

EE16: From science fiction to science and engineering

Instructor: Jelena Vuckovic

Fall 2005

Tuesday, Thursday 3:15pm – 4:30 pm
Bldg 160, Room 331

Class websites:

- Public website, containing only general information (syllabus, course information, instructor's coordinates): <http://www.stanford.edu/class/ee16>
- Useful class material (lecture notes, reading material etc) will be posted on the coursework portion of the class website. To access the coursework site for EE16:
 - Go to <http://coursework.stanford.edu> and log in using your Sunet ID and password. You should be able to see EE16 listed under your classes. Or:
 - Follow the link to coursework from the bottom of the EE16 public page listed above, and log in using your Sunet ID and password.

Instructor's coordinates:

Ginzton Lab, office 1

Phone: x5-2288, E-mail ([@ stanford.edu](mailto:@stanford.edu)): jela

WWW: <http://www-ee.stanford.edu/~jela>

Instructor's office hours:

Fridays, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Ginzton 1

TA

Maria Makarova

Phone: x3-2279, E-mail ([@ stanford.edu](mailto:@stanford.edu)): makarova

WWW: <http://www.stanford.edu/group/nqp>

Office hours: Mondays noon-1pm Terman Café and 4:30-5:30pm Ginzton 31

Classroom:

- We are currently assigned the following classroom: bldg 160, room 331. The link to this classroom:

http://ntr25web.stanford.edu/r25prd/wv3_servlet/urd/run/wv_space.Detail?RoomID=607

and the link to the building location on the campus map:

http://campus-map.stanford.edu/campus_map/results.jsp?bldg=160&dept=&addr=

- However, it is possible that the classroom assignment would change soon. You will be notified about it promptly (probably via the class e-mailing list).

Reading material

- There are no required textbooks for the class.
- You will receive reading/viewing material from various sources.
- Good general references for the class include:

- Encyclopedia Britannica: <http://search.eb.com/>
- Wikipedia: <http://www.wikipedia.org>
- Eric Weisstein's Treasure Troves of Science: <http://www.treasure-troves.com/>
- All of my lecture notes and presentations, and some of the reading material will be posted on the class website (coursework part).

Homework

- There will be no conventional weekly homeworks – only assigned reading and subsequent discussions in class, and maybe a couple of small take-home written assignments.

Exams

- There will be no exams.

Final project

- You will have a final project that will contribute to 50% of your class grade. The project will consist of choosing a topic related to the class material, writing a short report on it (2-5 pages long), and giving a brief, 10 min presentation on it in class. Final presentations will be in class, scheduled during the last two weeks of classes.
 - Suggested topics will be out by Friday Oct. 14. They could include various topics from science and engineering that are widely discussed in science fiction literature and film, and that we will not have time to cover in details in class (e.g., some of the topics could be Internet encyclopedias today vs. Hitchiker's Guide to the Galaxy, or topics related to space travel, wearable computers, space elevators etc). You can either choose one of the topics suggested by the instructor, or discuss with the instructor another topic of your interest.
 - The deadline for choosing a topic for your final project and notifying the instructor about it is Friday Oct. 28.
 - Your final project reports will be due on Tue. Nov. 29.
 - The presentations will be scheduled during the weeks of Nov. 28 and Dec. 5, and will be organized as small scientific conferences (I will be the conference chair). Everybody will give a 10 min presentation (you can use my laptop and a projector to present your slides), followed by a 5 min discussion and questions session on your presentation.
 - Carlos Seligo (Academic Technology Specialist; e-mail moth@stanford) and Joyce Moser (Oral and Written Communication Lecturer; e-mail moser@stanford) from the Freshman Seminars Office would be able to help you in preparation of your reports and presentations.

Honor code

Discussion with others is strongly encouraged for all assignments, reading materials and final presentations, but you are not allowed to copy somebody else's work or use any sources that contain the answer to an assigned problem or one very similar to it. Basically, what you turn in has to be your own work.

Grade distribution:

- 50% - participation in the in-class discussions, reading of the assigned material, work on the small written assignments.
- 50% - final project and presentation (~2-5 pages report +10min in-class presentation on it).