

Texts and Contexts—80s Apocalypse

This course introduces students to post-secondary studies in English by focusing on the specific literary theme of '80s *Apocalypse* in a cluster of related texts from novels and graphic novels to film.

Required Texts

Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid's Tale*. New York: Random House, 2005. Print.
DeLillo, Don. *White Noise*. New York: Penguin, 2010. Print.
Moore, Alan and Dave Gibbons. *Watchmen*. New York: DC Comics, 1995. Print.

Course Reading/Unit Schedule

Sept. 5-9 Introduction - how to read for ENGL 122 and EFS and a writing diagnostic
Sept. 12-16 Defining “apocalypse,” “postmodernism,” and “late capitalism”
Sept. 19-23 *White Noise*, its time and history
Sept.26-30 *White Noise* and Form

Visualizing the End

Oct. 3-7 *Watchmen* and the Graphic Novel
Oct. 10-14 *Watchmen* presentations
Oct. 17-21 *Watchmen* presentations
Oct. 24-28 *Watchmen* on film and the current conjuncture

Varieties of Destruction

Oct. 31 *The Handmaid's Tale* dystopia vs. apocalypse
Nov. 7-11 *The Handmaid's Tale* politics and ideology
Nov. 14-18 Film screening (title TBA)
Nov. 21-25 Film discussion - resistance versus revolution

Review

Nov. 28- Coda: The “End” of History, from Apocalyptic to Post-Apocalyptic Imagination