

Science Fiction

October 10. Pohl and Kornbluth (3). [Brief notes]

Andrew Goldstone

andrew.goldstone@rutgers.edu

Office hours: Mondays 3:00–5:00

Murray 031

sf-fl3.blogs.rutgers.edu

last time

Is *The Space Merchants* SF?

at stake: value-laden categories (“science”)

conflicts → new positions, magazines, movements

tension between social-critical & speculative?

plot or setting (conflict or world)

composition

What difference does dual authorship make?
episodic structures
team creativity (like...advertising?)
doing without a literary Author

critique

Herrera's library (129)

Chicken Little (119)

“You chose the easy-going life of a scum skimmer” (188)

critique

Boltanski and Chiapello: Capitalism's "Second Spirit"
not just a "Protestant Ethic"
the large firm, bureaucratic organization
compromise with organized labor: welfare state

what is to be done?

Satire is driven by the desire to interrogate the Establishment, not formulate alternatives.

Roger Luckhurst, *Science Fiction* (Polity, 2005), 111

what is to be done?

Is the meaning of the book organized by the ending?

next time

Ballard, "The Cage of Sand" (*Wesleyan*)

Ballard, prose excerpts on Sakai

For November, now required:

Star Trek, "Where No Man Has Gone Before"

watch at Douglass (or: not hard to get online)