

## COURSE SCHEDULE

“I wisely started with a map, and made the story fit...The other way about lands one in confusions and impossibilities.” *Letters*, ed. Humphrey Carpenter with Christopher Tolkien (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2000 pg 177

### **Week One (2/7): On Worldbuilding**

What We Talk About When We Talk About Worldbuilding: a taxonomy.  
A discussion of King Kong and perhaps a capsule history of Early Worldbuilding.

For next week: Read first nine chapters of DRACULA. Be prepared to talk about Stoker’s worldbuilding.

Read *The Art of Worldbuilding*

<http://blogs.middlebury.edu/mediacp/2009/06/17/the-art-of-worldbuilding/>

Supplemental reading (for those who just can’t get enough): Check out Farah Mendehlson’s taxonomy of fantasy at <http://www.farahsf.com/extract.htm>

Writing assignment one.

### **Week Two (2/14): What Manner of a Man is This?**

Some More Comments On Worldbuilding

A discussion on DRACULA.

For those interested in a unique reading of Dracula check out Wicke’s *Vampiric Typewriting* on Stellar.

For next week: Read *A Princess of Mars* (Burroughs). Graduate students read “*The only good Indian is a dead Indian*” on Stellar

### **Week Three (2/21): A Southern Gentleman of the Highest Type**

A Discussion of *A Princess of Mars*

For next week: Watch *The Terminator*. Graduate students read *Time Travel, Primal Scene and the Critical Dystopia* on Stellar

### **Week Four (2/28): Come with me if you want to live**

A discussion of *The Terminator*

For next week: watch all five episodes of *The Fades* on Amazon Live

[http://www.amazon.com/Episode-1/dp/B006UUB8PA/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=instant-video&ie=UTF8&qid=1360244850&sr=1-1&keywords=the+fades](http://www.amazon.com/Episode-1/dp/B006UUB8PA/ref=sr_1_1?s=instant-video&ie=UTF8&qid=1360244850&sr=1-1&keywords=the+fades)

(We might also watch the live-action tv show *Witchblade: The Pilot* and episodes 3, 4, 7 (Diplopia, Sacrifice, Periculum but that will be depended on how well we're doing with time)

Graduate students read: Sara Crosby's *The Cruellest Season* and Greven's *Throwing Down the Gauntlet* (hand-outs)

Finish your first world!

### **Week Five (3/7): My Life is Yours for the Taking**

A discussion of *The Fades* (and maybe *Witchblade*).

### WORLD ONE DUE

Next week: read *Batman and V for Vendetta*.

Graduate students read: *From Pulp to Superhero* and *I for Integrity: (Inter)Subjectivities and Sidekicks in Alan Moore's V for Vendetta and Frank Miller's Batman: The Dark Knight Returns*

### **Week Six (3/14): The Dark Knight Returns**

A Discussion of *Batman and V for Vendetta*

Next week: Watch *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* and the first three episodes from *Avatar: The Last Airbender* found on Amazon [http://www.amazon.com/The-Boy-in-the-Iceberg/dp/B000GK68EG/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?s=instant-video&ie=UTF8&qid=1360246935&sr=1-2&keywords=the+last+airbender](http://www.amazon.com/The-Boy-in-the-Iceberg/dp/B000GK68EG/ref=sr_1_2?s=instant-video&ie=UTF8&qid=1360246935&sr=1-2&keywords=the+last+airbender)

Graduate students read: *Globalization and hybridization in cultural products* and *Gender Imaginations in Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon and the Wuxia World*

### **Week Seven (3/21): A World of Tigers and Dragons, Full of Corruption**

A discussion of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* and *Avatar: The Last Airbender*

Next class read: *The Fellowship of the Rings*. Graduate students read: Tolkien essay *On Fairy Stories*

### **Week Eight (3/28): Spring Break**

Remember World 2 Due next week.

### **Week Nine (4/4): And in the Darkness Bind Them**

A discussion of *The Fellowship of the Ring*

Next Week Watch *Star Wars: A New Hope*

WORLD TWO DUE

**Week Ten (4/11): Make-Up Class: “When I left you, I was but the learner, now I am the master.”**

Discuss *Star Wars*

**Week Eleven (4/18):**

**Week Twelve (4/25):**

**Week Thirteen (5/2):**

WORLD THREE DUE

**Week Fourteen (5/9):**

**Week Fifteen (5/16): No Place Like Home**

Concluding comments