

# English Undergraduate Course Description Packet May Intersession 2017

Updated 04-20-2017

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## ENGL 3283, Pop Culture & Pop Genres: Religious Themes in Science Fiction

Teacher: W. Quinn

### **Texts Required (subject to availability):**

“The Star”

Canticle for Leibowitz

A Case of Conscience

Perelandra

For I Am a Jealous People

Dune

Childhood’s End

Project Pope

Gather, Darkness

The Handmaid’s Tale

American Gods

**Description:** Presence and active participation is expected for all classes. As a “final exam” project, each student will also be required to present the entire class with two 3-5 pp. written reports about two sf novels not included on the syllabus that should be.

### **Grading:**

Participation = 80% (Un-excused absences will require an incremental grade penalty.)

Final Project = 20%

## ENGL 3903, Special Topics: So You Want to Be a Creative Writer?

Teacher: G. Davis

**Texts Required:** N/A

**Description:** During this course, students will gain understanding and experience with submitting the creative work that they have produced individually and in workshops. Students will conduct preliminary research on publication opportunities and post-graduation prospects that fit both their aesthetic tastes and professional ambitions as writers. We will also address how to find (or create) an active literary community after graduation, including applying to competitive graduate programs in creative writing.

**Major requirements for undergraduates:** multiple presentations on research findings, final portfolio, enthusiastic participation.

**ENGL 4593, Studies in Gender, Sexuality, and Literature: Biblical Figures in the Quran: Mary, Jesus, Moses, and More****Teacher: M. Kahf****Texts Required:**

Barbara Freyer Stowasser, *Women in the Quran, Traditions, and Interpretation*. Oxford UP, 1996 (revised). 216 pp. ISBN 0195111486.

John Kaltner, *Ishmael Instructs Isaac: An Introduction to the Quran for Bible Readers*. Michael Glazier, 1999. 312 pp. ISBN 814658822.

Online reading of various translations of the Quran & Bible.

**Description:** Examining the Quran as literary texts, students will explore its treatment of figures and stories that are also found in the Bible, and will read scholarly analysis that examines the Quranic presentation of Adam and Eve, Joseph, Mary, and others figures, including analysis of gender in the Quran. Students will also explore the different literary style and structure of the Quran in terms of how these affect its presentations of these figures.

**Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates:** assignments will be designed to be suitable for a 10-day intersession course

**Essays, exams, and other major requirements for graduate students at the 5000 level:** assignments will be suitable for a 10-day intersession course

**Special requirements for seminar students at the 5000 level:** assignments will be suitable for a 10-day intersession course at the graduate level.

**DV (meets diversity requirement)**

**ENGL 4603, Special Studies: History of the Book****Teacher: J.B. Smith****Textbooks Required:**

*The Book: A Global History*, ed. Michael F. Suarez and H. R. Woodhuysen (Oxford, 2014). 9780199679416

**Description:** This course invites students to learn and think critically about writing technologies, from cuneiform tablets to the Kindle. This course won't be like other English courses, as it will have a strong hands on element. We will be spending half of our time in the Special Collections Library, examining and studying objects from our own archive, including cuneiform, papyrus fragments, medieval manuscripts, early printed books, and all manner of later books. We will learn how writing technology affects literature and literary interpretation. Our digital age, as we will see, is only just the most recent change in reading habits and the materiality of the written word. This is the

first time in recent memory that a course like this has been taught at the University of Arkansas.

**Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates:** attendance; vigorous participation; one presentation; final project.