genre conventions and fan interpretations.
10. **Creative Writing Resources**
    - *NaNoWriMo*, *Reedsy*, or *Writer's Digest* for writing prompts and publishing advice.

KEY VOCABULARY:

- **Industrialization** – The transformation of society through mechanized production.
- **Evolutionary theory** – Darwinian concepts influencing speculative fiction.
- **Time travel** – Concept of moving through time, popularized in this era.
- **Scientific romance** – Early term for science fiction, especially in Britain.
- **Colonial critique** – Examination of imperialism through speculative lenses.
- **Alien Other** – Representation of non-human or foreign beings as metaphors.
- **Technophobia** – Fear or skepticism of technological advancement.

- **Progressivism** – Belief in societal advancement through science and reason.

Wallenpaupack Area School District Curriculum	
COURSE: Science Fiction and Technology in Literature	**GRADE/S: 11th and 12th**
UNIT 4: Pulps and the Golden Age of Science Fiction	**TIMEFRAME: One Semester**

PA COMMON CORE/NATIONAL STANDARDS:

Pennsylvania Core Standards

Reading Literature:

- **CC.1.3.11–12.A**: Analyze the interaction of literary elements within and among texts.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.B**: Cite strong textual evidence to support analysis.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.C**: Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding structure and development.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.D**: Evaluate how point of view shapes meaning.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.E**: Analyze how figurative language and word choice shape meaning and tone.

Writing:

- **CC.1.4.11–12.A–F**: Write arguments, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives using appropriate structure, style, and evidence.
- **CC.1.4.11–12.T**: Strengthen writing through planning, revising, editing, and rewriting.

Speaking and Listening:

- **CC.1.5.11–12.A–D**: Participate in discussions, present information clearly, and evaluate others' viewpoints.

Common Core State Standards

Reading Literature:

- **RL.11-12.1–7**: Analyze themes, structure, point of view, and multiple interpretations of texts.
- **RL.11-12.10**: Read and comprehend complex literary texts independently.

Writing:

- **W.11-12.1–3**: Write arguments, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives.
- **W.11-12.9**: Draw evidence from literary texts to support analysis.

Speaking and Listening:

- **SL.11-12.1–4**: Engage in collaborative discussions and present findings.

UNIT OBJECTIVES (SWBATS):

 Identify and analyze the defining characteristics of pulp fiction and Golden Age science fiction.
 Evaluate how historical context (e.g., post-WWI, WWII, atomic age) influenced themes and styles.
 Compare the narrative techniques and scientific ideas of Golden Age authors.
 Interpret the role of editors and magazines in shaping the genre (e.g., John W. Campbell's influence).
 Critique the portrayal of technology, ethics, and human nature in Golden Age texts.
 Write original speculative fiction inspired by pulp-era conventions and Golden Age themes.
 Discuss the evolution of science fiction from escapist adventure to socially conscious literature.
 Synthesize multiple texts to explore recurring motifs such as space travel, robotics, and dystopia.
 Present research on the cultural impact of science fiction during the mid-20th century.
 Reflect on how Golden Age science fiction laid the groundwork for modern speculative fiction.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES/ACTIVITIES:

Instructional Strategies for Teachers

1. **Close Reading & Textual Analysis**
    - Focus on themes, symbolism, narrative structure, and genre conventions.
    - Analyze authorial choices and their impact on meaning.
2. **Socratic Seminars**
    - Facilitate student-led discussions around philosophical and ethical questions raised in the texts.
3. **Comparative Literature Approach**
    - Compare science fiction texts with works from other genres or media (e.g., film, graphic novels).
4. **Historical & Cultural Contextualization**
    - Explore the socio-political context in which the work was written and how it influences the narrative.
5. **Genre Studies**
    - Examine the evolution of science fiction and its subgenres (cyberpunk, dystopian, space opera, etc.).
6. **Project-Based Learning**

- Encourage students to create projects that synthesize literary analysis with creative or research components.

7. **Interdisciplinary Integration**
   - Connect literature with science, technology, ethics, and philosophy.
8. **Creative Writing Workshops**
   - Use science fiction writing prompts to help students explore speculative storytelling.
9. **Media Literacy**
   - Analyze adaptations and representations of science fiction in film, television, and games.
10. **Reader Response Theory**
    - Encourage personal interpretations and emotional reactions to texts.

Types of Student Activities

1. **Literary Analysis Essays**
   - Focused on themes like identity, technology, dystopia, or post-humanism.
2. **Debates**
   - Topics like AI rights, space colonization ethics, or surveillance in society.
3. **Creative Writing**
   - Write short stories, alternate endings, or world-building exercises.
4. **Multimedia Projects**
   - Create podcasts, video essays, or digital presentations analyzing a text.
5. **Role-Playing & Simulations**
   - Act out scenes or simulate decision-making in speculative scenarios.
6. **Book Reviews & Blog Posts**
   - Write for a public audience, practicing critical and persuasive writing.
7. **Annotated Bibliographies**
   - Research and compile sources on science fiction themes or authors.
8. **Concept Mapping**
   - Visualize connections between characters, themes, and speculative elements.
9. **Peer Teaching**
   - Students lead mini-lessons or presentations on specific texts or concepts.
10. **Reading Journals**
    - Reflective entries tracking thoughts, questions, and thematic insights.

ASSESSMENTS (Diagnostic/Benchmark/Formative/Summative):

Analytical Assessments

1. **Literary Analysis Essay**
   - Focused on themes, character development, symbolism, or genre conventions.
2. **Comparative Essay**
   - Compare two science fiction texts or a text with its film adaptation.

3. **Critical Response Paper**
    - Short essays reacting to specific passages or ideas in the text.
4. **Thematic Presentation**
    - Students present on a recurring theme across multiple works (e.g., AI, dystopia, space travel).
5. **Annotated Texts**
    - Students annotate a passage with literary and thematic insights.

Creative Assessments

1. **Original Science Fiction Story**
    - Students write their own short story using genre conventions.
2. **World-Building Project**
    - Design a fictional world with maps, cultures, technologies, and histories.
3. **Alternate Ending or Scene Rewrite**
    - Rewrite a scene or ending to explore different narrative possibilities.
4. **Multimedia Adaptation**
    - Create a podcast, video, or comic adaptation of a scene or concept.
5. **Character Diary or Journal**
    - Write from the perspective of a character, exploring their thoughts and motivations.

Research-Based Assessments

1. **Research Paper**
    - Investigate a scientific, philosophical, or historical concept related to the text.
2. **Author Study**
    - Explore the life, influences, and body of work of a science fiction author.
3. **Genre Evolution Timeline**
    - Create a timeline showing the development of science fiction and its subgenres.
4. **Ethical Issue Report**
    - Analyze a real-world ethical issue (e.g., AI, genetic engineering) through the lens of science fiction.

Discussion & Oral Assessments

1. **Socratic Seminar Participation**
    - Graded on preparation, engagement, and depth of thought.
2. **Debate**
    - Structured debates on speculative or philosophical questions raised in the texts.
3. **Book Talk or Review**
    - Present a persuasive review of a science fiction book.

4. **Podcast Episode**
    - Students record a discussion or analysis of a text or theme.

Collaborative & Project-Based Assessments

1. **Group Presentation**
    - Analyze a text or theme collaboratively and present findings.
2. **Literary Magazine or Anthology**
    - Compile student work into a themed publication.
3. **Interactive Timeline or Map**
    - Create a visual representation of events or settings in a story.
4. **Science Fiction Convention Simulation**
    - Students role-play as authors, critics, or fans presenting their work.

Reflective & Formative Assessments

1. **Reading Journals**
    - Ongoing reflections on readings, questions, and insights.
2. **Exit Tickets**
    - Quick written responses at the end of class to gauge understanding.
3. **Peer Reviews**
    - Students critique each other's work using rubrics.
4. **Self-Assessment**

    - Reflect on personal growth, strengths, and areas for improvement.

DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION (Acceleration/Enrichment):

Acceleration Strategies

For students who grasp concepts quickly and need more challenge:

1. **Independent Study Projects**
    - Allow students to explore advanced science fiction themes (e.g., transhumanism, quantum storytelling) or authors in depth.
2. **Advanced Literary Theory Integration**
    - Introduce concepts like postmodernism, structuralism, or speculative realism in analyzing texts.
3. **Dual Enrollment or Cross-Curricular Options**
    - Pair with philosophy, ethics, or science courses for deeper interdisciplinary exploration.
4. **Extended Reading Lists**
    - Include more complex or lesser-known works (e.g., Stanisław Lem, Octavia Butler, Samuel R. Delany).
5. **Leadership Roles in Group Work**

- Assign roles like discussion facilitator, peer editor, or seminar leader.

6. **Creative Publication Opportunities**
   - Submit work to student literary magazines or science fiction writing contests.

Enrichment Strategies

To deepen understanding and engagement for all learners:

7. **Author Studies**
   - Explore the life, influences, and body of work of key science fiction authors.
8. **Genre Mashups**
   - Encourage students to write or analyze stories that blend science fiction with other genres (e.g., noir, romance, historical fiction).
9. **World-Building Workshops**
   - Dive into the mechanics of creating believable speculative worlds.
10. **Ethical Dilemma Debates**
    - Use scenarios from texts to debate real-world implications (e.g., cloning, AI governance).
11. **Multimedia Analysis**
    - Compare literature with film adaptations, graphic novels, or video games.
12. **Guest Speakers or Virtual Author Talks**
    - Invite science fiction writers or scholars to discuss their work and the genre.

Modification Strategies

To support students with learning differences or language needs:

8. **Simplified Texts or Summaries**
   - Provide accessible versions of complex readings or scaffolded summaries.
9. **Graphic Organizers**
   - Use visual tools to help students track plot, character development, and themes.
10. **Flexible Assessment Options**
    - Allow students to demonstrate understanding through art, audio, video, or performance.
11. **Chunked Assignments**
    - Break tasks into manageable steps with clear checkpoints.
12. **Guided Reading Questions**
    - Offer targeted prompts to support comprehension and critical thinking.
13. **Peer Support & Collaborative Learning**
    - Pair students for reading, discussion, or writing tasks to build confidence and skills.
14. **Use of Audiobooks & Text-to-Speech Tools**

- Support auditory learners and those with reading challenges.

RESOURCES (Technology Based Resources, Text Resources, etc.):

Technology-Based Resources

9. **Digital Annotation Tools**
    - *Hypothesis*, *Kami*, or *Perusall* for collaborative text annotation and discussion.
10. **Learning Management Systems (LMS)**
    - Platforms like *Schoology* to organize materials, discussions, and assignments.
11. **AI & Chatbots**
    - Use tools like ChatGPT for brainstorming, writing prompts, or literary analysis support.
12. **Virtual Reality (VR) & Augmented Reality (AR)**
    - Explore immersive sci-fi environments or simulations (e.g., *Titans of Space*, *Mission to Mars*).
13. **Multimedia Creation Tools**
    - *Canva*, *Adobe Spark*, or *WeVideo* for student projects like trailers, posters, or video essays.
14. **Podcasting Platforms**
    - Use *Anchor* or *Soundtrap* for students to create sci-fi themed podcasts or audio reviews.
15. **Online Discussion Forums**
    - *Padlet*, *Flipgrid* or others for asynchronous discussions and peer feedback.
16. **Digital Libraries & Archives**
    - *Project Gutenberg*, *Internet Archive*, or *Libby* for free access to classic sci-fi texts.

Other Types of Sources

11. **Science & Ethics Articles**
    - Use journals like *Scientific American*, *Nature*, or *MIT Technology Review* to connect fiction with real-world science.
12. **Author Interviews & Talks**
    - TED Talks, YouTube interviews, or podcasts featuring sci-fi authors discussing their work and ideas.
13. **Online Courses & MOOCs**
    - Platforms like *Coursera*, *edX*, or *FutureLearn* offer courses on science fiction, literature, and speculative storytelling.
14. **Fan Communities & Wikis**
    - Explore *Fandom*, *Reddit*, or *TV Tropes* for genre conventions and fan interpretations.
15. **Creative Writing Resources**

- *NaNoWriMo*, *Reedsy*, or *Writer's Digest* for writing prompts and publishing advice.

KEY VOCABULARY:

- **Space opera** – Adventure stories set in space with heroic characters.
- **Hard science fiction** – SF emphasizing scientific accuracy and logic.
- **Super-scientist** – Archetype of the genius inventor or scientist.
- **Robotics** – Study and use of robots; popularized by Asimov's works.
- **Cybernetics** – Study of systems, control, and communication in machines and living beings.
- **Atomic age anxiety** – Fear and fascination with nuclear technology.
- **Galactic empire** – Fictional interstellar civilizations, often modeled on historical empires.
- **Terraforming** – Modifying a planet to make it habitable for humans.

Wallenpaupack Area School District Curriculum	
COURSE: Science Fiction and Technology in Literature	**GRADE/S: 11th and 12th**
UNIT 5: New Wave and Postmodern Science Fiction	**TIMEFRAME: One Semester**

PA COMMON CORE/NATIONAL STANDARDS:

Pennsylvania Core Standards

Reading Literature:

- **CC.1.3.11–12.A**: Analyze the interaction of literary elements within and among texts.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.B**: Cite strong textual evidence to support analysis.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.C**: Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding structure and development.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.D**: Evaluate how point of view shapes meaning.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.E**: Analyze how figurative language and word choice shape meaning and tone.
- **CC.1.3.11–12.F**: Analyze how literary texts reflect historical and cultural contexts.

Writing:

- **CC.1.4.11–12.A–F**: Write arguments, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives using appropriate structure, style, and evidence.
- **CC.1.4.11–12.T**: Strengthen writing through planning, revising, editing, and rewriting.

Speaking and Listening:

- **CC.1.5.11–12.A–D**: Participate in discussions, present information clearly, and evaluate others' viewpoints.

Common Core State Standards

Reading Literature:

- **RL.11-12.1–7**: Analyze themes, structure, point of view, and multiple interpretations of texts.
- **RL.11-12.10**: Read and comprehend complex literary texts independently.

Writing:

- **W.11-12.1–3**: Write arguments, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives.

- **W.11-12.9**: Draw evidence from literary texts to support analysis.

Speaking and Listening:

- **SL.11-12.1–4**: Engage in collaborative discussions and present findings.

UNIT OBJECTIVES (SWBATS):

 Analyze how New Wave and postmodern science fiction challenge traditional narrative structures and genre conventions.
 Evaluate the philosophical, psychological, and sociopolitical themes present in postmodern speculative fiction.
 Compare the stylistic and thematic shifts from Golden Age to New Wave science fiction.
 Interpret metafictional techniques, unreliable narration, and fragmented storytelling.
 Critique the role of identity, reality, and technology in shaping human experience in postmodern texts.
 Write original speculative fiction that incorporates postmodern literary techniques.
 Discuss how New Wave authors used science fiction to explore taboo subjects and marginalized perspectives.
 Synthesize multiple texts to explore recurring motifs such as cybernetics, dystopia, and altered consciousness.
 Present research on the cultural and literary impact of New Wave science fiction.
 Reflect on how postmodern science fiction continues to influence contemporary literature and media.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES/ACTIVITIES:

Instructional Strategies for Teachers

1. **Close Reading & Textual Analysis**
    - Focus on themes, symbolism, narrative structure, and genre conventions.
    - Analyze authorial choices and their impact on meaning.
2. **Socratic Seminars**
    - Facilitate student-led discussions around philosophical and ethical questions raised in the texts.
3. **Comparative Literature Approach**
    - Compare science fiction texts with works from other genres or media (e.g., film, graphic novels).
4. **Historical & Cultural Contextualization**
    - Explore the socio-political context in which the work was written and how it influences the narrative.
5. **Genre Studies**
    - Examine the evolution of science fiction and its subgenres (cyberpunk, dystopian, space opera, etc.).
6. **Project-Based Learning**

- Encourage students to create projects that synthesize literary analysis with creative or research components.

7. **Interdisciplinary Integration**
   - Connect literature with science, technology, ethics, and philosophy.
8. **Creative Writing Workshops**
   - Use science fiction writing prompts to help students explore speculative storytelling.
9. **Media Literacy**
   - Analyze adaptations and representations of science fiction in film, television, and games.
10. **Reader Response Theory**
    - Encourage personal interpretations and emotional reactions to texts.

Types of Student Activities

1. **Literary Analysis Essays**
   - Focused on themes like identity, technology, dystopia, or post-humanism.
2. **Debates**
   - Topics like AI rights, space colonization ethics, or surveillance in society.
3. **Creative Writing**
   - Write short stories, alternate endings, or world-building exercises.
4. **Multimedia Projects**
   - Create podcasts, video essays, or digital presentations analyzing a text.
5. **Role-Playing & Simulations**
   - Act out scenes or simulate decision-making in speculative scenarios.
6. **Book Reviews & Blog Posts**
   - Write for a public audience, practicing critical and persuasive writing.
7. **Annotated Bibliographies**
   - Research and compile sources on science fiction themes or authors.
8. **Concept Mapping**
   - Visualize connections between characters, themes, and speculative elements.
9. **Peer Teaching**
   - Students lead mini-lessons or presentations on specific texts or concepts.
10. **Reading Journals**
    - Reflective entries tracking thoughts, questions, and thematic insights.

ASSESSMENTS (Diagnostic/Benchmark/Formative/Summative):

Analytical Assessments

1. **Literary Analysis Essay**
   - Focused on themes, character development, symbolism, or genre conventions.
2. **Comparative Essay**

- Compare two science fiction texts or a text with its film adaptation.

3. **Critical Response Paper**
   - Short essays reacting to specific passages or ideas in the text.
4. **Thematic Presentation**
   - Students present on a recurring theme across multiple works (e.g., AI, dystopia, space travel).
5. **Annotated Texts**
   - Students annotate a passage with literary and thematic insights.

Creative Assessments

1. **Original Science Fiction Story**
   - Students write their own short story using genre conventions.
2. **World-Building Project**
   - Design a fictional world with maps, cultures, technologies, and histories.
3. **Alternate Ending or Scene Rewrite**
   - Rewrite a scene or ending to explore different narrative possibilities.
4. **Multimedia Adaptation**
   - Create a podcast, video, or comic adaptation of a scene or concept.
5. **Character Diary or Journal**
   - Write from the perspective of a character, exploring their thoughts and motivations.

Research-Based Assessments

1. **Research Paper**
   - Investigate a scientific, philosophical, or historical concept related to the text.
2. **Author Study**
   - Explore the life, influences, and body of work of a science fiction author.
3. **Genre Evolution Timeline**
   - Create a timeline showing the development of science fiction and its subgenres.
4. **Ethical Issue Report**
   - Analyze a real-world ethical issue (e.g., AI, genetic engineering) through the lens of science fiction.

Discussion & Oral Assessments

1. **Socratic Seminar Participation**
   - Graded on preparation, engagement, and depth of thought.
2. **Debate**
   - Structured debates on speculative or philosophical questions raised in the texts.
3. **Book Talk or Review**

- Present a persuasive review of a science fiction book.

4. **Podcast Episode**
    - Students record a discussion or analysis of a text or theme.

Collaborative & Project-Based Assessments

1. **Group Presentation**
    - Analyze a text or theme collaboratively and present findings.
2. **Literary Magazine or Anthology**
    - Compile student work into a themed publication.
3. **Interactive Timeline or Map**
    - Create a visual representation of events or settings in a story.
4. **Science Fiction Convention Simulation**
    - Students role-play as authors, critics, or fans presenting their work.

Reflective & Formative Assessments

1. **Reading Journals**
    - Ongoing reflections on readings, questions, and insights.
2. **Exit Tickets**
    - Quick written responses at the end of class to gauge understanding.
3. **Peer Reviews**
    - Students critique each other's work using rubrics.
4. **Self-Assessment**
    - Reflect on personal growth, strengths, and areas for improvement.

DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION (Acceleration/Enrichment):

Acceleration Strategies

For students who grasp concepts quickly and need more challenge:

1. **Independent Study Projects**
    - Allow students to explore advanced science fiction themes (e.g., transhumanism, quantum storytelling) or authors in depth.
2. **Advanced Literary Theory Integration**
    - Introduce concepts like postmodernism, structuralism, or speculative realism in analyzing texts.
3. **Dual Enrollment or Cross-Curricular Options**
    - Pair with philosophy, ethics, or science courses for deeper interdisciplinary exploration.
4. **Extended Reading Lists**
    - Include more complex or lesser-known works (e.g., Stanisław Lem, Octavia Butler, Samuel R. Delany).

5. **Leadership Roles in Group Work**
    - Assign roles like discussion facilitator, peer editor, or seminar leader.
6. **Creative Publication Opportunities**
    - Submit work to student literary magazines or science fiction writing contests.

Enrichment Strategies

To deepen understanding and engagement for all learners:

1. **Author Studies**
    - Explore the life, influences, and body of work of key science fiction authors.
2. **Genre Mashups**
    - Encourage students to write or analyze stories that blend science fiction with other genres (e.g., noir, romance, historical fiction).
3. **World-Building Workshops**
    - Dive into the mechanics of creating believable speculative worlds.
4. **Ethical Dilemma Debates**
    - Use scenarios from texts to debate real-world implications (e.g., cloning, AI governance).
5. **Multimedia Analysis**
    - Compare literature with film adaptations, graphic novels, or video games.
6. **Guest Speakers or Virtual Author Talks**
    - Invite science fiction writers or scholars to discuss their work and the genre.

Modification Strategies

To support students with learning differences or language needs:

1. **Simplified Texts or Summaries**
    - Provide accessible versions of complex readings or scaffolded summaries.
2. **Graphic Organizers**
    - Use visual tools to help students track plot, character development, and themes.
3. **Flexible Assessment Options**
    - Allow students to demonstrate understanding through art, audio, video, or performance.
4. **Chunked Assignments**
    - Break tasks into manageable steps with clear checkpoints.
5. **Guided Reading Questions**
    - Offer targeted prompts to support comprehension and critical thinking.
6. **Peer Support & Collaborative Learning**
    - Pair students for reading, discussion, or writing tasks to build confidence and skills.

7. **Use of Audiobooks & Text-to-Speech Tools**

    - Support auditory learners and those with reading challenges.

RESOURCES (Technology Based Resources, Text Resources, etc.):

Technology-Based Resources

1. **Digital Annotation Tools**
    - *Hypothesis*, *Kami*, or *Perusall* for collaborative text annotation and discussion.
2. **Learning Management Systems (LMS)**
    - Platforms like *Schoology* to organize materials, discussions, and assignments.
3. **AI & Chatbots**
    - Use tools like ChatGPT for brainstorming, writing prompts, or literary analysis support.
4. **Virtual Reality (VR) & Augmented Reality (AR)**
    - Explore immersive sci-fi environments or simulations (e.g., *Titans of Space*, *Mission to Mars*).
5. **Multimedia Creation Tools**
    - *Canva*, *Adobe Spark*, or *WeVideo* for student projects like trailers, posters, or video essays.
6. **Podcasting Platforms**
    - Use *Anchor* or *Soundtrap* for students to create sci-fi themed podcasts or audio reviews.
7. **Online Discussion Forums**
    - *Padlet*, *Flipgrid* or others for asynchronous discussions and peer feedback.
8. **Digital Libraries & Archives**
    - *Project Gutenberg*, *Internet Archive*, or *Libby* for free access to classic sci-fi texts.

Other Types of Sources

1. **Science & Ethics Articles**
    - Use journals like *Scientific American*, *Nature*, or *MIT Technology Review* to connect fiction with real-world science.
2. **Author Interviews & Talks**
    - TED Talks, YouTube interviews, or podcasts featuring sci-fi authors discussing their work and ideas.
3. **Online Courses & MOOCs**
    - Platforms like *Coursera*, *edX*, or *FutureLearn* offer courses on science fiction, literature, and speculative storytelling.
4. **Fan Communities & Wikis**
    - Explore *Fandom*, *Reddit*, or *TV Tropes* for genre conventions and fan interpretations.

5. **Creative Writing Resources**

   - *NaNoWriMo*, *Reedsy*, or *Writer's Digest* for writing prompts and publishing advice.

KEY VOCABULARY:

- **Metafiction** – Fiction that self-consciously addresses its own structure.
- **Soft science fiction** – Focus on social sciences, psychology, and philosophy.
- **Posthumanism** – Exploration of life beyond traditional human boundaries.
- **Cyberpunk** – Subgenre featuring high-tech and low-life themes.
- **Simulation** – Concept of reality as artificial or constructed.
- **Fragmentation** – Narrative technique reflecting disjointed or nonlinear storytelling.
- **Identity politics** – Exploration of race, gender, and sexuality in speculative contexts.
- **Ecocriticism** – Literary analysis focused on ecological and environmental themes.