

## Speculative Writing Workshop Syllabus

### Week 1

#### Introduction to the course

- Goals, objectives, hopes, class structure.
- Introductions
- Let's Make a Monster
- Writing Time
- Sharing and Criticism

### Week 2

#### The Opening Page

- dos, don'ts, and best practices
- Writing Time
- Sharing and Criticism

### Week 3

#### Character Building

- Qualities of compelling characters, strengths, weaknesses, etc.
- Writing Time
- Sharing and Criticism

### Week 4

#### Conflict and Tension

- Internal vs. External vs. Subtextual
- Writing Time
- Sharing and Criticism

### Week 5

#### World Building I

- Ecology and Technology
- Sociology, Religion, Economics, History, etc.
- Writing Time
- Sharing and Criticism

### Week 6

#### Publishing

- Indie vs. Small Press vs. Big Press
- Writing Time
- Sharing and Criticism

### Week 7

- That's another topic (Discussion generated by workshop attendees' questions)
- Writing Time
- Criticism and final thoughts