



COMICS STUDIES

Conference

March 22 & 23, 2013

"LEAPING INTERDISCIPLINARY DIVIDES IN A SINGLE BOUND!"

Antiquated understandings of comic books as "children's trash" with no redeeming or literary value have been replaced in recent years with an explosion of interest in using graphic novels and sequential art for innovative educational programs. There are now literally hundreds of college and university courses worldwide, and a skyrocketing number of K-12 classrooms, that integrate Comics Studies in their curriculum. Comics are a proven resource for motivating reluctant readers, engaging multiple learning styles, and developing multi-media critical literacy, which involves the ability to thoughtfully analyze and evaluate combinations of text and imagery. Graphic literature not only addresses a wide variety of social issues and cultural topics, but also invites development of skills in critical thinking, visual rhetoric, deductive reasoning, and aesthetic as well as philosophical judgment. Comics Studies thus offer ideal pedagogical materials for interdisciplinary studies since 'Sequential Art' explores these diverse intersections of the artistic qualities for literature, art, and cinema while also providing thought-provoking mythic allegories for historical, political, and philosophical issues. And students love it!

This symposium explores

- *Comics Across the Curriculum*
- *Comics Across Culture*
- *Comics Across the Community, and*
- *Comics Across the Classroom*

Highlighting the diverse UNT faculty who use comics or graphic novels in their teaching and research, panels will also examine the community connections and interdisciplinary value of bringing comics into student-centered learning environments!

250+ word abstracts for papers or 600+ word proposals for panels due by January 28th. Send to Keith.Brown@unt.edu

 Center for the Study of
Interdisciplinarity

