

Collegium V Honors Readings

Graphic Novels

HONS 3199.H10

Fall 2022

Course Information

Institution: University of Texas at Dallas

School: Hobson Wildenthal Honors College

Class Listing: HONS 3199.h10

Class Number: 89188

Meeting Time: Tuesday from 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM

Term: Fall 2022

Class Location: CB 1.102

Modality: In-Person

Course Pre-requisites: None

Course Description: Honors reading courses explore contemporary interdisciplinary topics in the sciences, social sciences, humanities, and engineering.

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Patrick Muenks

Email Address: patrick.muenks@utdallas.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment Only (MS Teams)

[Click Here to Book an Appointment](#)

Student Learning Objectives

- **Understand how to read graphic novels**– critically analyze substantive and artistic elements of graphic novels. This includes the historical and social context of the subject matter in the novels as well as the contemporary elements incorporated into the writing and artistic design.
- **Effectively communicate issues of societal and personal importance with others**-meaningfully and respectfully express your ideas on issues in the readings with fellow students.
- **Develop communication and discussion skills**-how to read material and prepare to lead a discussion. Students will learn how to moderate a discussion and foster productive and constructive engagement with course material.

Required Materials

It is strongly recommended that students purchase physical copies of the graphic novels listed below. This course will cover six graphic novels. Students may purchase these through the university bookstore or from other sources. Used copies of the novels are acceptable and encouraged.

Collections or Volumes?

When ordering the graphic novels, some are available in both volumes and in a collection. For example, *Maus* was originally written as a two-volume graphic novel. You can purchase volumes 1 and 2 or a collected edition which includes both volumes 1 and 2 in one binding. For this class, either printing is fine. Based on my experience, volumes and paperback editions are a bit easier to handle but that is a personal preference.

List of Graphic Novels

- [1] John Lewis and Andrew Aydin. *March*. Top Shelf Productions, slp edition edition.
- [2] Kristen Radtke. *Seek You: A Journey Through American Loneliness*. Pantheon.
- [3] Joe Sacco. *Paying the Land*. Metropolitan Books, illustrated edition edition.
- [4] Marjane Satrapi. *The Complete Persepolis*. Pantheon, media tie-in edition edition.
- [5] Art Spiegelman. *Maus I & II Paperback Box Set*.
- [6] G. B. Tran. *Vietnamerica: A Family's Journey*. Villard, illustrated edition edition.

General Overview

This course meets every Tuesday. Students are expected to arrive at class having completed the specified readings in the course calendar below. Students will be required to submit a weekly assignment which will include questions and comments to prompt discussion in class. **Unless noted, all homework assignments are due by 12:00 PM CT on the Monday before class. All essay assignments are due at 12:00 PM CT on the dates specified below.**

Modality: In-Person

The course is set to be taught as an in-person course meaning students are expected to attend class. If university policy requires the modality of course instruction to be adjusted, students will receive an

email from the instructor with updated course information. Unless required by COVID-19 policy or through OSA, video recordings of the class will not be made available to students.

Using Technology In Class

Unless prior approval is received from the instructor, the use of cell phones, laptops, tablets, and other devices is prohibited during class. If you have typed notes from the readings, please print them prior to class.

Course Calendar

Class Date	Readings	Assessment	Due Date
August 23	Syllabus, Introduction	Homework 1	August 29
August 30	Vietnamerica (1st Half)	Homework 2	August 29
September 6	Vietnamerica (2nd Half)	Homework 3	September 5
September 13	March - Book One	Homework 4	September 12
September 20	March - Book Two	Homework 5	September 19
September 27	March - Book Three (1st Half)	Homework 6	September 26
October 4	March - Book Three (2nd Half)	Homework 7	October 3
October 11	Persepolis - Book One	Homework 8	October 10
October 18	Persepolis - Book Two	Homework 9	October 17
October 25	Maus I	Homework 10	October 24
November 1	Maus II	Homework 11	October 31
November 8	Paying the Land (1st Half)	Homework 12	November 7
November 15	Paying the Land (2nd Half)	Homework 13	November 14
—	—	Essay - Draft	November 18
November 22	No Class - Fall Break		
November 29	Seek You (1st Half)	Homework 14	November 28
December 6	Seek You (2nd Half)	Homework 15	December 5
—	—	Essay - Final	December 8

Assessment

Course assessment will be completed using homework, a short writing assignment, and class participation and attendance. Details on the grading scale along with each of the assignments can be found below.

Grading Scale

Consistent with UT Dallas policy, students are graded on a plus/minus scale. Grades will not be rounded in this course. Extra credit is not offered in this course. Please see the grade table below:

Grade	Top of Range	Bottom of Range
A+	100	97
A	< 97	>= 93
A-	< 93	>= 90
B+	< 90	>= 87
B	< 87	>= 84
B-	< 84	>= 80
C+	< 80	>= 77
C	< 77	>= 74
C-	< 74	>= 70
D+	< 70	>= 67
D	< 67	>= 64
D-	< 64	>= 60
F	< 60	

Assignment Weights

Assignment	Weight
Homework	40%
Participation	20%
Class Discussant Leader	20%
Short Writing Assignment	20%
Total	100%

Homework - 40%

Homework is submitted through eLearning. The links to the homework are available in eLearning under the announcement section for this course. All homework assignments are due at 5:00 PM on the Monday before class meetings unless otherwise noted in the class schedule. Homework assignments are graded on completion and content. Completion is whether the assignment was submitted. Content assess the quality of the submission and is based on the student's responses demonstrating critical engagement with the material and a thoughtful and full response to each of the prompts.

To account for unforeseen circumstances, life events, or illness, the homework grade will be based on the 14 highest homework grades.

Participation - 20%

As a small discussion-based class that only meets once per week, student attendance and active participation are expected. To be an active participant, students should arrive at class with all of the readings for the week completed and ready to make substantive contributions to the discussion. Please bring your notes from the readings along with the reading material for the week.

A student may miss one class without an adverse impact on their attendance and participation grade. However, multiple absences will significantly and negatively impact a student's grade in the course.

Class Discussant Leader - 20%

Each student will lead one of the class discussion. As a class discussant leader, students are expected to lead the class with discussion questions, prompts, and talking points to stimulate engagement for the duration of class.

Short Essay Assignment 20%

Each student will submit a short essay assignment. The assignment will ask you to draw upon the readings and students are encouraged to use external sources when appropriate. 10% or half of the assignment grade will be turning in a complete draft of the assignment prior to fall break. Students will receive feedback from the instructor by the first class after fall break and will then submit a final copy of the assignment on the last day of class prior to finals week.

An assignment sheet and prompt will be posted in eLearning by the 5th week of class and we will reserve 5-10 minutes of class time in week five to review the assignment. The short essay will be submitted through Turnitin on eLearning.

Course Policies

Communication

- Emails about the course must be sent using your UT Dallas email and have HONS 3199 in the subject line. Failure to do so may result in a delayed response from the instructor. Per UT Dallas policy, I will not respond to student emails sent from non-UT Dallas email accounts.
- Expect all email messages to be responded to within two business days.

- You may also reach out to the instructor using e-Learning. Please see the e-Learning tutorials for additional information and guides.

Late Work

Late work is not accepted.

Extra Credit

There is no extra credit offered in this course. The student's lowest homework grade will be dropped, and students are allotted one absence without penalty.

Courseroom Citizenship

This course covers several historical events, usually told from the personal perspectives of individuals that lived through them or as a memoir. The purpose of this class is foster critical discussion. The discussions in class are meant to be a liminal space for students to explore the ideas, concepts, and experiences of the authors and artists we are reading. While respectful disagreement can enhance classroom discussion, this class is not a debate or rhetoric course and students should not be trying to 'win' classroom discussions.

Academic Integrity

Every student at UT Dallas is expected to exercise independent thought and expression as he or she strives for academic achievement. Incorporated in the quest for intellectual growth are the expectations of honesty, originality in written and oral expression, a respect for the exchange of ideas, and acknowledgement and recognition of the abilities and contributions of others. Please see the university's [academic integrity](#) page for details and tips.

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable under any circumstances. This includes but is not limited to plagiarism, collusion, cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, failure to contribute to a collaborative project, and sabotage. If a student is thought to be engaging in academic dishonesty, they will be referred to the Office of Community Standards and Conduct. For additional details on what may constitute academic dishonesty, please refer to the [university's webpage](#).

Academic Accommodation Information

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Dallas to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and state and local regulations regarding students and applicants

with disabilities. In compliance with these laws, the Office of Student AccessAbility (OSA) is dedicated to maintaining an environment that guarantees students with disabilities full access to educational programs, activities and facilities.

It is the student's responsibility to identify himself/herself to OSA and to provide documentation of a disability. Strict documentation guidelines exist for different types of disabilities. See the [OSA website for details](#). The student meets with OSA, who determines appropriate accommodations after reviewing documentation prepared by a licensed professional.

Instructors are under no obligation to provide accommodations for a student who does not identify himself/herself as a student with a disability. If a student requests accommodations for a disability but has not provided the faculty member with an Accommodation Letter from OSA, the instructor will immediately refer the student to OSA.

Classroom Conduct Requirements Related to Public Health Measures

UT Dallas will follow the public health and safety guidelines put forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), and local public health agencies that are in effect at that time during the Fall 2021 semester to the extent allowed by state governance. Texas Governor Greg Abbott's Executive Order GA-38 prohibits us from mandating vaccines and face coverings for UT Dallas employees, students, and members of the public on campus. However, we strongly encourage all Comets to get vaccinated and wear face coverings as recommended by the CDC. Check the [Comets United: Latest Updates webpage](#) for the latest guidance on the University's public health measures. Comets are expected to carry out [Student Safety](#) protocols in adherence to the Comet Commitment. Unvaccinated Comets will be expected to complete the [Required Daily Health Screening](#). Those students who do not comply will be referred to the Office of Community Standards and Conduct for disciplinary action under the [Student Code of Conduct – UTSP5003](#).

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, **students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course**. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accom-

modation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

The instructor may record meetings of this course. These recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”