

**English 1028G (001):
The Storyteller's Art II: The Rise of the Machines**

Department of English & Writing Studies
Western University
Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30-1:30, PAB

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Course Description

Where do I end and my phone or laptop or tablet begin? From Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* to Janelle Monáe's dirty computers, our technological prostheses have always been more than simply tools for carrying out the tasks that we have assigned them. They have been, too, the instruments by which we have sought to define what it means to be human in a world in which our microprocessor-driven devices seem to have acquired a mysterious agency, a *liveliness* all of their own. This course will study novels and a short film that have sought to explore the social, political, and psychological dimensions of our increasingly intimate relationship with the technological realm. What fears and desires do these new life forms elicit in us? How do they compel us to think differently about what it means to work, think, love? And where, in the future, will we draw the line between what we want from them and what they might want from us?

Asimov, Isaac. I, Robot(Bantam)

Casson, Leslie E. A Writer's Handbook(Broadview)

Dick, Philip K. Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?

6. Once the tutorial has been completed, please download and save the certificate (you can reuse it for any course that requires the tutorial).
7. Click the Assignments tab in the Owl site for English 1028G and choose the link for “Academic Integrity Tutorial.” Upload your certificate using the attach files option.

The Academic Integrity Tutorial is mandatory in order for you to complete and pass the course; you will not be able to submit any assignment until the unit is complete. **If you have completed this tutorial for another course, you may upload the certificate you have on file.** The due date for uploading your certificate is Tuesday, January 31 at 4:30 PM.

Quizzes

Four short quizzes will be conducted in class at the beginning of lectures on randomly selected dates. Each quiz will be made up of five questions testing your comprehension of the assigned texts and recent lecture materials. Of these four quizzes, we will choose the best three (each worth 3.33%), to count toward your final grade, for a total of 10%.

Passage Analysis

A Passage Analysis is an assignment in which students get to develop their close reading and interpretative skills in preparation for the longer essay assignment at the end of term.

Students will be assigned an excerpt from a longer work previously studied in class. Read this passage carefully several times and provide a well-documented analysis of its structural features (its use of character, plot, setting, point of view, etc.) and its narrative style, including attention to word choice, figurative language, and use of symbolism. How does this passage contribute to the work’s overarching themes and patterns of imagery? What makes this passage important to our understanding of the work as a whole?

The Passage Analysis should be approximately 1000 words or three-four pages in length. It will constitute 20% of your final grade. Further details regarding format and how to submit the assignment (including late penalties), can be found in the Course Assignments section below.

Essay

Students will choose from one of four essay topics to be circulated two weeks prior to the assignment’s due date. Each topic will provide an opportunity for the student to develop his or her analytical and research skills, combining a close and detailed reading of the text in question with a knowledge of the secondary criticism related to its study.

interpretation of the text, and should read as such. Please consider using an electronic search tool, such as the MLA Bibliography, to find journal articles.

Your essay should be approximately 2500 words or eight-ten pages in length. It will constitute 30% of your final grade. Further details regarding format and how to submit the assignment (including late penalties), can be found in the Course Assignments section below.

Tutorial Participation

In addition to the lectures, all students will be assigned to a tutorial group of approximately twenty students, facilitated by a Teaching Assistant. These tutorial groups are, in many ways, the heart and soul of a large lecture course such as English 1028G, affording students opportunities to raise questions and pursue issues introduced in the weekly lectures, and to share their insights with their fellow students. The tutorial groups will also provide a venue for instruction regarding researching, organizing, and writing an effective, university-level research essay, complete with secondary criticism and a list of works cited.

Participation in tutorial will count for 5% of your final grade. Participation means arriving for your tutorial on time, having read the assigned materials, and regularly volunteering informed, thoughtful, and helpful replies to questions and/or leading group discussions, as arranged by the Teaching Assistant.

In order for the tutorial groups to promote a free exchange of ideas and opinions, all students are expected to treat each other and their Teaching Assistants with dignity and respect. This means listening carefully to each others' contributions to the group discussion, and allowing each group member an opportunity to express his or her own point of view, with the objective of sharing and enriching our understanding of the literature we are studying.

Course Assignments

Essay and Passage Analysis assignments will be written according to standard essay style: double-spaced, 12 point font, and all margins set at 1 inch. A title-page is not necessary, but the first page must include the title of the essay, your name, the course number, the professor's name, teaching assistant's name, and the date.

Originality of argument, the ability to support the argument with reference to the primary text, rhetorical persuasiveness, syntax, grammar, spelling, and accurate bibliographic citation will all be factors in the grading of the essay.

All bibliographic notation will employ the MLA method of parenthetical notation and a works cited page. Please consult a standard style guide such as that found in Casson's *A Writers Handbook* or the

The full policy is set out here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Religious Accommodation:

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

Plagiarism Checking

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Academic Support & Engagement <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

February	2	Asimov, I, Robot
	7	Asimov, I, Robot
	9	Asimov, I, Robot
	14	Dick, Do Androids Dream
	16	Dick, Do Androids Dream
	21	Reading Week
	23	Reading Week
	28	Dick, Do Androids Dream
March	2	Dick, Do Androids Dream
	7	Gibson, Neuromancer
	9	Gibson, Neuromancer
	14	Gibson, Neuromancer
	16	Gibson, Neuromancer
	21	Newitz, Autonomous
	23	Newitz, Autonomous
	28	Newitz, Autonomous

April	4	Monae, Dirty Computer
	6	REVIEW