

Critical Creation Guidelines: Graphic Narrative #1, ENG 325, Fall 2021

Due: Sunday, October 24th, 2021 by 11:59pm EST to D2L > Assignments

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For this assignment, you will engage in an act of critical creation by creating your own 4pg graphic narrative and 3pg author's statement as a demonstration of your understanding of visual and literary conventions. The purpose of this assignment is for you to showcase your learning to its fullest extent by making a critical product, taking your place among the community of authors and creators we have studied this semester.

1. 4-pg Graphic Narrative related to course themes, texts, and approaches [6pts]

You will create a 4-pg graphic narrative that will be informed by research, have a defined critical purpose, and go through a drafting/revising process. This creation must be related to our course themes of "Graphic Narratives."

You have two options:

- 1) 4-pg Graphic Definition of one critical term from the semester:
 - a. Must move beyond definition and offer thoughtful engagement/examples/critiques/demonstrations.
 - b. Key terms to choose from:
Unflattening; Graphic Narrative; Visual Rhetoric; Critical-Making; Children's/YA Comics; Afrofuturism; Race; Representation; Intersectionality; Gender; Sexuality; Refugee.
- 2) 4-pg Critical Review of one graphic narrative from ENG 325
 - a. Must move beyond summary and into analysis of one theme/idea within the narrative (close reading)
 - b. Demonstrate how both visual AND textual elements depict one theme/idea within the graphic narrative.
- Comic must incorporate research/articles/primary texts from class.
 - Can be cited within comic or can be cited within the comics essay.
- Each page must use a different layout of some kind.
 - It's okay to use panels, or no panels; colors/B&W/both; don't rely on the same layout over and over.

2. Comics Back Matter Critical Reflection (1000w) to accompany Comic [4pts]

This will comprise the last component of your graphic narrative. Here, you will write a short analytical and reflective essay about your comic, its construction, and your goals. You will explain what you did, why you selected this topic, what you hoped to achieve, and how this demonstrates your current knowledge of graphic narratives. Include this all in a separate essay, or if you really feel enterprising, add it to the back of your comic in additional comics pages (think: *Murder of Emmett Till* or *INFINITUM*, which feature short writings in the back of the comics).

- 1000w Critical writing
 - What you did (description OF the comic: overview and visual/textual approaches) [250 words]
 - **Analysis** of visual and textual rhetoric in the comic w/evidence from your GN [500 words]
 - i.e. Explain what you did > Then, highlight evidence of that action > finally analyze & unpack it.
 - Significance/Purpose of your GN (why this topic and what you hoped to achieve) [250 words]
- 12pt font, Times new roman, double-spaced; name/date/class, title up at the top, etc.

Grading: 10pts

GRAPHIC NARRATIVE: 6PTS	AUTHORIAL STATEMENT (WHAT AND WHY YOU DID): 4 PTS TOTAL
Content (what it is): 2 pts	Description, 250w: 1pt
Organization & craft (overall polish): 2 pts	Critical analysis of your GN w/evidence from your GN, 500w: 2pts
Application & Growth (applied lessons & feedback from prev. assignments?): 2 pts	Purpose & Significance, 250w: 1pt