



COURSE DESCRIPTION

## 2016 Winter Session (2016-2017 Academic Year)

ENGL 490-010 - Cli-Fi: Climate Fiction, or How Do We Witness Disaster? - Robert Rouse

### **Literature Majors Seminar**

**Term 2**

**W, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

In recent years a new genre of speculative fiction has become increasingly popular; one that examines the impact of humans on the natural environment, and which speculates on the impacts of continuing climate change on modern human civilization. Cli-Fi - or Climate Fiction - has become a genre of pressing importance in recent years, acting as both a meditation upon and a warning against the now-inevitable impacts of global climate change. In contrast with post-Barthean notions of authorial agency, Cli-Fi also speaks with the urgency of activism; authors speak of their intent to make a difference, to change behaviours, to sound the warning bells that will engage change. Texts will include short stories, novels, and film, and will be read in conversation with critical and scientific writing. The course seeks to answer the question of how do we witness the disasters to come?