

THE GOLDEN AGE OF SCIENCE FICTION: THE WORLD OF "IF..."
IRP, Spring 2015, Syllabus

Coordinator: Lucy Sacks

A final syllabus will be sent to class members before the first session.

Text: Silverberg, Robert, editor, *The Science Fiction Hall of Fame*; Vol. One; Orb Books, 2005, ISBN 0765305372; \$15.35

WEEK 1

INTRO- HISTORY

"A MARTIAN ODYSSEY" 1934

WEEK 2 ALIENS

REPORT STAR TREK-

"MARS IS HEAVEN" (BRADBURY) 1948

"ARENA" (F Brown) 1944

WEEK 3 SOCIAL ISSUES

"THE COLD EQUATIONS" (Godwin) 1954

"THE WEAPON SHOP" (Van Vogt) 1942

WEEK 4 SOCIAL COMMENTARY

The Roads Must Roll (Heinlein) 1940

Scanners Live in Vain (C. Smith) 1948

WEEK 5 SOCIAL SATIRE

"COMING ATTRACTION" (F. Leiber)

TO BE DETERMINED

WEEK 6 SOCIAL SATIRE/SOCIAL INQUIRY

"NIGHTFALL" (Asimov) 1941

"COUNTRY OF THE KIND" (Knight) 1955

WEEK 7 PARENTHOOD

"ITS A GOOD LIFE Bixby 1953

"MIMSY WERE THE BOROGROVES" *Kuttner & Moore* 1943

VIDEO of "ITS A GOOD LIFE" in CLASS (20 min)

WEEK 8 RELIGION AND SF

“THE QUEST FOR ST AQUIN” (Boucher) 1951

“A ROSE FOR ECCLESIASTES” (Zelazney) 1963

“THE NINE BILLION NAMES OF GOD” (Clarke)

WEEK 9 MAN AS CREATOR

“MICROCOSMIC GOD (STURGEON)”

INTERNET -- THE LAST QUESTION (Asimov)

http://www.multivax.com/last_question.html

WEEK 10 MAN AS CREATOR - ROBOTS (ANDROIDS)

THE 3 LAWS OF ROBOTICS:

STORIES:

ISAAC ASIMOV ETC TO BE DETERMINED

WEEK 11 ANDROIDS & Robots CONTINUED

STORIES

**FONDLY FAHRENHEIT (Bester) 1954

** *HUDDLING PLACE* (Simak) 1944

“RUR” Karel Capek 1921

<http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/c/capek/karel/rur/>

WEEK 12 SCI -FI MOVIE

DISCUSSION: *BLADE RUNNER* - the movie