

## **Summer 2020 Course Description**

**Instructor:** Apostolos Vasilakis

**Course:** ENGL 334

**Title:** Science Fiction Present and Past

**Description:** In this course we will focus on science fiction literature spanning from the 19th to the 21st century. Starting with Mary Shelley's novel Frankenstein we will read some of the most important writers and works of the genre, and will explore the evolution of the genre. We will discuss how these stories satisfy the human desire and imagination to explore other worlds, space, time, and our relationship to the other. We will see how these stories question our (often fixed) perception of what is human and inhuman, shape or influence our understanding of technological progress, and redefine the relationship between the fictional and the real.

**Proposed Readings:** Shelley: Frankenstein

Zamyatin: We

Capek: R.U.R.

Lem: Solaris

Dick: Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?

Le Guin: The Left Hand of Darkness

Delany: Nova

Okorafor: Binti