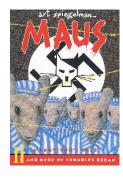
English 290: Comic Books as Literature

Comic books have commonly been perceived as juvenile, simplistic, and even dangerous. I disagree, and in teaching this class I will operate from the assumption that comic books are a legitimate, complicated, and important form of literature that merits serious study and consideration. In this class we will engage with the unique language of comic books (the complicated interplay of word and picture), we will explore the rich (and controversial) history and culture of this medium, and we will analyze the styles and themes of these literary works in terms of what they have to say about art, our lives, and the lives of others.

Tentative Book List













We will also read various short pieces from artists/writers like Lynda Barry, Ebony Flowers, Jaime Hernandez, Gilbert Hernandez, Ben Passmore, Harvey Pekar, Joe Sacco, and others.

Class #32662 Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:45 – 4:10pm, Humanities 308

This course is transferable to the UC/CSU systems, and it satisfies Area 2 for IGETC and Area C for CSU General Education.

For more information, contact me via:

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