Approaches to Science Fiction.

This will be a Course for people who like to read and who like to watch cinema with some degree of attention. Typically class discussion has raised such questions as:

Science and the Future:
The City at the end of History: Utopia and the Future as Dystopia
Fordism and the Civilisation of the Future;
Mad Scientists and their Monsters Prometheus Unbound
The surprising persistence of Love in the Virtual World,
Divine Invasions and Mortal Paranoia
Meeting Divinity out There;
Cyborgs, Clones, Robots, A-I s
Is the Alien the ‘Other’.

Our agenda will also be to consider such questions as:
‘Is there an Indian Science Fiction?’, If not why not?’
‘Indian Science, Indian Technology: the expanding gap’,
‘The Global Indian and the Local Goddesses: a Return to Innocence’.
‘Does Science Fiction replace the religious imagination?’
‘AIs, Robots, Clones, Cyborgs and their fundamental (Human?) rights’ will be among the topics touched upon.

Following applies to ALL classwork:

Plagiarism is when you pass off someone else's work as your own. A single example of Plagiarism will be awarded the lowest passing grade for the whole course. No discussion is needed.

For purposes of grading a page means an A4 sheet with 11 point Times New Roman type.

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Task 1:

A: Thomas Kuhn: The Structure of Scientific Revolutions.
B: Yuval Noah Harari: Homo Deus.

Students are required to read any one the above two titles & write a 2 page review (A4 paper 11 point Times New Roman Typeface). They should start at once.

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Task 2:

Students are required to read any one of the following 12 books and write a 2 page (A4 paper 11 point Times New Roman type) review.

1. M. Shelley Frankenstein 808.83SHE
2. A. Huxley Brave New World 823.912HUX
3. S.Lem *Solaris* 808.83LEM
4. P.K.Dick *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep* 808.83DIC
5. W.Gibson *Neuromancer* 808.83GIB
6. A. Ghosh *Calcutta Chromosome* 808.83GHO
7. Albert Camus: *The Plague*
8. U.K.LeGuin *The Left Hand of Darkness*
10. Kazuo Ishiguro: *Never let me go*
11. Yevgeny Zamyatin: *We*
12. George Orwell *1984*

Some other titles suggested for optional reading
i). The Gollancz Book of South Asian Science Fiction. Publisher: Hachette
ii). The Cambridge Companion to Science Fiction

**Task 3:**
Students will be watching some science fiction movies in class. These will also be available for individual viewing in RC Wing ‘B’. Each Student will write a one page review of one film for each week (total of 3 one page reviews for the course).

**Task 4:**
Each student will write a four page essay on a topic related to this Course and submit during class week in November.