



Course Description: Dystopia

Suitable for: Years 9-10

Prerequisites: *Poetry for Beginners* OR *Literary Techniques* (one-day crash course)

Duration: 2 hours every week for 10 weeks; **20 hours total**

Additional Material Fee: \$20 (one text)

About: We know you've had your fair share of dystopian fiction through texts like *The Hunger Games*, but have you come across anything that can be used for school? Now's your chance! Our Dystopia course will a short story by Kurt Vonnegut Jr, Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* (1932), and an episode from *Black Mirror* (yes, you'll get to watch Netflix for homework!). Once we've covered the history and terminology of dystopian fiction, students will study and analyse the two pieces of prose fiction and one filmed text. Students learn how to analyse and interpret texts based on context, and how to write essay and creative responses to the material studied. At the end of the course, students gain a thorough understanding of dystopian fiction, and learn to appreciate their current lives and societies.

Student Writing Outcomes:

- Opinion pieces about the texts studied;
- One short story (creative writing); and
- Analytical paragraphs or essays using both literary and filmic terminology.

Student Learning Objectives:

- Reviewing and consolidating an extensive list of techniques for analysing prose fiction;
- Learning and/or consolidating an extensive list of techniques for analysing film;
- Understanding the central elements of dystopian fiction;
- Having the tools to analyse and write about prose fiction and film in opinion pieces and essays;
- Considering the intersection between literature and politics; and
- Evaluating the relevance of dystopian fiction today.