In my history of modern science class, students choose from a list of novels not discussed in the course and research that work's scientific concepts. Drawing on course material and outside sources, students situate the text within the larger scientific and social contexts that the author was addressing. Students may suggest a work not on the list, but these must be approved by the lecturer.

Here is a partial list of books that I suggest:

- Isaac Asimov, I, Robot
- Paolo Bacigalupi, The Windup Girl
- Arthur Conan Doyle, The Lost World
- Michael Crichton, Jurassic Park, Airframe, Prey
- William Gibson, Neuromancer!
- Aldous Huxley, Brave New World
- Daniel Keyes, Flowers for Algernon
- Sinclair Lewis, Arrowsmith
- Harriet Martineau. Morals and Manners
- Herman Melville, *Moby-Dick*
- William Morris, Nowhere
- Larry Niven and Jerry Purnell, Mote in God's Eye, Footfall, Lucifer's Hammer
- Jodi Picoult, My Sister's Keeper
- Carl Sagan, Contact
- Upton Sinclair, The Jungle
- B. F. Skinner, Walden Two
- Jules Verne, From the Earth to the Moon, The Adventures of Captain Hatteras
- Kurt Vonnegut, Slaughterhouse Five, Cat's Cradle
- H.G. Wells, *The Time Machine* (or pretty much anything else he wrote)

As a group, pick a book (either from the list or something that everyone is familiar with) and write a blog post about it. Think particularly about what the author is saying about science. Is she promoting the utility of a particular scientific concept (*Mote in God's Eye*) or condemning scientific overreach (*Jurassic Park*)? Perhaps she is trying to raise awareness of scientific/medical ethics (*My Sister's Keeper*) or warning of the runaway power of militarizing science (*Cat's Cradle*). Think about the scientific, political, and social debates of the author's time period and how the book contributes to each of those realms.

Within your blog post, try to include images/video depicting the book, movie adaptations, or the science depicted within the book. Think also about how linking and a digital format might allow you to reach out to scientific sources, literary analyses, and other online materials in a way that traditional term papers do not.



