ENG 407 (Spring 2021; 36968) Sem Writ for Comics

Winter 2019

LITERATURE FOR FICTION WRITERS

CRWR 407 – CRN 36968

Days: T & TH, Time 4:15-5:45, Remote

Instructor: Mat Johnson
Office: 208 Alder
Email: mrjohns6@uoregon.edu

Office Hours (Day / Time):
Tuesdays 2:15-4:15
And by appointment

Course Description

Writing for Comic Books is a literary workshop and seminar that explores the techniques of writing for sequential art through critical examination of published works and student workshop submissions.

Required Texts/Materials

Good Talk, Mira Jacob
Sandman (Vol. 1), Neil Gaiman
Berlin (Vol. I&2), Jason Lutes
The Best We Could Do, Thi Bui
Fun Home, Alison Bechdel
Destroyer, Victor LaValle
Upgrade Soul, Ezra Clayton Daniels

COURSE OUTCOMES

- Proficiency in graphic storytelling.
- Development of long and short form narratives.
- Application of the elements of form in narrative.
- Familiarity with fundamental concepts, forms, modes, and traditions in graphic storytelling.

Course Assignments

GRADING:

75% Workshop Submissions

10% One-Panel Submission
10% One-Page Submission
10% Four-Panel Submission
10% Two-Page (Illustration) -or- Five Page ((Script) Submission
15% Four Page (Illustration) -or- Ten Page ((Script) Submission

20% Final Project Submission:

- 5% Story Creation
- 5% Character Profiles/Stories
- 10% Series Presentation
15% Reading Quizzes and Responses
10% Fellow Student Critique

Original Work
All work done for this class must be created by you and for this class alone.

Grading Scale

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Attendance/Late Work
No late work will be accepted. Save for arranged accommodations emergencies, illness, or occasions that you have notified me about well in advance, attendance is mandatory.

Email Policy
I welcome email correspondence between Monday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and I will respond promptly. Most matters, beyond simple questions, are best discussed in person. You should always feel welcome to stop by my office.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic Misconduct
Academic misconduct is defined in detail in the University Student Conduct Code. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, knowingly furnishing false information, and fabrication. All work submitted in this course
must be the student’s own and produced exclusively for this course. Students should not give or receive (or attempt to give or receive) unauthorized help on any assignment or examination without express permission from the instructor. Students should properly acknowledge and document every single source of information (e.g. quotations, paraphrases, ideas) and use only the sources and resources authorized by the instructor. The instructor will not stop a student suspected of committing academic misconduct from starting or completing an assignment or examination. The instructor has the right to apply an academic sanction (one example is a grade penalty) if the student at any time admits to academic misconduct. Students who admit to or are found responsible for academic misconduct more than once will likely be suspended from the University. The instructor must report all credible allegations or admissions of academic misconduct to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. The University encourages students to discuss academic integrity with the instructor. Students can learn more about avoiding plagiarism at www.libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/studentsLinks to an external site.

*UO Prevention of Discrimination and Harassment*

The UO is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and gender-based stalking. Any UO employee who becomes aware that such behavior is occurring is required, by UO policy and Oregon law, to report that information. Reports are made to the employee’s supervisor or the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity (OAAEO). No guarantee of confidentiality can be promised by any UO employee in conversations involving discrimination and/or harassment; information must be reported. The University Health CenterLinks to an external site. and University Counseling and Testing CenterLinks to an external site. can provide assistance with a greater ability to work confidentially with students.

**Documented Disability**

Appropriate accommodations will be provided for students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability and require accommodation, arrange to meet with the instructor within the first two weeks of the term. The documentation of your disability must come in writing from the Disability ServicesLinks to an external site., in the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services. Disabilities may include (but are not limited to) neurological impairment, orthopedic impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment, chronic medical conditions, emotional/psychological disabilities, hearing impairment, and learning disabilities.
CLASS SCHEDULE

Week One
Tuesday:
Introduction

*Incognegro* & *Dark Rain* Presentation Mat Johnson

Thursday:
Assignment Due: One Panel Story—Visual
Storytelling Lecture

Week Two
Tuesday:
TEXT: *Good Talk*, Mira Jacob

Thursday:
Assignment Due: One Page Story—Prose

[Submit in "One Panel Intro Assignment" in Assignments before class time]

Week Three
Tuesday:
TEXT: *Sandman (Vol. 1)*, Neil Gaiman

Thursday:
Assignment Due: Four-Panel Submission

Week Four
Tuesday:
TEXT: *Fun Home*, Alison Bechdel
Thursday:
Assignment Due: Two-Page (Illustration) -or- Five Page (Script) Submission

**Week Five**
Tuesday:
TEXT: *Berlin (Vol. I&2)*, Jason Lutes
Thursday:
Assignment Due: Four Page (Illustration) -or- Ten Page (Script) Submission *(PART ONE)*

**Week Six**
Tuesday:
TEXT: *The Best We Could Do*, Thi Bui
Thursday:
Assignment Due: Four Page (Illustration) -or- Ten Page (Script) Submission *(PART TWO)*

**Week Seven**
Tuesday:
TEXT: *Destroyer*, Victor LaValle
Thursday:
Group Project Preparation

**Week Eight**
In Class Group Project Story
Stage One: Story Creation

**Week Nine**
In Class Group Project Story
Stage Two: Character & Arc

**Week Ten**
In Class Group Project Story
Stage Three: Weave & Presentation

**Week Eleven**
Final Group Assignment Due