



Black Quantum Futurism - Past Present Future Present Past Future (Image by Jackie Joseph Paul McFarland)

48314 / 48614: Afrofuturism and the Speculative: New Tools for a New World

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Audre Lorde said, “The master’s tools will never dismantle the master’s house.” If this is true how do we dismantle the house? Are new tools even enough? Or do we simply walk out the door and build a new house? To create new tools means we need new perspectives, new ways of seeing the world. The intent of this course is to explore how Afrofuturism allows one to shift perspectives out of a Eurocentric, white, patriarchal, heteronormative perspective to give agency to those who see and experience the world through different eyes. Allowing one to discover new possibilities of being in the world. In this seminar we will explore different ways the black imagination has been used to create a world where African-Americans render themselves visible in the past, present, and future. Exploring how Afrofuturism is used as a tool to critic contemporary topics and its use in creative practices. The class is driven through selected readings, visual media, and class discussions and students will also be required to produce two artifacts inspired by the material covered in class.