

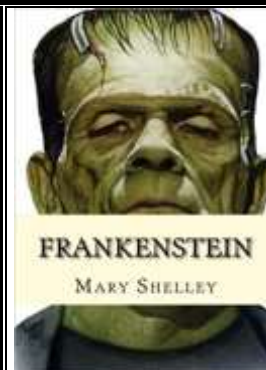
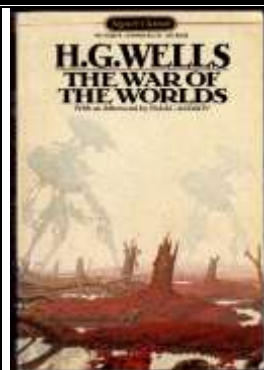
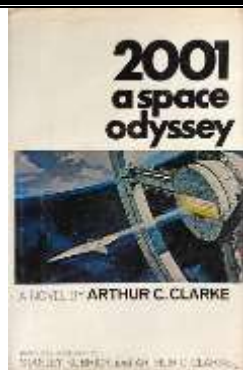
“Environmental Imagination in Alternative Spaces”

ENGL 257: Science Fiction and Fantasy

Instructor: Muhammad Manzur Alam/Fall 2021

What implications do the images of alternative futures in science fiction and fantasy hold for our environment in the present? What formal, literary, and representational devices do writers prefer for their speculations of a dystopian or an alternative world? How can environment-centered criticism, or ecocriticism, explore fundamental elements of such works? In sum, what questions can we ask of the genre of science fiction and fantasy, and how does the genre gaze back at us by asking questions of ourselves?

This summer we will tackle these questions through an ecocritical reading of short stories, novels, and films that fall under the category of science fiction and fantasy. Texts will include Kazuo Ishiguro’s *Never Let Me Go*, H. G. Wells’ *The War of the Worlds*, and Stanley Kubrick’s *2001: A Space Odyssey* (film).



“When I die, I’m leaving my body to science fiction.”

■ Steven Wright