



서강대학교
SOGANG UNIVERSITY

THE AMERICAN CULTURE PROGRAM

The American Culture Program at Sogang University and the Sogang Institute of American Studies invite you to come join us for a special lecture by Professor Leif Sorensen (Colorado State University) that theorizes Science Fiction as a genre that has been constitutively shaped by the development of concepts of racial, cultural, and ethnic identity. This talk is open to the public; registration is not required. Come one, come all!



Professor Leif Sorensen
(Colorado State University)

“Worlds of Difference: Race, Ethnicity, and Science Fiction”

This talk theorizes science fiction as a genre that has been constitutively shaped by the development of concepts of racial, cultural, and ethnic identity. Working through four keywords for articulating science fictional representations of difference (world, culture, language and embodiment) the talk provides an overview of the range of strategies that authors have developed to represent differences among humans, aliens, and post-humans. These techniques are especially relevant now when slipstream writers like Colson Whitehead, Junot Diaz, Kazuo Ishiguro, and Cathy Park Hong have joined with their counterparts in speculative genres in recognizing science fiction’s potential as a powerful tool for exploring difference in a moment in which the future is especially contested. In closing I argue that what had been a latent feature of popular science fiction, its capacity to offer profound reflections on the significance and future of identity and difference, has become a crucial tool for those of us interested in producing a future that does not simply repeat and replay the past.

- When: May 30 (Tues.), 4:30~6:00 p.m.
- Where: Jeong Hasang Hall #311
- Open to the public; registration not required.
- Please direct all inquiries to the English Department Office (02-705-8290).