Academy of Distinguished Researchers
Distinguished Speaker Series

“Understanding Fiction Science”

Featuring

Dr. Eric Link
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
University of North Dakota
Thursday, April 7, 2022
4:00-5:00pm
UTSA Main Campus
Business Building, 2nd Floor, 2.06.04

Understanding Science Fiction

In this illustrated talk, “Understanding Science Fiction,” audiences will be introduced to the field of science fiction film and literature. During this talk, Dr. Eric Link will answer the question “what is science fiction?” and talk about the language of science fiction, including such concepts as alleplastic and autoplastic societies, alterity, the novum, distance markers, and cybernetics. He will discuss the impact of contemporary technophilosophical ideas such as artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and the technological singularity hypothesis on modern science fiction, and give a tour through many of the most common science fiction plot structures, from the alien contact story to the alternative history to the dying-earth scenarios. Dr. Link’s lecture concludes with a brief introduction to the mind and career of one of the greatest twentieth-century science fiction writers, Philip K. Dick, with special attention paid to his short story “The Electric Last.”
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"Understanding Science"