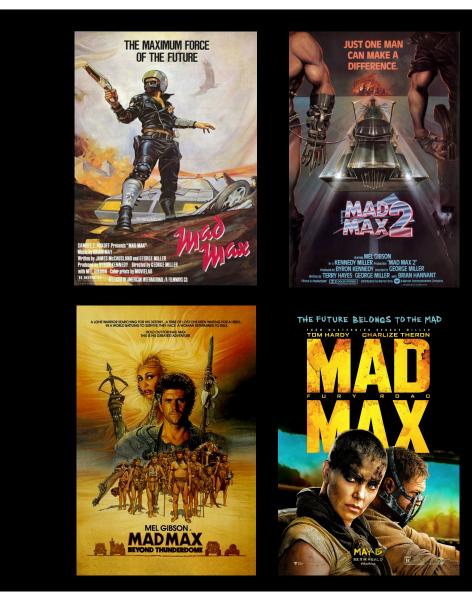
Cowboys and Spacemen: Post-Carbon Futures in the *Mad Max* Tetralogy "It was surprising how quickly things disintegrated. After just three or four days there was always some kind of aggression in the petrol queues. People's normal lifestyle was threatened, and they were suddenly going after each other."

– George Miller

"George and I wrote the script based on the thesis that people would do almost anything to keep vehicles moving and the assumption that nations would not consider the huge costs of providing infrastructure for alternative energy until it was too late."

– James McCausland





"It seems easier for us today to imagine the thoroughgoing deterioration of the earth and of nature than the breakdown of late capitalism."

– Fredric Jameson

- Analyze how cowboy and spaceman economies play out in first three *Mad Max* films and in *Fury Road*.
- Consider actual spaceman economies to assess the real-life feasibility of *Fury Road*'s vision.
- Address problems that arise in *Fury Road*'s substitute for the cowboy economy.

Cowboy economy = open frontier.

Spaceman economy = closed sphere.

 Kenneth E. Boulding,
"The Economics of the Coming Spaceship Earth" (1966)



