

The Politics of the Future, 1880-2080

Paper Organiser:

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Outline of the Course

Brief Description

At least since Plato, thinkers in the western tradition have sought to imagine better worlds. The most famous texts in this genre include Plato's *Republic* and Thomas More's *Utopia*, the latter of which gave this style of thinking a name. This course explores the modern utopian tradition, which originates in the late nineteenth century, as the implications of Darwinian science were put into dialogue with emerging models of capitalism and radical new transport and communications technologies. The conjunction of events, processes, and new imaginative possibilities, spawned a revolution in thinking about the future. "The Politics of the Future" examines accounts of the future – both utopian and dystopian – produced in Britain and North America from the 1880s to the present. It focuses in particular on the impact that new technologies had on shaping the human imagination, ranging from visions of future war through to the transformation of traditional conceptions of gender. It finishes with discussion of post-human worlds. The course combines speculative literature, political theory and intellectual history.

Aims and Objectives

- To provide a broad overview of debates about utopia and dystopia from the late nineteenth century to the present
- To encourage critical reflection on the relationship between speculative literature and political thinking
- To elucidate the complex connections between historical context and the production of political thought and fiction
- To offer intellectual resources for thinking about a wide range of topics in contemporary politics

By the end of the course, students should have a good understanding of both the theory and the recent history of utopian political thinking.

Structure of the Paper

The course proceeds in a broadly chronological fashion. It is divided into 3 historical periods: 1890-1925; 1925-1975; 1975-the present. The readings and lectures for each period focus (though not exhaustively) on a general theme. Section I traces the intellectual and imaginative

impact of Darwinism on visions of future societies. Section II focuses on attempts to make sense of totalitarianism. Finally, Section II explores how new developments in computing and biotechnology have shaped writing about the future.

Teaching & Examination

The course will be taught by a combination of lectures and seminars. There will be 16 lectures, running through Michaelmas and Lent terms. They will set the context for the development of utopian thinking during the long twentieth century, and introduce some of the key themes and primary texts.

Students will also take 4 seminars during the course, two in Michaelmas, and two in Lent. These will allow for conversation about the texts. The first one will focus on the meaning of utopia; the other three will correspond to the three historical periods under discussion.

The course will be examined by two 5,000 word essays, one due in early Lent, the other in Easter. The first essay will cover material from Section I. The second essay will allow students to choose a topic from either Section II or Section III. During the course students will have 4 supervisions, two each in Michaelmas and Lent. For the first supervision in each term, students will write a 2000 essay selected from a menu of options. For the second supervision each term, students will prepare an outline of their long essay for discussion/feedback.

Lecture List

Introductory Lecture: Thinking the Future

1880-1925

2. Dreamworlds: The Age of Utopia
3. Human Natures: Darwinism and its Legacies
4. Socialist Futures: Bellamy contra Morris
5. Social Science Fiction: Mr H. G. Wells Discovers the Future
6. Boundaries of Utopia: Empire, Race, Gender

1925-1975

7. Mapping Totalitarianism: Huxley and Orwell
8. The Strange Death of Utopia?
9. The Space Race and Nuclear Annihilation
10. The Social Sciences of the Future
11. Earth is the Only Alien Planet: Towards Inner Space

1975-Future(s)

12. Ecocide and the Population Bomb
13. Feminist Utopianisms
14. Welcome to the Machine: Cyberpunk and Beyond
15. Dissolving Capitalist Realism/Reclaiming the Future
16. Machines of Loving Grace: Artificial Intelligence and the End(s) of Humanity

Seminar List

The Meanings of Utopia
Darwinism & Socialism
Totalitarianism & Consumer Society
The Posthuman Condition

Questions

Supervision Questions

1. Where and when is utopia?
2. What explains the burst of utopian writing at the end of the nineteenth century?
3. Is conservatism antithetical to utopianism?
4. What explains the burst of transhumanist writing in the 1920s?
5. How did the space race shape the political imagination between 1950-72?
6. Is totalitarianism a useful analytical category?
7. How does Afrofuturism engage with the legacy of colonialism and slavery?
8. Does utopia have a gender?
9. Is cyberpunk orientalist?
10. Should robots have rights?

Essay 1 (Michaelmas)

1. Does dystopianism lead invariably to political fatalism?
2. How did Malthusian anxieties shape socialist utopias before the First World War?
3. Was H. G. Wells an authoritarian political thinker?
4. Was the utopianism of Charlotte Gilmore Perkins fatally undermined by her commitment to eugenics?
5. What role did race play in pre-First World War utopian writing?
6. Is Huxley's *Brave New World* a utopian text?

Essay 2 (Lent)

1. What did Hannah Arendt mean when she called the space race “a rebellion against human existence”?
2. Did feminist writers of the 1970s succeed in rethinking the utopian tradition?
3. Is J. G. Ballard best characterised as a dystopian writer?
4. Was Frederic Jameson right to argue that it is “easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism”?
5. Is transhumanism best seen as a form of religion?
6. Should we welcome or fear the full automation of labour?

Reading List

The reading list for the course is broken into several sections. It opens with a selection of texts that are relevant for the whole course. This material, which is divided into set texts and further reading, will be useful for making sense of debates over the meaning of utopia and its political entailments, as well as providing useful background information about the development of theories of utopianism and the literary genre.

There are separate reading lists for each of the three historical periods. This material is broken down into four types of reading:

Set primary texts. These are all works of fiction. You should aim to read all of them by the end of the course.

Contextual primary texts. This is non-fictional material written during the period that will help to contextualise debates over the politics of the future. You are not expected to read all of this material, though some of it will be very useful for the essays.

Set secondary texts. This is material that you should aim to read by the end of the course.

Further reading. I have provided a fairly extensive list of books and articles that will allow you to explore particular topics in depth. Again, some of this material will be very useful for researching the essays.

Thinking the Future

Set Reading

Claeys, Gregory “News from Somewhere: Enhanced Sociability and the Composite Definition of Utopia and Dystopia,” *History*, 98 (2013)
- *Dystopia: A Natural History* (2016)

Jasanoff, Sheila, "Future Imperfect: Science, Technology, and the Imaginations of Modernity" in Jasanoff and Sang-Hyun Kim (eds.), *Dreamscapes of Modernity: Sociotechnical Imaginaries and the Fabrication of Power* (2015)

John, Alessa, "Feminism and Utopianism" in Gregory Claeys (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Utopian Literature* (2010)

Kirby, Paul, "Political Speech in Fantastical Worlds," *International Studies Review* (2017)

Levitas, Ruth, *The Concept of Utopia* (1990/2010), esp. chs. 1-4 & 7

Sargent, Lyman Tower, "The Three Faces of Utopia Revisited," *Utopian Studies* (1994)

Thaler, Matthias, "Hope Abjuring Hope: On the Place of Utopia in Realist Political Theory," *Political Theory* (2017)

Urry, John, *What is the Future?* (2016)

Vieira, Fátima, "The Concept of Utopia" in Gregory Claeys (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Utopian Literature* (2010)

Further Reading

General

Auge, Marc, *The Future*, trans. John Howe (2015)

Bauman, Zygmunt, *Retrotopia* (2017)

Bowler, Peter, *A History of the Future: Prophets of Progress from H. G. Wells to Isaac Asimov* (2017)

Dery, Mark, "Black to the Future: Interviews with Samuel R. Delaney, Greg Tate, and Tricia Rose" in Dery (ed.), *Flame Wars: The Discourse of Cyberculture* (1994)

Goodwin, Barbara and Keith Taylor, *The Politics of Utopia* (1982)

Fitting, Peter, "Utopias Beyond our Ideals: The Dilemma of the Right-wing Utopia," *Utopian Studies* (1991)

Geoghegan, Vincent, *Utopianism and Marxism* (1987)

Geuss, Raymond, "Dystopia: The Elements" in Geuss, *Reality and its Dreams* (2016)

Journal of Political Ideologies, special edition on "Utopia," 12/3 (2007)

Chrostowska, S. D., and James D. Ingram (eds.). *Political Uses of Utopia: New Marxist, Anarchist, and Radical Democratic Perspectives* (2017)

Kumar, Krishan, *Utopia and Anti-Utopia in Modern Times* (1987)

Levitas, Ruth, "Looking for the Blue: The Necessity of Utopia," *Journal of Political Ideologies* (2011)

Manuel, Frank and Fritzie Manuel, *Utopian Thought in the Western World* (1979) [a comprehensive historical overview]

Mieville, China, "The Limits of Utopia," *Salvage* (2015)

Moylan, Tom & Raffaella Baccolini (eds.). *Utopia/Method/Vision: The Use Value of Social Dreaming* (2007)

Parrinder, Patrick, *Utopian Literature and Science: From the Scientific Revolution to Brave New World and Beyond* (2015)

Roemer, Kenneth, *Utopian Audiences: How Readers Locate Nowhere* (2003)

Rosenberg, Daniel and Susan Harding (eds.), *Histories of the Future* (2005)

Sargent, Lyman Tower, "Ideology and Utopia" in Michael Freeden, Marc Stears, Lyman Tower Sargent (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of Political Ideology* (2013)

Utopian Studies, 25/1 (2014), Special Edition: "Architecture and Utopia"

Womack, Y. L., *Afrofuturism: The World of Black Sci-fi and Fantasy Culture* (2013)

Science Fiction Futures

Abbott, Carl, *Imagining Urban Futures: Cities in Science Fiction and What we might Learn From Them* (2016)

Freedman, Carl, "Science Fiction and Critical Theory," *Science Fiction Studies* (1987)

Jameson, Frederic, *Archaeologies of the Future: The Desire Called Utopia and Other Science Fictions* (2005), esp. ch. 1
Luckhurst, Roger, *Science Fiction* (2005)
Moylan, Tom, *Scraps of the Untainted Sky: Science Fiction, Utopia, Dystopia* (2000), esp. Parts I & II

Social Science Meets Speculative Literature

Hassler, Donald and Clyde Wilcox (eds.), *Political Science Fiction* (1997)
Hirschman, Daniel et al, "Why Sociology Needs Science Fiction," *Contexts* (2018)
Jones, Calvert and Celia Paris, "It's the End of the World As They Know It: How Dystopian Fiction Shapes Political Attitudes," *Perspectives on Politics* (2018)
Levitas, Ruth, *Utopia as Method: The Imaginary Reconstitution of Society* (2013)
Matarese, Susan, *American Foreign Policy and the Utopian Imagination* (2010)
Musgrave, Paul & J. Furman Daniel, "Synthetic Experiences: How Popular Culture Matters for Images of International Relations," *International Studies Quarterly* (2017)
Seeger, Sean and Daniel Davison-Vecchione, "Dystopian Literature and the Sociological Imagination," *Thesis 11* (2019)

Section I: 1880-1925

Set primary texts

Edward Bellamy, *Looking Backward* (1888)
William Morris, *News From Nowhere* (1890)
H. G. Wells, *The War of the Worlds* (1897)
Sutton E. Griggs, *Imperium in Imperio* (1899)
Charlotte Gilmore Perkins, *Herland* (1915)
W. E. B. DuBois "The Comet" (1920)

Contextual primary texts

Friedrich Engels, *Socialism: Utopian and Scientific* (1880)
William Morris, "The Prospects of Architecture in Civilization" (1893)
Edward Bellamy, "Why I Wrote 'Looking Backward'" (1890)
D. G. Ritchie, *Darwinism and Politics* (1889)
T. H. Huxley, "Evolution and Ethics" (1893)
H. G. Wells, *The Time Machine* (1895)
William Morris, "How I Became a Socialist" (1896)
-- & Ernest Belfort Bax *Socialism: Its Growth and Prospects* (1896), esp. chs 14-21
Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *Women and Economics: A Study of the Economic Relation Between Men and Women as a Factor in Social Evolution* (1898)
H. G. Wells, *Anticipations* (1901)
-- "The Discovery of the Future" (1903)
W. E. B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)
Francis Galton, "Eugenics: Its Definition, Scope, and Aims" (1904)
G. K. Chesterton, *The Napoleon of Notting Hill* (1904)
H. G. Wells, *A Modern Utopia* (1905)
Vernon Lee, "On Modern Utopias" (1906)
H. G. Wells, "The So-Called Science of Sociology" (1907), repr. in *An Englishman Looks at the World* (1914)

William James, "The Moral Equivalent of War" (1910)
J. B. S. Haldane, *Daedalus; or, Science and the Future* (1923)

Set secondary texts

Clarke, I. F., "Future-War Fiction: The First Main Phase, 1871-1900," *Science Fiction Studies*, 24/3 (1997)
Claeys, Gregory, *Dystopia: A Natural History* (2017), ch. 5
-- "The 'Survival of the Fittest' and the Origins of Social Darwinism," *Journal of the History of Ideas* (2000)
Freedon, Michael, "Eugenics and Progressive Thought: A Study in Ideological Affinity," *Historical Journal* (1979)
Hale, Piers, "Of Mice and Men: Evolution and the Socialist Utopia: H. G. Wells, William Morris and George Bernard Shaw," *Journal of the History of Biology* (2010)
Kinna, Ruth, "Politics, Ideology and Utopia: A Defence of Eutopian Worlds," *Journal of Political Ideologies* (2011)
Leopold, David, "Socialism and (the Rejection of) Utopia," *Journal of Political Ideologies* (2007)
Paul, Diane, "Eugenics and the Left," *Journal of the History of Ideas* (1984)
Robertson, Michael, *The Last Utopians: Four Late Nineteenth Century Visionaries and their Legacy* (2018)
Roemer, Kenneth, "Paradise Transformed: Varieties of Nineteenth-century Utopias" in Gregory Claeys (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Utopian Literature* (2010)
Seed, David, "The Course of Empire: A Survey of the Imperial Theme in Early Anglophone Science Fiction," *Science Fiction Studies* (2010)
Shepard, W. Andrew, "Afrofuturism in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries" in Gerry Canavan and Erik Carl Link (ed.), *The Cambridge History of Science Fiction* (2018)

Further reading

General Accounts

Beaumont, Matthew (ed.), *Utopia Ltd.: Ideologies of Social Dreaming in England, 1870-1900*, 2nd edition (2009)
Bevir, Mark, *The Making of British Socialism* (Princeton, 2011)
Claeys, Gregory, "Passion and Order in 18th- and 19th-century British Utopianism" in Tom Moylan & Raffaella Baccolini (eds.), *Utopia/Method/Vision: The Use Value of Social Dreaming* (2007)
Flaherty, Seamus, "H.M. Hyndman and the Intellectual Origins of the Remaking of Socialism in Britain, 1878-1881," *English Historical Review*, 134/569 (2019)
Jennings, Chris, *Paradise Now: The Story of American Utopianism* (2017)
Kern, Stephen, *The Culture of Time and Space, 1880-1918* (1983), esp. chs. 1-6
Roemer, Kenneth, *The Obsolete Necessity: America in Utopian Writings, 1888-1900* (1976)
Saler, Michael, *As If: Modern Enchantment and the Literary Pre-History of Virtual Reality* (2012)
Thomas, John, *Alternative America: Henry George, Edward Bellamy, Henry Demarest Lloyd and the Adversary Tradition* (1983)
Tribe, Keith, "Capitalism and its Critics" in Gregory Claeys (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Nineteenth Century Thought* (2019)

Studies of Individual Thinkers

Allen, Judith, *The Feminism of Charlotte Perkins Gilman: Sexualities, Histories, Progressivism* (2009)

- Bell, Duncan, "Pragmatism and Prophecy: H. G. Wells and the Metaphysics of Socialism," *American Political Science Review* (2018)
- "Pragmatic Utopianism and Race: H. G. Wells as Social Scientist," *Modern Intellectual History* (2018)
- Bevir, Mark, "William Morris: The Modern Self, Art and Politics," *History of European Ideas* (1998)
- Christensen, Andrew G., "Charlotte Perkins Gilman's *Herland* and the Tradition of the Scientific Utopia," *Utopian Studies* (2017)
- Coleman, Finne, *Sutton E. Griggs and the Struggle Against White Supremacy* (2007)
- Crook, Paul, "Social Darwinism: The Concept," *History of European Ideas* (1996)
- Davis, Cynthia J. *Charlotte Perkins Gilman: A Biography* (2010)
- Hausman, Bernice, "Sex Before Gender: Charlotte Perkins Gilman and the Evolutionary Paradigm of Utopia," *Feminist Studies* (1998)
- James, Simon, *Maps of Utopia: H. G. Wells, Modernity, and the End of Culture* (2012)
- Kinna, Ruth, *William Morris and the Art of Socialism* (2000)
- Moses, Wilson, "Literary Garveyism: The Novels of the Revd. Sutton E. Griggs," *Phylon* (1979)
- Partington, John, *Building Cosmopolis: The Political Thought of H. G. Wells* (2003)
- "H. G. Wells: A Political Life," *Utopian Studies* (2003)
- Patai, Daphne (ed.), *Looking Backward, 1888-1888: Essays on Edward Bellamy* (1988)
- Planinc, Emma, "Catching Up with Wells: The Political Theory of H. G. Wells's Science Fiction," *Political Theory* (2017)
- Lewis, David Leaver, *W. E. B. Du Bois, 1868-1919: Biography of a Race* (1994)
- Smith, David C., *H. G. Wells: Desperately Mortal* (1986)
- Vaninskaya, Anna, *William Morris and the Idea of Community: Romance, History and Propaganda, 1880-1914* (2010)

Gender, Race, Empire

- Adi, Hakim, *Pan-Africanism: A History* (2018)
- Bell, Duncan, *Reordering the World* (2016), chs. 2, 4
- Delap, Lucy, *The Feminist Avant-Garde: Transatlantic Encounters of the Early Twentieth Century* (2007)
- Hayden, Wendy, "Feminist Thought" in Claeys (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Nineteenth Century Thought*
- Kerslake, Patricia, *Science Fiction and Empire* (2010)
- Makdisi, Saree, "Race and Empire in the Nineteenth Century" in Claeys (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Nineteenth Century Thought*
- Moses, Wilson, *Afrotopia: The Roots of African American Popular History* (2000)
- *The Classical Age of Black Nationalism, 1850-1925* (1978)
- Rieder, John, *Colonialism and the Emergence of Science Fiction* (2008)
- Yaszek, Lisa and Patricia Sharp (eds.), *Sisters of Tomorrow: The First Women of Science Fiction* (2016)

Science and Technology

- Adas, Michael. *Machines as the Measure of Men: Science, Technology, and Ideologies of Western Dominance* (1989)
- Bashford, Alison, and Chaplin, Joyce, *The New Worlds of Thomas Robert Malthus: Rereading The Principle of Population* (2016)
- Bashford, Alison and Phillipa Levine (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of the History of Eugenics* (2010)
- Crook, Paul, *Darwinism, War and History: The Debate over the Biology of War from the "Origins of Species" to the First World War* (1994)
- Hale, Piers, *Political Descent: Malthus, Mutualism, and the Politics of Evolution in Victorian England* (2016), esp. chs. 4-7
- Sussman, Herbert, *Victorian Technology: Invention, Innovation, and the Rise of the Machine* (2009)

Future Wars

- Bulfin, Ailise, *Gothic Invasions: Imperialism, War and Fin-de-Siècle Popular Fiction* (2018)
Clarke, I.F., *Voices Prophesying War: Future Wars, 1763-3749*, 2nd ed. (1992)
Franklin, H. Bruce, *War Stars: The Superweapon and the American Imagination* (2008), ch. 1
Gannon, Charles, *Rumors of War and Infernal Machines: Technomilitary Agenda-setting in American and British Speculative Fiction* (2003), chs. 1-5

Section II: 1925-1975

Set primary texts

- Aldous Huxley, *Brave New World* (1932)
George Orwell, *1984* (1949)
Philip K. Dick, *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* (1968)
Joanna Russ, *The Female Man* (1970)
Ursula K. Le Guin, *The Dispossessed* (1974)
J. G. Ballard, *High Rise* (1975)

Contextual primary texts

- J. D. Bernal, *The World, the Flesh and the Devil* (1929)
Aldous Huxley, "Boundaries of Utopia" (1931)
Karl Mannheim, *Ideology and Utopia: An Introduction to the Sociology of Knowledge* (1936)
H. G. Wells, "Utopias" (1939)
E. H. Carr, *The Twenty Years' Crisis, 1919-1939: An Introduction to the Study of International Relations* (1939)
George Orwell, "Wells, Hitler and the World State" (1941)
- "The Lion and the Unicorn: Socialism and the English Genius" (1941)
Albert Einstein, "Towards a World Government" (1946)
Hans Morgenthau, *Scientific Man and Power Politics* (1946)
Northrop Frye, "Varieties of Literary Utopia" (1965)
David Riesman, "Some Observations on Community Plans and Utopia" (1947)
Karl Popper, "Utopia and Violence" (1948)
Alan Turing, "Computing Machinery and Intelligence" (1950)
Isaac Asimov, "Social Science Fiction" (1953)
B. F. Skinner, "Freedom and the Control of Man" (1955)
David Woodbury, "Here is the Utopian Promise of the Peacetime Atom," *Look*, (1955)
Judith Shklar, *After Utopia* (1957)
Margaret Mead, "Towards More Vivid Utopias" (1957)
Julian Huxley, "Transhumanism" (1957)
Michael Young, *The Rise of the Meritocracy* (1958)
J. L. Talmon, "Utopianism and Politics" (1959)
Julian Huxley, "The Future of Man" (1959)
Hannah Arendt, *Between Past and Future* (1961)
J. G. Ballard, "Which Way to Inner Space" (1962)
B. F. Skinner, "The Design of Cultures" (1961)
George Kateb, *Utopia and its Enemies* (1963)
Lewis Mumford, "Utopia, the City and the Machine" (1965)
Judith Shklar, "The Political Theory of Utopia: From Melancholy to Nostalgia" (1965)
Susan Sontag, "The Imagination of Disaster" (1965)
Adam Ulam, "Socialism and Utopia" (1965)

Daniel Bell, "The Study of the Future" (1966)
Michel Foucault, "Of Other Spaces" (1967)
Buckminster Fuller, "Operating Manual for Spaceship Earth" (1967)
Alvin Toffler, *Future Shock* (1970)
Club of Rome, *The Limits to Growth* (1972)
Ursula K. Le Guin, "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" (1973)

Set Secondary texts

Claeys, Gregory, "The Origins of Dystopia: Wells, Huxley & Orwell" in Claeys (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Utopian Literature* (2010)
- *Dystopia: A Natural History* (2016), 3-7
Hiruta, Kei, "An 'Anti-Utopian Age?' Isaiah Berlin's England, Hannah Arendt's America, and Utopian Thinking in Dark Times," *Journal of Political Ideologies* (2017)
Immerwahr, Daniel, Brownell, Kathryn, Maher, Neil, "The Moon Landing: July 20, 1969 – One Event/Three Perspectives," *Modern American History* (2018)
Isaac, Jeffrey, "Critics of 'Totalitarianism'" in Terence Ball and Richard Bellamy (eds.), *The Cambridge History of Twentieth Century Political Thought* (2003)
Lazier, Benjamin, "Earthrise, or the Globalization of the World Picture," *American Historical Review* (2011)
Müller, Jan-Werner, "Fear and Freedom: On 'Cold War Liberalism,'" *European Journal of Political Theory* (2008)
Rutherford, Alexandra, "B. F. Skinner and Technology's Nation: Technocracy, Social Engineering, and the Good Life in 20th-century America," *History of Psychology*, 20 (2017)
Traverso, Enzo, "Totalitarianism between History and Theory," *History & Theory*, 55 (2017)

Further Reading

General Accounts

Bashford, Alison, *Global Population: History, Geopolitics, and Life on Earth* (2014)
Bell, Duncan, & Joel Isaac (eds.), *Uncertain Empire: American History and the Idea of the Cold War* (2012)
Boyer, Paul, *By the Bomb's Early Light: American Thought and Culture at the Dawn of the Atomic Age* (1994)
Brick, Howard, *Transcending Capitalism: Visions of a New Society in Modern American Thought* (2006)
Canavan and Link (eds.), *The Cambridge History of Science Fiction*, Part II [on the "New Wave"]
Cunningham, Valentine, *British Writers of the Thirties* (1988)
Gleason, Abbott, *Totalitarianism: The Inner History of the Cold War* (1997)
Gilman, Nils, *Mandarins of the Future: Modernization Theory in Cold War America* (2003)
Hammond, Andrew, *Cold War Stories: British Dystopian Fiction, 1945-1990* (2017)
McCray, W. Patrick, *The Visioneers: How a Group of Elite Scientists Pursued Space Colonies, Nanotechnologies, and a Limitless Future* (2012)
Rosenboim, Or, *The Emergence of Globalism: Visions of World Order in Britain and the United States, 1939-1950* (2017)
Scheuerman, William, *The Realist Case for Global Reform* (2011)
Seed, David, *American Science Fiction and the Cold War Literature and Film* (1999)
Turner, Fred, *The Democratic Surround: Multimedia and American Liberalism from World War II to the Psychedelic Sixties* (2013)

Individual Thinkers

- Burns, Tony, *Political Theory, Science Fiction, and Utopian Literature: Ursula K. Le Guin and the "Dispossessed"* (2008)
- Carbonell, Curtis, "Misreading *Brave New World*," *Extrapolations* (2015)
- Crick, Bernard, *George Orwell: A Life* (1982)
- Cummins, Elizabeth, *Understanding Ursula K. Le Guin* (1993)
- Davis, Laurence & Peter Stillman (eds.), *The New Utopian Politics of Ursula K. Le Guin's The Dispossessed* (2005)
- Forrester, Katrina, "Hope and Memory in the Thought of Judith Shklar," *Modern Intellectual History* (2011)
- Gerson, Gal, "George Orwell on Political Realism and the Future of Europe," *The European Legacy* (2017)
- Kuhlman, Hilke, *Living Walden Two: B. F. Skinner's Behaviorist Utopia and Experimental Communities* (2005)
- Murray, Nicholas, *Aldous Huxley* (2003)
- Newman, Bobby, "Discriminating Utopian from Dystopian Literature: Why is *Walden Two* Considered a Dystopia?" *The Behavior Analyst*, 16 (1993)
- Rodden, John (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to George Orwell* (2007)
- Rutherford, Alexandra, *Beyond the Box: B. F. Skinner's Technology of Behavior from Laboratory to Life, 1950s-1970s* (2009)
- Vaninskya, Anna, "The Orwell Century and After: Rethinking Reception and Reputation," *Modern Intellectual History* (2008)
- White, Richard, "George Orwell: Socialism and Utopia," *Utopian Studies* (2008)

(Social) Sciences of the Future

- Andersson, Jenny, *The Future of the World: Futurology, Futurists, and the Struggle for the Post Cold War Imagination* (2018)
- Andersson, Jenny & Egle Rindzeviciute (ed.), *The Struggle for the Long-Term in Transnational Science and Politics* (2015), esp. chs. 1, 2 & 4
- Halpern, Orit, *Beautiful Data: A History of Vision and Reason since 1945* (2015)
- Herzog, Dagmar, *Cold War Freud: Psychoanalysis in an Age of Catastrophes* (2015)
- Heyck, Hunter, *Age of System: Understanding the Development of Modern Social Science* (2015)
- Isaac, Joel, "The Human Science in Cold War America," *Historical Journal* (2007)
- Lemov, Rebecca, "Hypothetical Machines: The Science Fiction Dreams of Cold War Science," *Isis* (2010)
- Masco, Joseph, "Bad Weather: On Planetary Crisis," *Social Studies of Science* (2009)

Space Race/Atom Bomb

- Beck, John, and Mark Dorrian, "Postcatastrophic Utopias," *Cultural Politics* (2014)
- Bellamy, Brent Ryan, "...Or Bust: Science Fiction and the Bomb, 1945-60" in Canavan and Link (eds.), *The Cambridge History of Science Fiction*
- Hogg, Jonathan, *British Nuclear Culture: Official and Unofficial Narratives in the Long 20th Century* (2016)
- Mahar, Neil, *Apollo in the Age of Aquarius* (2017)
- Munster, Rens van & Casper Sylvest, *Nuclear Realism: Global Political Thought during the Thermonuclear Revolution* (2016)
- Poole, Robert, *Earthrise: How Man First Saw the Earth* (2008)
- Tribbe, Matthew, *No Requiem for the Space Age: The Apollo Moon Landings and American Culture* (2014)

Gender & Race

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