

Racing the Future: Multi-Ethnic Science and Speculative Fiction (Hum/En)

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How might science and speculative fiction address the very real complexities and challenges of the contemporary world? In *Racing the Future*, students will study science and speculative fiction by Black, ethnic, and Indigenous artists working in literature, comic book arts, film, music, performance, and visual culture. Beginning by highlighting the historical roots of science fiction dating back to the nineteenth century, this course then focuses on the different ways that artists and writers of color have used science fiction to critique contemporary forms of racial difference and imagine alternate futures. Of particular focus will be the intersections of race with gender and sexuality. Additional topics will include Afrofuturism, Afro-pessimism, utopia, futurity, history, feminism, indigeneity, subjectivity, and blackness.