

[THIS IS A SAMPLE PROPOSAL-ALL NAMES ARE FICTIONAL]

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GEK 1040
Project Proposal
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Science Fiction as Literature

Purpose

This project, written in conventional essay form, aims to convince its readers that Science Fiction is worthy of consideration as “serious” Literature.

Texts

I will illustrate my project using three science fiction novels, Frank Herbert’s *Dune*, Isaac Asimov’s *Foundation*, and Low Kah Kiong’s *Futropolis*. I will first look at the literary skill which is involved in these novels by analyzing the texts using the Landow and Lodge readings which we addressed early in the semester. Next, I will discuss the social purpose of these novels. I will use the essays by Matthew Arnold and F.R. Leavis in order to discuss the possibility of science fiction as a morally improving force. However, I will disagree with Leavis’s implication that popular writing such as science fiction is not worthy to be called Literature or studied as such. In making my argument I will also draw selectively

Bibliography

- Arnold, Matthew. "Culture and Anarchy." *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: A Reader*. 2nd Ed. Ed. John Storey. Athens: U of Georgia P, 1998. 7-12.
- Asimov, Isaac. *Foundation*. New York: Harpers, 1981.
- Herbert, Frank. *Dune*. London: Collins, 1975.
- Leavis, F.R. "From Mass Civilisation and Minority Culture." *History in Our Hands: A Critical Anthology of Writings on Literature, Culture and Politics from the 1930s*. Ed. Patrick Deane. London: Leicester UP, 1998. 16-25.
- Low Kah Kiong. *Futropolis*. Singapore: Times, 1998.
- Turner, Rosalind. *Reading Science Fiction*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1994.

Timeline

- 1-15 October: Research—collation and reading of important documents
15 October: Plan project
22 October: Write first draft
29 October: Revise first draft, exchange with friend for peer review
3-10 November: Final proofreading