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Graphic Novels: Winter Reading 2019-20

Dear Graphic Novels students,

May 2019

Welcome to this great class! To jump-start our discussion of graphic literature, you will read one book over winter break and produce a written analysis of it. The list below includes a superhero title (connecting to the comic origins of graphic novels) and two graphic novels that demonstrate some of the various directions the genre has expanded. Choose one of the following books:

Batman: Year One (Frank Miller)

Digger: Vol. 1 (Ursula Vernon)

Scott Pilgrim's Precious Little Life (Bryan Lee O'Malley)

(You may choose to buy your book or borrow it; either way, you should have your book available, digitally or in a print copy, for the first week of the semester.)

Keep a journal as you read, making notes about the story and its construction. Pay particular attention to how the creator directs your attention through the interaction of text and image. You may use any notebook or application you like to keep this journal.

When you have finished reading and journaling, write a two paragraph analysis considering how the text and images combine to create meaning; point to several specific scenes or incidents to ground your analysis.

Your journal and essay are due in hard copy form on the first day of class.

If you have questions, feel free to email me, better earlier than too late.

Hope you enjoy your break and your reading!

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