

ENGL 2233 001

Imagining Otherwise - Speculative Fiction of the Future

General Information

Instructor: Jonathan Newell jnewell@langara.ca (Office: A203)

Course Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30-6:20 pm

Credits: 3 (for information about transfer credit, visit bctransferguide.ca)

Course Description

The course will consider how works of speculative and science fiction call on us to examine and reevaluate our perceptions and constructions of gender, sexuality, race, class, ability and disability, and our relationship with the more-than-human world, engaging with queer, Afrofuturist, indigenous, crip, and anti-capitalist perspectives. It will ask students to critically engage with issues of progress, sustainability, inequality, identity, technology, and time. Apart from a variety of essays analyzing the stories and novels in the course - including Frank Herbert's *Dune*, Ursula Le Guin's *The Dispossessed*, and short stories by Octavia Butler - students will also produce a creative response related to the themes and futures of the texts, showcasing their ability to “imagine otherwise” and speculate productively themselves.

Course Texts

- Octavia Butler – *Bloodchild and Other Stories*
- Frank Herbert – *Dune*
- Ursula K. Le Guin – *The Dispossessed*
- Nnedi Okorafor - *Binti*

***course texts are subject to change before the semester begins**