This course offers an introduction to world literature of the modern and contemporary periods, focusing especially on the nineteenth, twentieth, and/or twenty-first centuries. Students will study divergent global literary traditions, including a focus on their relationship to English literature; they will also discuss the histories of cross-cultural contact, colonization, and exchange through which such traditions encountered and shaped each other.

For this Summer 2023 course we will be reading critically acclaimed short novels and stories from across the globe, including from Russia, Mexico, Egypt, and the United States. These literary texts are engaging and thought-provoking. We will examine them to further our understanding of humanity’s divergent and shared ways of dealing with life challenges in an array of cultural contexts.
EGL 121: Global Film Traditions
Instructor: Julia Brown (julia.r.brown@stonybrook.edu)

How does film express cultural fears and imagine possible futures? How does fear shape futures, and vice versa? Whose futures and fears do we get to experience? This course will introduce tools and strategies for critically analyzing film across different cultural traditions. We will be analyzing the films’ narrative elements, the status of the camera, sound, genre, costuming, and lighting, as well as ideology and historical/cultural contexts. We will read scholarship and background texts to give us a better understanding of how to view filmic works closely and contextualize their importance. The films in this course span time periods and global contexts, but all will engage in questions of futures and fears, and often the overlap of the two.

SBCs: GLO, HUM
Summer Session II - online
“To develop a complete mind: Study the science of art; Study the art of science. Learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else.” – Leonardo Da Vinci

In this course we will explore the relationship between literature, science, philosophy, and psychology to gain a deeper understanding of our experience and our place in the world. What is “scientific imagination”? How are “beauty” and “symmetry” defined in science and art? Is there complete silence? How does the language of mathematics come together with the figurative language of the poet to conceptualize a sense of the universe and to define reality?

We will read and discuss, Leonardo Da Vinci’s Notebooks, Alex Wragge-Morley’s book Aesthetic Science, Margaret Sommerville’s book The Ethical Imagination, as well as articles in the Physics journal, discuss the fascinating conversation between Einstein and Tagore, and the role of sound recordings in storytelling. We will also write poetry inspired by scientific discoveries.

**Catalogue description:** An introduction to the status and role of literature as it engages with scientific and/or technological concepts. Students will consider the principles and concepts that form the basis of knowledge in the humanities and develop awareness of the contexts (historical, social, ethical and disciplinary) in which literature and scientific knowledge emerge. Students will also develop the verbal and written skills to articulate valid arguments on the relationship between literature, science and technology. **Prerequisite:** WRT 101_DEC: H; SBC: CER, STAS; 3 credits

**Contact:** carmen.bugan@stonybrook.edu
Cinematic World Building (EGL 194 Mastering the Movies)
Summer Session 1 (online, May 22– July 3; SBCs: GLO, HUM)
Instructor: Robert Balun (robert.balun@stonybrook.edu)

In this course we will consider the ways in which films and television shows construct distinct worlds through visual techniques and storytelling. By turning a critical eye to the concept of world building, we will seek to understand how this technique works, as well as how this aesthetic inquiry helps to shed light upon, and gain greater understanding of, our own world and how we move through it.

In addition to the relevant examples of world building found in the science fiction and fantasy genres, we will also consider films that more closely resemble this world. We will also crowd source supplemental examples from the expertise of our class. We might even examine a video game or two. Those with an interest in sci-fi, fantasy, RPGs, video games, game design, aesthetics, and generally cool things are encouraged to enroll!

In addition to essays and scholarship, potential media to include: 8½ (Fellini), Adventure Time (Ward), Atlantics (Diop), The Big Lebowski (Joel & Ethan Cohen), Blade Runner (Scott), Brick (Johnson), The Conversation (Coppola), The Empire Strikes Back (Lucas/Kershner), Everything Everywhere All at Once (Daniels), The Holy Mountain (Jodorowsky), Ikiru (Kurosawa), Lovecraft Country (Green), Nomadland (Zhao), Nope (Peele), The Shining (Kubrick), Spirited Away (Miyazaki), Stalker (Tarkovsky), Super Mario World (Miyamoto), Tigers Are Not Afraid (López), Twin Peaks (Lynch), Under the Cherry Moon (Prince)
This course surveys the literature of the United States between the Civil War and World War II (1865–1945). Over eight weeks, we will examine the literature and literary trends of this period, from regionalism to realism and naturalism to modernism, alongside the country’s tumultuous history: from the end of slavery and Southern Reconstruction to the rise of industrial capitalism in the Gilded Age, immigration and migration at the turn of the century, the Roaring Twenties and Dirty Thirties, and the country’s transformation into a world power between the World Wars. As we read fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, we will make connections to prevailing themes of the American experience: democracy, national and international identity, the changing social and political status of women, ethnic and racial dimensions of social and political life, class tensions, normative and queer sexuality, and the wages of scientific and technological progress.
English 266: The 20th-Century Novel (Online)
Summer 2023 (5/22 - 7/15)
Email: brian.eberle@stonybrook.edu

“History…is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake” – Ulysses (1922)

This class will examine major works and developments in the modern and contemporary novel by looking at how specific 20th-century novels grapple with historical trauma. If, as Stephen Dedalus remarks in James Joyce’s Ulysses, history is a “nightmare,” then how does the novel respond to the twentieth century’s many nightmares—colonialism, political upheaval, world wars, social injustice to name just a few? How does the novel shape our view of the individual and collective histories it might work to record or recover? In what ways does it imagine alternative histories and predict better futures?

This summer, we’ll look at how our course texts, short novels, actively engage with the 20th century, in terms of theme and form. Our reading list may include texts by Joseph Conrad, Virginia Woolf, Chinua Achebe, Martin Amis, Zadie Smith, or others. Assessment will be based on short reading responses/discussion board activities, creative reflection assignments, and a final project.

SBC: HUM  Instructor: Brian Eberle
EGL 308: Haruki Murakami

Dreamscapes, The Beatles, and a bunch of cats: a study of select works by the acclaimed contemporary author

Instructor: Lindsey Pelucacci
lindsey.pelucacci@stonybrook.edu

Summer Session II
Online, July 10 - Aug 19, 2023

SBC: HFA+
This course will study various forms of pop culture related to the American imagining of the Old West in the frontier period, as well as the past 20 years. Specifically, we will look at African American participation in the forming of the Old West, particularly how it was constructed as a mythology through visual, performance, and literary culture. We will study various artifacts in this area, including traveling performances, photography, first person narratives, and song/poetry. We will then examine how these have been updated in a global, technological society through film, song composition, music videos, fashion, and TV series.

How were Black Americans depicted as participants in the forming of the Old West, or how were they excluded? What strategies did Black frontiersmen use to ensure they were part of the re-imagining of America after the Civil War? Why has there been such a strong resurgence of Western mythology in Black cultural production since the turn of the twenty-first century?

Specific Items of Study

The Life and Adventures of Nat Love (a memoir)
Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show
Bill Pickett portrait photography
Jordan Peele's Nope
HBO’s The Watchmen
The Harder They Fall
L'il Nas X

SUMMER I
May 22-July 3, 2023

LEA BORENSTEIN
CONSPIRACIES
IN FICTION

EGL 317 - ENERGY HUMANITIES & LIT
SUMMER SESSION I - MAY 22ND – JULY 3RD
SBC: HFA+, SPK, TECH

In the Summer of 2020, Politico magazine proclaimed we are “living in the golden age of conspiracy theory.” Is such a statement true? If so, when did this supposed golden age begin? Conspiracies about 9/11 flooded the internet. Questions about JFK’s assassination captured and still capture attention. Once-ridiculed conspiracies turned out to be true: oil companies denying climate change, government surveillance, and the atomic bomb. Rather than consider conspiracies as new fascinations for the public, this course will endeavor to answer why conspiracies excite, interest, and scare? We will also uncover how conspiracies influence political discourse, environmental issues, and racial tensions.

We will devote attention to Philip K Dick, Octavia Butler, Haruki Murakami, Margret Atwood, and Ray Bradbury. Further media may include The Matrix, The X Files, and There Will Be Blood. Depending on interest, we may also supplement our learning with video games. Coursework will include regular discussion posts, a creative assignment, and a final paper.

For more information please contact: anthony.gomez@stonybrook.edu
What you will learn:

- Ideological underpinnings of British imperialism
- Theories of colonialism & empire
- How to engage critically with these topics

What you will read:

- Imperial writing such as *Heart of Darkness* and *A Passage to India*.
- Imperial afterlives: *Wide Sargasso Sea* and *The God of Small Things*.
- Important concepts by authors like Kincaid, Said, Fanon and others.

What you will write:

- Discussion posts & comments to peers based on readings
- An essay that supports an interpretation of any of the course readings