Science Fiction: A Bibliography of
Resources in the Erwin Library, Wayne Community College

Science Fiction is defined by Webster’s Dictionary as fiction dealing principally with the impact of actual or imagined science on society or individuals or having a scientific factor as an essential orienting component.

Science Fiction is currently comprised of such a wide variety of genres and themes that, at times, it can be very difficult to define properly. This bibliography concentrates on six genres of Science Fiction literature: Apocalyptic, Cyberpunk, Social, Space Opera, Steampunk, and Time Travel.

Apocalyptic Science Fiction is concerned with the end of civilization, whether through war, plague, doom from the heavens, or some other ecological disaster that has caused havoc across the world.

Cyberpunk is more concerned with future urban societies dominated by computer technology, with a time frame that is noted as being in the “near future.”

Social Science fiction is concerned with a wide range of social sciences, from psychology and economics, to anthropology, with much less coverage of the technological aspects and more about possible future human societies.

Space opera emphasizes romantic, often melodramatic adventure, set mainly or entirely in outer space, generally involving conflict between opponents possessing advanced technologies and abilities.

Steampunk fiction is set in, or inspired by, the era of steam power during the 19th century in Victorian England, with often anachronistic, advanced technology added to the mix.

Time Travel is one of the major drivers of the science fiction genre, with the idea of a person being able to move either backwards or forwards in time and effecting events at their starting points, one that has had a great appeal to many readers.

Scope of the Bibliography:

Internet Resources are completely annotated and have been selected by the Reference Librarian.

Books listed as part of the General Collection may be checked out by any Erwin Library registered patron, faculty staff or student for a period of twenty-one days, with one renewal.

This bibliography will focus on fiction titles, rather than non-fiction titles, published in the last ten years, along with a few older benchmark titles that are regarded as classics. Reading levels will include Juvenile, Young Adult, as well as Adult (Fiction), though many readers will be intrigued by books from any of these reading levels.

Audiovisual materials about science fiction include digital video titles available on the Films on Demand video streaming resource, which can be accessed using the WCC Single Search aggregate database on the Erwin Library webpage at: http://waynecc.edu/library/
If there is a particular item that you are searching for that is not available in the Erwin Library, it could still be obtained by an Interlibrary Loan request made to the Erwin Library, either in person at the Circulation Desk, by telephone at 919-739-6891, or by submitting an online request from the Interlibrary Loan link on the library’s webpage.

Library of Congress Subject Headings may be used in a subject search to search the Erwin Library Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) for more books. The Library of Congress Subject Headings can be excellent search terms, and can be typed into the search box of any major databases.

Internet Resources:

http://digitalsciencefiction.com/

This resource offers a quarterly collection of original science fiction short stories from professional writers and storytellers. Every *Digital Science Fiction Anthology* of unique new stories is published electronically for Amazon Kindle and other popular eBook platforms. They are also available in regular print versions approximately three weeks after the digital publication date.

http://sciencefiction.com/

Set up to maintain an up to date view of current and past fantasy and science fiction news with reports, interviews and reviews. This website claims to offer the latest news in movies, television series, games, books, comic books and technology.

Books:

**Apocalyptic**


Cyberpunk


*Social*


**Space opera**


**Steampunk**


**Time Travel**


**Audiovisual:**


A look at the careers and influence of The Los Angeles Science-Fiction League’s most famous members: Forrest J. Ackerman, the mainspring of the group, who coined the term "Sci-Fi"; Ray Bradbury, renowned author of *The Martian Chronicles* and *Fahrenheit 451*; and Ray Harryhausen, master of stop-motion animation.


The Science Fiction author discusses his family history, how he got his start as an author, his experiences in World War II, his obsession with the betrayal of humankind by science, and his vision of technology gone mad.


A documentary that gives a glimpse into the start of the Science fiction gene, and how it has lead into classic films and novels, pulp fiction, B movies, continuing to current times.


In this program, researchers prepare to test a transporter and physicists reevaluate the fundamental rules of the universe to see if there is a way around the cosmic speed limit.

**Library of Congress Subject Headings:**

Science Fiction

Alternate Universe

Apocalyptic
Cyberpunk
Cyborgs
Extraterrestrial beings
Post-Apocalyptic
Robots
Steampunk
Time Travel