The graphic novel (also known as graphic fiction, comics, or sequential narrative) is an emergent literary medium and global phenomenon. The course focuses on texts that engage issues of contemporary identity, ethnicity, class, sexuality, technology, and/or history (personal, family, and national). These graphic novels engage these issues through the medium of text joined with image. This course explores the aesthetic of sequential narrative, its methods of production and consumption, and its place in a contemporary culture of reading. Assigned texts include titles from the United States, France, Japan, Italy, Canada and Norway. All texts will be read in English translation.

CMLIT 415 (GH;US;IL) World Graphic Novels (3) Critical analyses of form, genre, medium, and discourse of the graphic novel and its historical precedents in an international and comparative context.

SPRING 2021
CMLIT 415
TR 1:35-2:50pm
Jonathan E. Abel
CMLT 415  
**THE WORLD of GRAPHIC NOVELS**  
SPRING 2021 CMLIT 415 TR 1:35-2:50pm remote (zoom)  

Jonathan E. Abel

This course is concerned with the interplay between words and text in storytelling, meaning making, and understanding. The rise of the graphic novel – graphic fiction, comics, or sequential narrative – as a global phenomenon allows us to look cross-culturally to see what elements of the medium are shared and what elements differ. Assigned texts include titles from around the world that were originally written in a language other than English. All texts will be read in English translation.

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