

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU

EN 280:
CLIMATE FICTION :
FROM APOCALYPSE TO UTOPIA

SPRING 2019

Instructor: Prof. Wyble
Office location: 206-B Henry Hall
Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:50-1:50 (additional Monday, Wednesday, and/or Friday office hours to be announced weekly)
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DESCRIPTION

We are now living on a planet suffering from the initial effects of climate change. Let us explore how literature of different genres may serve as our guide as we begin to imagine how we might live with, and possibly mitigate, these effects in the future.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

*Please purchase the paperback editions listed below. No ebooks or digital texts allowed in class.

1. Hunter, Megan. *The End We Start From*. Grove, 2017. ISBN: 978-0802128591
2. Orsekes, Naomi and Erik M. Conway. *The Collapse of Western Civilization: A View from the Future*. Columbia UP, 2014. ISBN: 978-0231169547
3. Martin, Mark, ed. *I'm With the Bears: Short Stories From a Damaged Planet*. Verso, 2011. ISBN: 978-1844677443
4. Jemisin, N. K. *The Fifth Season*. Orbit, 2015. ISBN: 978-0316229296
5. Robinson, Kim Stanley. *New York 2140*. Orbit, 2017. ISBN: 978-0316262316
6. A journal.
7. You will be required to rent or purchase Avi Lewis's film, *This Changes Everything*.

*Additional readings will be made available via Canvas. You will be required to print out hard copies of these readings.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The following learning outcomes are taken from the section of the 2018-2019 Undergraduate General Catalog entitled "General Education Learning Outcomes":

1. Demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for the major types, or genres of literature;
2. Demonstrate skills and techniques necessary to successfully execute critical and creative literary papers; and

3. Identify and discuss literary themes and universal concepts present in literary texts, including, but not limited to, the exploration of truth, faith, and ethics.

CHARACTERISTICS OF MARIANIST EDUCATION

- Educate for formation in faith
- Provide an integral quality education
- Educate in family spirit
- Educate for service, justice and peace
- Educate for adaptation and change

REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and Participation (including quizzes, in-class writing assignments, peer-review workshops, class discussions, group discussion leaders, etc.)	20%
Journal	15%
Essay 1	15%
Mid-Term Exam	15%
Essay 2	15%
Final Exam	20%
TOTAL	100%

POLICIES

- No electronic devices allowed during class time. This includes phones, laptops, tablets, ereaders, etc.
- I follow the official CUH attendance policy as stated in the 2018-2019 Undergraduate Catalog: "Unexcused absences equivalent to more than a week of classes may lead to a grade reduction for the course." I determine whether or not an absence is excused. Please provide documentation for any absences that may possibly be excused. Grade reductions due to absences will be calculated as follows:
 - 3 unexcused absences = 5 percentage points deducted from final grade
 - 4 unexcused absences = 10 percentage points deducted from final grade
 - 5 unexcused absences = 15 percentage points deducted from final grade
 - 6 unexcused absences = 20 percentage points deducted from final grade
 - 7 unexcused absences = 25 percentage points deducted from final grade
 - 8 unexcused absences = 30 percentage points deducted from final grade
 - More than 8 unexcused absences = automatic failure of class
- Every three unexcused tardies (and unexcused early departures) count as one unexcused absence.
- I expect you to be prepared to stay in the classroom for the entire class period.
- You will not be able to make up in-class participation assignments you miss due to unexcused tardies or absences.
- Please retain all graded assignments returned until the end of the semester; English majors should save graded copies of their essays in all English classes, insofar as a subset of these essays will be required for the Senior Seminar portfolio in English 499.

SCHEDULE

(subject to change; additional readings and films may be included)

*All reading assignments must be completed before class on the day they are listed.

Week 1

Tuesday, 1/15

- Discuss: syllabus
- Discuss: introductions

Thursday, 1/17

- Watch: Kathy Jetñil-Kijiner, “Dear Matafele Peinam” (in class)
- Read: Megan Hunter, *The End We Start From* (1-34)

Week 2

Tuesday, 1/22

- Read: Megan Hunter, *The End We Start From* (35-97)

Thursday, 1/24

- Read: Megan Hunter, *The End We Start From* (98-134)

Week 3

Tuesday, 1/29

- Watch (before class): Avi Lewis, *This Changes Everything*
- Watch: Craig Santos Perez, “Praise Song for Oceania” (in class)

Thursday, 1/31

- Read: Orsekes and Conway, *The Collapse of Western Civilization* (1-34)

Week 4

Tuesday, 2/5

- Read: Orsekes and Conway, *The Collapse of Western Civilization* (35-52)
- Read: Margaret Atwood, “Time Capsule Found on the Dead Planet” (*I’m With the Bears* 191-193)

Thursday, 2/7

- Read: Bill McKibben, Introduction (*I’m With the Bears* 1-5)
- Helen Simpson, “Diary of an Interesting Year” (*I’m With the Bears* 101-115)

Week 5

Tuesday, 2/12

- David Mitchell, “The Siphoners” (*I’m With the Bears* 129-141)
- Paolo Bacigalupi, “The Tamarisk Hunter” (*I’m With the Bears* 171-190)

Thursday, 2/14

- T. C. Boyle, “The Siskiyou, July 1989” (*I’m With the Bears* 1-33)

Week 6

Tuesday, 2/19

- Topic Proposal for Essay 1 due
- Read: N. K. Jemisin, *The Fifth Season* (1-76)

Thursday, 2/21

- Read: N. K. Jemisin, *The Fifth Season* (77-149)

Week 7

Tuesday, 2/26

- Read: N. K. Jemisin, *The Fifth Season* (150-231)

Thursday, 2/28

- Read: N. K. Jemisin, *The Fifth Season* (232-296)
- Submit: Topic Proposal for Essay 1 due (in class)

Week 8

Tuesday, 3/5

- Workshop: Draft of Essay 1 due for Peer-Review (in-class)

Thursday, 3/7

- Read: N. K. Jemisin, *The Fifth Season* (297-387)

Week 9

Tuesday, 3/12

- Submit: Final edition of Essay 1 due
- Read: N. K. Jemisin, *The Fifth Season* (388-449)

Thursday, 3/14

- Write: Mid-Term Exam (in class)
- Submit: Journal, Part 1

Week 10

Tuesday, 3/19

- Read: Kim Stanley Robinson, *New York 2140*

Thursday, 3/21

- Read: Kim Stanley Robinson, *New York 2140*

Spring Break

Week 11

Tuesday, 4/2

- Read: Kim Stanley Robinson, *New York 2140*

Thursday, 4/4

- Read: Kim Stanley Robinson, *New York 2140*

Week 12

Tuesday, 4/9

- Read: Kim Stanley Robinson, *New York 2140*

Thursday, 4/11

- Read: Kim Stanley Robinson, *New York 2140*

Week 13

Tuesday, 4/16

- Submit: Topic Proposal for Essay 2 due (in class)
- Read: Kim Stanley Robinson, *New York 2140*

Thursday, 4/18

- Read: Kim Stanley Robinson, *New York 2140*

Week 14

Tuesday, 4/23

- Read: Lydia Millet, “Zoogoing” (*I’m With the Bears* 35-54)

Thursday, 4/25

- Nathaniel Rich, “Hermie” (*I’m With the Bears* 91-99)

Week 15

Tuesday, 4/20

- Workshop: Draft of Essay 2 due for Peer-Review Workshop

Thursday, 5/2

- Final Exam review
- Course evaluations

FINAL EXAM:

- Monday, May 6, 8:30 AM-10:30 AM
- Submit: Final edition of Essay 2 due at the Final Exam
- Submit: Journal, Part 2