Spring 2020 Course Description

Instructor: Rich Cooper  
Course: ENGL 235.501  
Title: World-Building

Description: In this course, we will engage fantasy and science fiction world-building from a variety of angles. In short, we will write in a wide array of genres in order to create fantasy worlds; to be clear, in this course we will NOT focus on completing your fantasy epic or your science fiction saga. If you merely want feedback on your epic trilogy, this is not the course for you; however, if you want to build a fully realized fictional world, then this course is certainly for you. All material produced for the course must be new material, so instead of focusing on your epics or sagas, we will write in a wide array of genres and subgenres: historical texts; fairy tales; mythologies; religious texts; political speeches; commencements; scientific treatises; personal diaries; etc. In this way, you will have created, by the end of this class, your own fully realized and realistic fictional worlds.

Proposed Readings: Wonderbook, by Jeff Vandermeer  
City of Saints & Madmen, by Jeff Vandermeer