

One for the [Comic] Books: A Curriculum Transformed

Comic Arts Conference Comic-Con, International JULY 28, 2024

Web (with blog): comics.sdsu.edu
X: @comicsatsdsu
Instagram: comicsatsdsu
Facebook: COMICSatSDSU

PANELISTS



Pamela Jackson



Elizabeth Pollard



Michael Dominguez



Kishauna Soljour



Grace Dearborn

















Co-PIs: Elizabeth Pollard (SDSU Prof. of History) and Pamela Jackson (SDSU Librarian and Comic Arts Curator)

2 years, 4 workshops, 10 new comics courses, 1 new Comic Studies Certificate ... humanists from History, CompLit, and a range of Area Studies Programs use SDSU's 100,000+ comics collection to engage thousands of students at our HSI to tackle social justice issues, foster empathy, and envision a better future.







1-minute

slide at 17 **February**

2022 NEH

Meeting

Introduction

(I-r, seated) Beth Pollard, Pam Jackson, Bill Nericcio, Neil Kendricks, and Fawaz Qashat share SDSU's Comics and Social Justice "Big Idea" at Comic Con Special Edition (November 26, 2021)

Twitter: @comicsatsdsu Web: comics.sdsu.edu

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE CERTIFICATE AND PROCESS OF GETTING IT APPROVED?



Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this certificate, students will be able to:

- Apply comics terminology to discuss varied examples of sequential art through time and across cultures
- Trace developments in comics and graphic novels from 1850 to the present
- Analyze comics and graphic novels from multiple-disciplinary perspectives
- Argue the value of comics for exploring issues related to diversity and social justice

Required Course (3 Units)

. Hist 157 or ENG 157 - Comics and History [Satisfies the C1 category for GE]

Choose Three Courses (9 Units)

- AFRAS 466 Afrofuturism [This course satisfies the Area F Ethnic studies (ES) requirement.]
- · AFRAS 475 Super Black: The Politics of Representation in Comics
- · ART 215 Visual Odyssey through Comics and Sequential Media
- . AMIND 235 Indians in Comic Books and Graphic Arts
- CCS 235 Comics and Race [This course satisfies the Area F Ethnic studies (ES) requirement.]
- . ECL 568 Chicanx Comix: Community, Storytelling, and Social Justice
- HIST 405 Amazons and Wonder Woman
- HIST 457 Graphic History [Satisfies an upper-division GE (HUM explorations) requirement.]
- . HIST 459 Manga and Japanese History
- . HIST 538 Comics in Cold War America
- HUM 250 Introduction to Environmental Humanities & Comics [Satisfies an lower-division GE (HUM foundations) requirement.]
- LGBT 550 Queering Comics
- RELS 365 Religion and Comics [Satisfies an upper-division GE (HUM explorations) requirement.]
- . RWS 413 The Rhetoric of Comics
- . TE 579 Comics for K-12 Educators
- · Other variable topics courses, by approval of the advisor
 - o ART 343/443/543 Illustration (when taught as a comic-book course)
 - ENGL 527 Genre Studies (when taught with emphasis on comics and/or graphic novels)
 - Various Women's Studies Courses (WMNST 355 and 360), when taught with substantial content from comics and/or graphic novels

Additional courses are acceptable with approval of the advisor.





The Future of Race and Morality

ween ideologically-based consorship and vil rights social activium

- Repairing Parial Donomics in American Science Piction
- Censorship and "Cultural Containme Toward An African American Equality

WARNO: How did those conducting UStomic testing define the term "wasteland"

HIST 538 - Comics in Cold War America

Gregory A. Daddis, History

"Comics and Cold War America" examines the Cold War as a political, ideological, cultural, and military contest through the medium of the "comic" as it evolved throughout the post-World War II era. By examining Cold War comics, students will have the opportunity to evaluate how these visual arts depicted race identity, gender, and social justice during a time when many U.S. citizens believed they were engaged in an existential struggle between good and evil.



Bulletproof Black Men

Intent: Explore the Blasplostation era style comic hero 'Luke Cage ' Durcum fintorical experimentation on Black bodies and the contemporary comificance of sullet proof skin in the face of police brutality

Social Commentary:

- Black men portrayed at heroes/anti-heroes . The assumption of guilt and the cruminality of
- · The threat precumption of the Black man

Dislogue Analysis: White scripts, Black facet - at analysis of authenticity.

AFRAS 475 - Super Black: The Politics of Representation in Comics

Alani Brown, Department of Africana Studies

"Super Black" is the exploration of comics focused on the increased prevalence of black comic book characters and their creators. We will delve into the purposeful and audacious inclusion of these culturally specific story arcs into the sequential arts medium. This is an analytic history of the diverse contributions of Black artists to the medium, covering comic books, superhero comics, graphic novels, and cartoon strips.



LGBT 550 - Queering Comics

Jess Whatcott, Women's Studies/LGBTQ+ Studies

"Queering Comics" is an exploration of LGBTQ+ culture, ideas, aesthetics, relationships, identity, and politics through the prism of sequential art. We will use the medium of comics to explore the politics of representation, assessing both the consequences of the absence of complex gueer and trans characters, and conversely the stereotypes that are reproduced when gueer and trans people do appear.



ECL 568 - Chicanx Comix: Community, Storytelling, and Social Justice

William A. Nericcio, English and Comparative Literature

When it comes to the history of comics, comic books, editorial cartooning, and animation in the United States in the 20th and 21st century, the chapter dedicated to works by Americans of Mexican descent (Chicanos/as/x) would be enormous. Examining pathbreaking works, "Chicanx Comix" treats advanced undergraduates and/or graduate students to broad array of styles, genres, media and more.

COLORING COMICS

- "colors aren't just coloring in, it's world building. it's narrative driving devices that our books solely misses without it...
- -Hassan Otsmane-Elhaou of Strip Panel Naked

Coloring comics = creative and rhetorical decisions made by the colorist/author/artist

Colors are there for a reason (authorial/ artist intent)

Colors are up for reader interpretation



RWS 413 - The Rhetoric of Comics

Ben Jenkins, Rhetoric and Writing Studies

"The Rhetoric of Comics" offers an analytical look at the multimodal characteristics of comics, focusing on how visual rhetoric and sequential narrative are crafted within the genre to persuade and to convey meaning and messages to specific audiences. Students will identify, analyze, and evaluate the various modes of communication that comics creators utilize in telling their stories.

Year Two Courses (approved AY 23/24)

Jaime Reyes, Blue Beetle: Graduation Day

- How does Blue Beetle/Jaime Reyes display/showcase a 'nepantia' attitude?
- How is the border/ U.S.//Mexico borderlands an additional character in Jaime Reyes' stories & adventures?
- Can we think of stereotype threats that are likely common for Chicanx/Latinx youth?
- How do these appear & how are they contested in Graduation Day?



CCS 235 - Comics and Race

Michael Domínguez, Chicana and Chicano Studies

"Comics and Race" examines the representations of race, ethnicity, culture, and racialization in comics and comic media. Specifically, we will give comics their due respect, positioning them as literature and meaningful cultural contributors, and undertaking literary and social analysis of these texts as racial narratives intersecting with historical and contemporary sociopolitical tensions in our contemporary lives.

Anansi in Contemporary Media







The David Cold Cold Cold of Sandry Division of Sandry

(Auto-toric Sarted Systematic street)

HUM 250 - Avenging the Universe: An Introduction to Environmental Humanities & Comics

Kishauna Soljour, Humanities

"Avenging the Universe: An Introduction to Environmental Humanities & Comics" explores the relationship between humanity, nature, and visual storytelling. Engaging the full spectrum of visual medium, the course analyzes comics, graphic novels, cartoon strips, animation 3-D imaging and film. Utilizing different styles of written and visual communication, we will develop new ideas about environmental solutions and create stories that envision possible futures grounded in equity, justice and a duty to protect our dying world.

"One of the sites of Japanese everyday life' that appears most threatened and vulnerable is that of the traditional family, and one of the more vulnerable victims of this destabilization is the young (female) child. Consequently, prevailing female addlescent identifies have further fragmented, spawning more negatively infected (sterceo-Byyes, "More two, "Japanes them Panes of



Monstrous girls of Towir (1087-2000) and River (1907)

HIST 459 - Manga and Japanese History

Raechel Dumas, History

"Manga and Japanese History" maps the cultural history of modern Japan through representative works of manga (Japanese comics) and selected anime adaptations. Students will analyze manga as primary sources that reflect the array of historical developments, cultural transformations, and socio-political discourses that have played into the construction of "Japan" from the early modern period through the new millennium.

Captain Underpants

View movie trailer: CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS MOVIE

Who do the characters in The Adventures in Captain Underpants mirror? Why?



TE 579 - Comics for K-12 Educators

Katie Sciurba, Literacy Education

"Comics for K-12 Educators" is a course designed to (re)introduce students —who are also future/current elementary, middle, or high school teachers — to the socio-political importance and the literacy-enhancing value of comic strips, comic books, and graphic novels. As we situate comics and graphic novels within discussions of censorship and justice, students in this course will also develop ideas for educational practices that challenge notions of difference that advantage some groups over others.

Not (yet) pictured, RELS 365 Religion and Comics

Fostering a Comics Community - Guest Speakers (Public Lecture, Lunch, and Faculty/Student Interactions

You are Invited to a Faculty Reading Group and Box-lunch

with PROFESSOR QIANA WHITTED UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MONDAY, FEB. 6 | 12-2 p.m.

FINCH CONTERENCE BOOM ARTS AND LETTERS (AL-660)



"All-New, All-Negro: Orrin C. Evans and the Golden Age of Comics"



egro Comics" will be circulated in advance



SDSU

Qiana Whitted is professor of English and African American Studies at the University of South Carolina. A graduate of Hampton University with a Ph.D. from Yale University, her research and teaching focus on Black literary and cultural studies, and American comics and graphic novels. She is the author of the Eisner Award-winning book, "EC Comics: Race, Shock, and Social Protest" and co-editor of the collection on Comics and the U.S. South. Along with numerous published articles, book chapters, and online writings that explore race, genre, and history in comics, she has written the introductory essay for the recent volume of Black Panther comics for Marvel's new Penguin Classics Collection. Her forthcoming edited collection, "Desegregating Comics: Debating Blackness in the Golden Age of American Comics," will be published in May 2023. She is also the editor of Inks: 'The Journal of the Comics Studies Society and chair of the International Comic Arts Forum

RSVP FOR LUNCH REQUIRED by JAN. 20, 2023



to Melissa Bacci: mbaccinsdsu.edu





White Saviors, Green Aliens, Brown Women and Children: Violence and Privilege in "Wonder Woman" and "Captain Marvel"



SDSU

t this faculty reading group, Professor Carolyn Cocca will discuss representations of "Wonder Woman" and "Captain Marvel" enacting violence against othered enemies while also protecting similarly-othered refugees. While women superhero soldiers fighting for and caring for oppressed peoples may diversify

formerly homogeneously male spaces and foment productive gender trouble, their state-affiliated military violence may also embody only token diversification while shoring up dominant cultural narratives of gender, sexuality, nation, and race. As such, this discussion will explore to what extent such representations have the potential to build empathy for others, as well as to re-center whiteness



MONDAY. APRIL 3 12-2 p.m.

ARTS AND LETTERS (AL-660)

Carolyn Cocca is professor of Politics. Economics, and Law at the State University of New York, College at Old Westbury. She is the author of the Eisner Award-winning "Superwomen: Gender, Power, and Representation" and of "Wonder Woman and Captain Marvel: Militarism and Feminism in Comics and Film," as well as numerous articles. book chapters, and online writings on similar topics. She is also the author of "Jailbait: The Politics of Statutory Rape Laws in the United States" and the editor of Adolescent Sexuality, and teaches courses about U.S. politics, constitutional law, civil rights and civil liberties, and gender and sexuality

> **RSVP FOR LUNCH** REQUIRED by MARCH 30, 2023 to Melissa Bacci: mbacci@sdsu.





Making Reading Strange Again, or, Is Comics Literacy Its Own Thing?

Faculty Reading Group | Boxed Lunch



Though often belittled as "simple," comics is an uncanny mode of reading that may confound even experienced readers: a distinctive mode of literacy that has a complex, unresolved relationship to traditional alphabetic literacy. Far from a neutral conveyor of ideas that could be expressed as readily in words alone, comics offers a resistant mode of reading. This talk with Charles Hatfield will engage the question "What is comics literacy?" by analyzing the reading challenges implicit in several contrasting examples

THURSDAY. NOV.9

11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.

Finch Conference Room (6th Floor) Arts & Letters

RSVP REQUIRED NOV. It epollard@sdsu.edu

THIS EVENT IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY





Image: Eleanor Davis, "The Secret Science Alliance" (2009), 17.



WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE LIBRARY'S PIVOTAL ROLE IN COURSE DEVELOPMENT?





More than 120K published comics in addition to ephemera and archival collections

Open for public research

libguides.sdsu.edu/comicarts

J. Gordon Melton Vampire Collection

Collection Strengths

Ted Adams and Robbie Robbins IDW Founders Collection

Self-published and Mini-Comics SPINACE

Alternative and Underground Comix

Modern Age Comics

> Fandom Archives

Donna Barr Collection

Early Comic Strips Drawn Books

SPECIAL ATTENTION IS PAID TO COLLECTING WORKS THAT CELEBRATE DIVERSITY, DOCUMENT THE HUMAN CONDITION AND SHED LIGHT ON SOCIAL ISSUES.



Barbara Gordon in *Detective Comics* #359 (Obligatory librarian-stereotype joke)

Librarians can be valuable information assets.



Barbara Gordon as Oracle in Batman #100



Your Librarian's Cheat Sheet

Comics about and set in Rome

2	Online	Marvel Comics Database entry on the Roman Empire
3	A number of titles in the <u>Library</u> and also some freely available online	Asterix
- 6		Asterix at the Olympic
5		Asterix and Caesa
6	6 volume set in Special Collections; PN6790.B44 A45 1982	The Adventures of Alix
7	Request to borrow from another Library	El Jabato
8		
Scre	eenshot	W VI T. R. V 15 W
9	E-Book	Murena - Volume 1 - Purple and Gold
	E-Book	Murena - Volume 2 - Of sand and blood
10	E-Book	Murena - Volume 3 - The Best of All Mothers
si.		

Comic Arts

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Overview of Our Collections
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Classes
Pedagogical Resources

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Museums, Exhibits and National Collections

SDSU Publications

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Library Hours

Library: 7AM-6PM 24/7 Area: Open 24 Hours

DH Center: 10am-4pm

Special Collections: 10am-4pm

Online Research Help: 24/7

e-Resource Problem Report

Tips and Resource for Specific SDSU Classes

Hums 103 Hist 503 (Rome)

Click here for a list of Comics and Comic Book Characters related to Nationalism/National Identity/Patriotism

Click here for Comics related to Democracy and American Government

Scroll below for Scholarly Books related to Nationalism/National Identity in Comics



Mark Gruenwald and the star spangled symbolism of Captain America, 1985-1995

Olsen, Jason, 1974- author Jefferson, North Carolina : McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers, 2021 - 2021

Search this Guide

Search



The supervillain reader

Peaslee, Robert Moses, 1973- editor

Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2020 - 2020



Comic book nation: the transformation of youth culture in America

Wright, Bradford W., 1968-

Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001



Super black American pop culture and black superheroes

Nama, Adilifu, 1969-

Austin: University of Texas Press. 2011

· Slide Deck for Instruction on March 9

e-Resource Problem Report

oiscovered his plans to renounce her so as to marry Lollia Paulina, Murena's mother. His mother, having bought the favor of the army and the Senate, believes that she'll be 17-years-old, Nero is no longer a child, which she'll soon learn at her own expense

The young Britannicus is dead. Poisoned, just like his father, the Emperor Claudius. The ever-growing ambitions has been reduced to ashes. Nero remains alone on Rome's threshadows lurks his mother, Agrippina, and she's willing to do whatever it takes to get a because of the contract of

The shadows of the crucified stretch over the empire, while rumors spread like wildfire t emperor, did indeed poison his half-brother, Britannicus. Agrippina, in order to win the fit to him. But Nero has eyes only for Acte, the beautiful prostitute whom he freed from the Acte to give word to Murena that he is pardoned, and that there is nothing stopping him TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOUR COURSE,
"COMICS AND RACE"? WHAT WERE
YOUR GOALS IN DESIGNING IT, AND
WHAT CAN STUDENTS EXPECT?



Racial Literacy: Our ability and comfort level in having productive conversations about our having productive conversations and diverse racial, ethnic, & cultural identities and experiences.

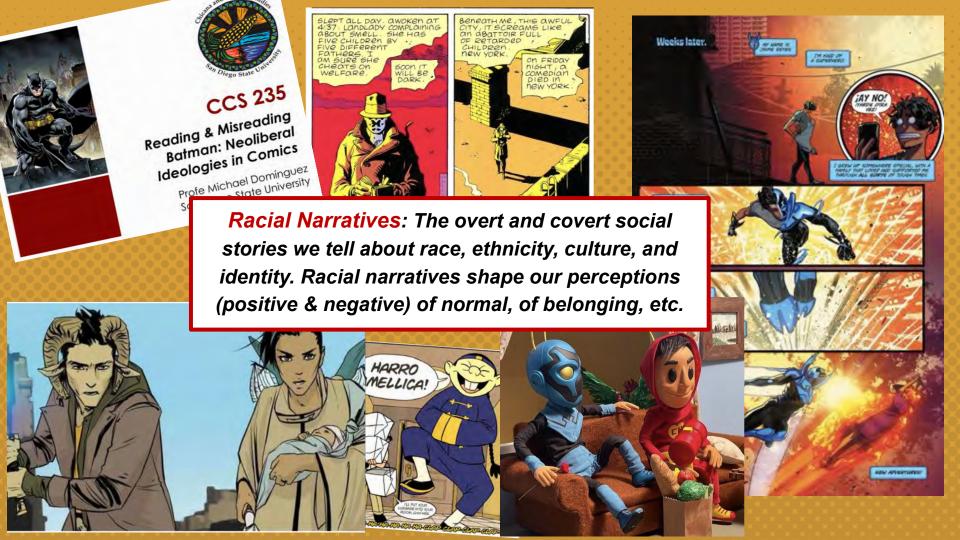




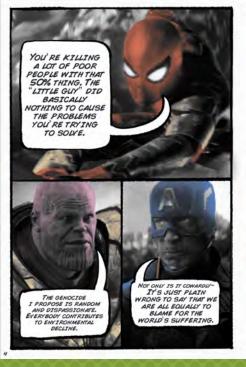








TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOUR COURSE,
"AVENGING THE UNIVERSE"? HOW DID YOU
GET YOUR HEAD AROUND DESIGNING IT, AND
WHAT CAN STUDENTS EXPECT?





Student Reactions to the reading...

Looking at the Against the Ecofascist Creep reading. I found it very fun that they formatted it like this with the Avengers comic, because it appeals to a larger audience and encourages fun collaboration with the resource. I also think that this goes back to our unit on digital humanities, as we can see all of those different traits in this resource, while addressing another pressing humanities issue. I chose to look at the myth that "Humans are Naturally, Tragically, Selfish," going along with the idea of the tragedy of the commons, which I have learned about in the context of economics and how economic policy can connect to environmental results. The tragedy of the commons in economics also has to do with the elpetion of resources and how that can affect the economic climate of communities, so Lin Ostrom suggests that communities come together to collaborate on guidelines for sharing resources, in order to make it fair and sustainable, instead of everyone being worried about what others will do, and in turn acting selfishly as a defense mechanism. Because the

Hey Marilla, this is a very interesting topic regarding our world is facing in terms of water supply. To think that in less than 20 years we may not have enough running water to meet the demand is order for us humans to survive it frightening. You mentioaned how the water crisis father we are facing is due heavily because of humans, which is do agree with. However this refules to one of this week's articles. Against the Ecotoxic Croes. Debonking Ecotoxics Myths. It discusses how Thanos wanted to wipe out half of the population so that the other half would have enough resurges to survive. One may load at our water crisis and think the same thing, but if we can find a way to turn water from the obean into water we can whist, if we can find, if would solve this problem.

HI Jessical Your discussion post brings up several intriguing points that resonate with me. I appreciate how you fieldlight the pervasive nature of tile myth "Humans are Naturally, Tragically, Selfshi," demonstrating its relevance leyond environmental contexts. Your view on solindiness, which takes into account both its good and bad effects, makes the topic more complete. The way you contrast the arguments from Current Affairs and Garrett Hardin effectively shows the complexity of human behavior. I also liked how you inked the ecolascist myth to broader societal views. Inightlighting the importance of humanity and now people can misrepresent. human nature when they project their own biasses.

According to the article Why Science Needs the humanities to solve climate change states "Climate change matters more when it affects people's homes, livelihoods, and spiritual beliefs" (Conversation 2019). This quote I found very interesting because only when humans are directly impacted is when most tend to take action and care. This is similar to Earth Day which was mentioned in this week's lecture. In the 1970s Earth Day was established because many more Americans became more cautious and aware of air and water pollution.



AGAINST THE ECOFASCIST CREEP

Why science needs the humanities to solve climate change

... TO AVENGE THE

Anthropomorphism in Comics & Graphic Novels



Major Themes in **Environmental Humanities**

Why is Environmental Humanities Important?

Interdisciplinary Understanding

Ethical Reflection

Cultural Transformation

Cultural and Historical Context

Environmental Justice

environmental benefits and burdens

Policy and Governance



Community Update and Exhibit



Doors open at 5:00PM

A Reason To Survive 200 E 12th Street, National City, CA 91950

Richard McGuire's Here

Superheroes, Villains and the Future of Humanity









Questions to Consider:

- How do our everyday activities impact the environment?
- Who should be accountable for protecting the environment?
- · What role does "time" play in tracking human activity?

TELL US ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH COMICS AS AN UNDERGRADUATE AT SDSU!

HIST580-01: Topics in the History of War and Violence At

HIST 580, Comics and Cold War America

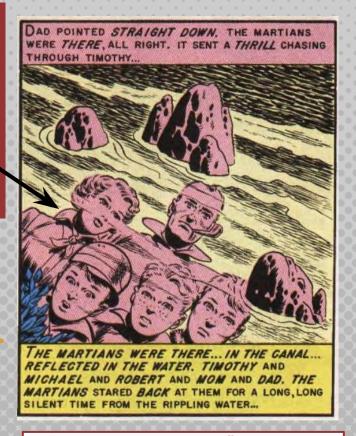
Fall Term, AY 22-23

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30pm - 1:45pm

Location: Life Sciences North 132

Professor Gregory A. Daddis

Creative Courses &
Mentorship + Personal
Interest & Self-Advocacy



"Million Year Picnic" in *Weird*Fantasy #21 (September 1953)



Dearborn 1

Strictly Entertaining: An Analysis of Depictions of American Domesticity in Entertaining

Comics, 1947-1956

National Conference,
SDSU Symposium,
Honors Thesis, &
Undergraduate Journal
Publication

Abstract #299

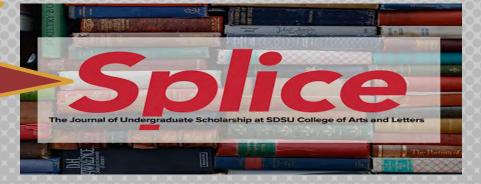
EC and the Nuclear Unit: What a Difference a Code Makes!

Grace Dearborn

San Diego State University

STING TALES OF ENSION THE TRADITION!

Suzy Carson kneels bound and awaiting punishment from a K.K.K. grandmaster in "Under Cover" from *Shock Suspenstories* #6 (1953).



QUESTIONS?



Web (with blog): comics.sdsu.edu

X: @comicsatsdsu

Instagram: comicsatsdsu

Facebook: COMICSatSDSU



Comics and Social Justice Handbook

We're developing a comics and social justice handbook and, in the spirit of community action, we're soliciting your advice and participation. For decades, a wide range of comics have tackled social issues like wealth disparities (Little Orphan Annie), racial discrimination (Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story), food insecurity (Heroes for Hunger), gender inequality (It Ain't Me Babe), sexual identity (Come Out Comix), and immigration (Jiggs and Maggie), just to name a few early examples. In the past few years, the number of comics and graphic novels directly addressing social justice issues has grown exponentially, making it a challenge to track the exciting changes in this vibrant change-making medium.

The handbook — comprising more than thirty 5000-word chapters — will provide an introduction to anyone attempting to get their head around this rapidly growing field. As we currently envision the project, the essays fall into at least three categories: overview essays each discussing how the medium of comics addresses an individual social justice issue such as those listed above (thematic); close analysis essays that explore how individual comics and graphic novels tackle social justice issues (analytic); and innovative essays advocating for bringing change through comics, through such topics as pedagogy and banned books activism (practical).

We're excited to hear your ideas for contributing to this Comics and Social Justice volume. Having attended our workshop at the CSS (25 June 2024) and/or reviewed our g-slide deck, please let us know if you are interested in participating by submitting an abstract for consideration. If you know another scholar who may be interested, please feel free to share this form with them.

Sign in to Google to save your progress. Learn more

* Indicates required question

What's next? Share your idea for an essay in this volume!