

Exam Question SCI 182

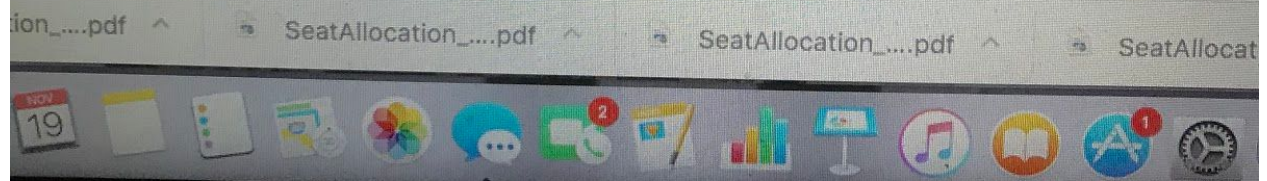
Throughout this course we have viewed several clips from films where scientific advancements have challenged contemporary beliefs and ethical values. Although these movies are primarily entertainment they also project a current issue into mainstream discussion.

Identify any three films that have a common theme relating to science and ethics.

Identify the scientific advancement.

Identify the ethical issue.

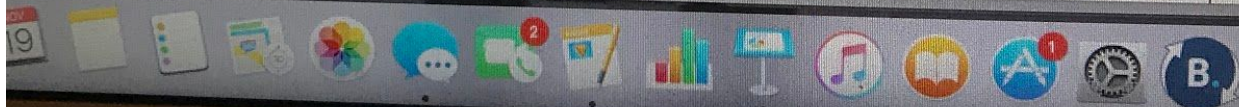
Discuss whether scientists have a moral obligation to science or to society.



Science Depicted In Popular Culture – Movie List for SCI 182

Movie	Title of Clip	Duration	What happens	Other
The Right Stuff	The Right Stuff	4:38	Test pilot Chuck Yeager breaks the sound barrier For the first time in history	<i>Note the bare bones technology of 1947. The locking stick, the football helmet, stripped down jet features. Very nice transition through the sound barrier. Note the sky colour.</i>
Plan 9 From Outer Space	Dudley Manlove's famous speech "solarmanite"	1:59	Dudley explains the solarmanite bomb. He loses his cool also with his powerful "stupid minds!" speech.	<i>Gloriously bad. It has been rated the worst film ever. Wow how do you get that bad.. try the acting, the flying saucers (tea service and hubcaps on strings), the costumes (one alien leader wears a medieval-knight outfit), the editing, the camera shots.. all incredibly bad. Fun to watch.</i>
2001: A Space Odyssey	Best Death Scenes "HAL 9000"	4:44	HAL the spacecraft computer has a flaw, and starts to plot to remove the astronauts onboard. After the loss of his colleague, Dave moves to disconnect the memory modules supporting HAL	<i>Stunningly, well done. The spare acting, the eerie spacecraft lighting, the sound of the breathing, the gravity-free buoyancy of the astronaut. Stanley Kubrick's direction and imagination at it's best. There is hardly any action but the slow death of the "Hal" is also a statement on human aging and death also.</i>
Frankenstein (1931)	It's Alive!	4:05	A statement on "Man as God". Man as a creator creates a monster with flaws... or is it society that has the flaw?	<i>This 1931 classic is the original Frankenstein movie. It seems tame by our current standards, but must have been terrifying in 1931. Great acting (It's Alive! Is one of the great movie lines), and a legendary story.</i>
GATTACA	Critic's Picks "GATTACA" – nytimes.com	4:10	Describes the film and the way several age-old questions on human free will and fate are played out in the movie.	<i>Society has categorized Vincent Freeman as less than suitable given his genetic make-up and he has become one of the underclass of humans that are only useful for menial jobs. To move ahead, he assumes the identity of</i>

Jerome Morrow, a perfect genetic specimen



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				Jerome Morrow, a perfect genetic specimen who is a paraplegic as a result of a car accident. "In-valides". Excellent cast, fine writing
Blade Runner	Blade Runner - TEARS IN RAIN	4:20	The dying soliloquy of Roy Batty- a replicant artificial life form.	The film depicts a <u>dystopian Los Angeles</u> in November 2019 in which genetically engineered organic robots called <u>replicants</u> —visually indistinguishable from adult humans—are manufactured. A cadre of escaped replicants must be hunted down and terminated.
Splice	Scientists create the first synthetic cell	8:22	This ABC News excerpt describing the landmark development of using "synthesized" DNA to form a "living cell" is followed by the SPLICE trailer.	Two young rebellious scientists are told by their employers to halt groundbreaking work that has seen them produce new creatures with medical benefits by splicing together multiple organisms' DNA. They decide to secretly continue their work, but this time splicing in human DNA.
The Day of the Triffids	1) Skies Ablaze 2) Security Breach	1:00 each	This BBC series took one of the the same name (1951) and converted it to the screen. Well written and the acting is crisp.	Well written and the acting is crisp. Great visuals of the solar flare. The concept of the Triffid plants is almost plausible.
The China Syndrome	The China Syndrome	3:43	Reporters uncover that a significant catastrophic accident is occurring at a nuclear power facility	The science has some sound footing even if the reactor doesn't. The acting is a little bit over the top... Jane Fonda is a bit "vacant", and Jack Lemmon plays his tortured 20 th modern man. Michael Douglas is a long way from Wall Street in this.
Back To The Future	Back to the Future – The Clock Tower Scene	2:46	Marty McFly uses time travel to go back in time and alter the circumstances when his parents first met.	Fun movie. A new take on the Mad Scientist is well done by Christopher Lloyd. Time travel is used effectively as a plot mechanism. The science is light, but it doesn't matter.



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The Andromeda Strain	The Andromeda Strain 1971 original film trailer	3:26	Scientists try to save the earth from destruction caused by a virus brought to earth by a returning military satellite.	<i>For the most part the science is good, especially for the times. The story actually changed the quarantine guidelines that NASA used when astronauts returned from flights. There is not one big name actor in this, and the scientists aren't very watchable. The Austin Powers sets must have been stolen from this movie.</i>
Metropolis	Metropolis-Fritz Lang	4:28	A trailer showing some of the scenes in this very large and sprawling movie.	<i>This is the original science fiction movie. But it is more than that with the architecture and visual effects in the German expressionism style that evoke a "dystopian" future society. There are many themes that run through it that I will sum together as the dehumanization of society. It includes a mad scientist (are they always mad?) transforming the soul of the angelic Maria into a debased robot.</i>



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