Through novels and short stories, we shall explore and discuss political ideals, such as equality, merit and liberty, as our authors envision them at work, usually in the future. I shall preface each set of readings with a lecture giving the historical and political context for the utopias. The course requires reading the texts. For each set of readings, please provide a one to two page reflection of what you found to be interesting, thought provoking and/or troublesome. We shall also have a final examination (45% of course grade).

Readings

A. Equality and Socialism
1. Introductory remarks: Marx and Socialism (7/5)

B. Inequality and Merit

C. Religion, Politics and Science Fiction

D. Nationalism
1. Introductory remarks: Nationalism and Fascism(7/27)

E. Liberty and Liberalism
1. Introductory remarks: Classical Liberalism (7/31)

Final: 8/8