

Undergraduate Course Description Packet
January Intersession 2020
Updated: 10/29/2019

ENGL 3283-001, Topics in Popular Culture and Popular Genres
ENGL 4933-005, Studies in Popular Culture and Popular Genres

Instructor: M. K. Booker

Textbooks Required:

Digital textbook will be supplied free of charge.

Description: This course is intended to provide an advanced survey of science fiction film, with an emphasis on American science fiction films from the 1950s to the present. We will pay special attention to the cultural history of this important genre and to the ways in which it resonates with trends in American history and society as a whole.

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates: Because of the brevity of intersession classes, there will be no formal critical essay. Students will write a series of brief responses to films seen in class. There will be a final exam.

ENGL 3263-001 African Americans in Film, ENGL 3853 Topics in African American Literature:
The Black Collegian in the Popular Imagination

ENGL 3853-002 Topics in African American Literature and Culture: ***The Black Collegian in the Popular Imagination***

ENGL 4853-005 Studies in African American Literature and Culture: ***The Black Collegian in the Popular Imagination***

Instructor: C. Bailey

Textbooks Required:

Naylor, Gloria, *Mama Day*. ISBN 978-0679721819

Nottage, Lynn. *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* ISBN 978-1559364423

Ward, Jesmyn. *Salvage the Bones*. ISBN 978-1608196265

***Other digital texts may be required

Description: From Chris Rock sketches to Kanye West lyrics, this class analyzes the identity politics and often-unstated respectability politics associated with educational advancement for blacks. We will apply the concept of liminality to texts centering on black characters and their relationship to educational

institutions in order to emphasize the rites of passage associated with attaining formal education for Black Americans. The course is organized chronologically so first, we will examine texts that explore the decision to attend college. Next, we will examine characters who are enrolled in college, and finally, we will examine characters after they have transitioned into professional careers. Some of the course films include *He Got Game*, *School Daze*, *Drumline*, and *The Great Debaters*.

Requirements: Response papers, one conference paper, one exam