

SUMMER 2011: COMIC BOOKS AND “HIGH” ART IN THE 21ST CENTURY

ARTH389E Course Schedule:

The schedule for the course is listed in the following format:

Date: Reading: Author, *Title*, page numbers (if relevant) [Where to find it]
 Assignment: Assignment due that day

All reflections are due at 11:59 a.m. on the day they are listed. Topics for reflection will be posted on arth389e.ning.com at least 48 hours prior to when the reflection is due. All other assignments are due in class on the day on which they are listed.

This schedule is subject to change. Students will be notified of changes by the instructor in a timely fashion, either in class or by email.

Week 1

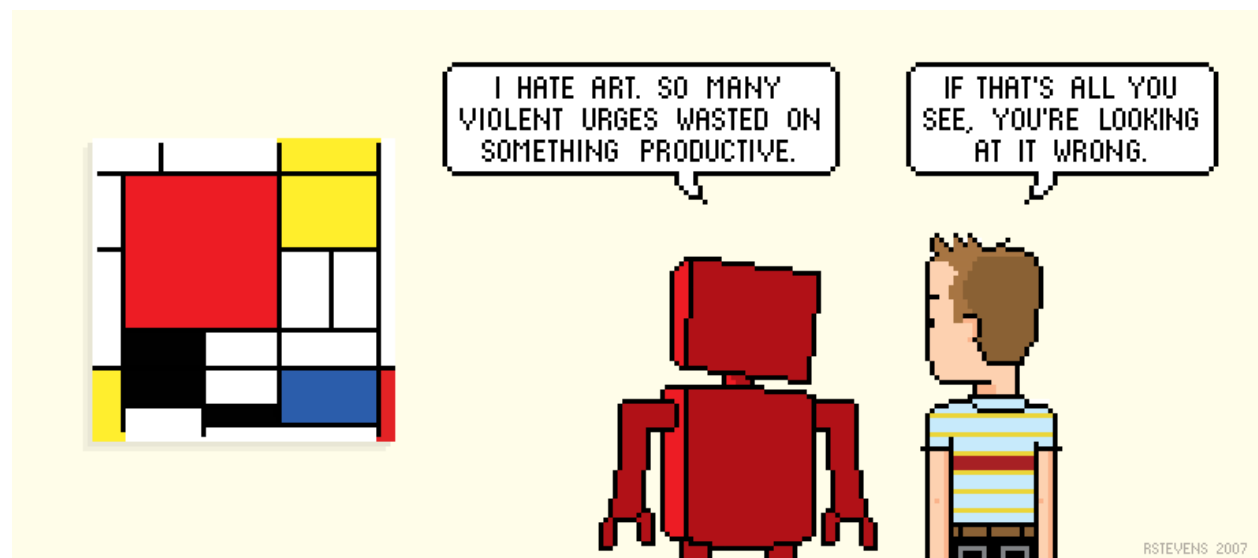
July 11: Reading: ARTH389E Syllabus [ELMS]

July 12: Reading: Charles Hatfield, “Defining Comics in the Classroom; or, The Pros and Cons of Unfixability,” in *Teaching the Graphic Novel*, 19-27. [ELMS]

July 13: *No Class*
 Assignment: Reflection

July 14: Reading: Scott McCloud, *Understanding Comics*, Chapters 1-2

July 15: Reading: Scott McCloud, *Understanding Comics*, Chapters 6-7
 Assignment: Reflection



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Week 2

- July 18: Reading: Paul Lopes, “Culture and Stigma: Popular Culture and the Case of Comic Books,” *Sociological Forum* 21, no. 3 (Sept. 2006): 387-414. [ELMS]
- July 19: Reading: Daniel Clowes, *Wilson*
Assignment: Reflection
- July 20: Reading: Scott McCloud, *Understanding Comics*, Chapters 3-5
- July 21: Reading: Henry John Pratt, “Narrative in Comics,” *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 67, no. 1 (2009); 107-117. [ELMS]
Assignment: Project Proposal Due
- July 22: Reading: “‘I Could Relate Very Closely to Your Isolation’: A Conversation Between Daniel Clowes and Jonathan Lethem,” in *The Best American Comics Criticism*, 331-342. [ELMS]
Assignment: Reflection



Week 3

- July 25: Reading: Chris Ware, *Jimmy Corrigan: The Smartest Kid on Earth*, 1-200.
- July 26: Reading: Chris Ware, *Jimmy Corrigan: The Smartest Kid on Earth*, 201-380
Assignment: Reflection
- July 27: Reading: Joseph Witek, “The Arrow and the Grid,” in *A Comics Studies Reader*, 149-156 [ELMS]
- July 28: Reading: Chris Ware, “I Think...,” in *An Anthology of Graphic Fiction, Cartoons, and True Stories*, 364-369. [Course Reserves]
- July 29: Reading: One of the following: Douglas Wolk, “Why Does Chris Ware Hate Fun?,” Chapter 22 in *Reading Comics: How Graphic Novels Work and What They Mean*, 347-358. [ELMS] **OR** Gene Kannenberg, Jr., “The Comics of Chris Ware,” in *A Comics Studies Reader*, 306-324. [ELMS]
Assignment: Reflection

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Week 4

August 1: Reading: Ted Cohen, “High and Low Art, and High and Low Audiences,” *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 57, no. 2 (Spring, 1999): 137-143. [ELMS]

August 2: Reading: David Mazzucchelli, *Asterios Polyp*, Chapters 1 (Drops) through 9 (Terra Cotta Warriors).
Assignment: Reflection

August 3: Reading: David Mazzucchelli, *Asterios Polyp*, Chapters 10 (Washington Monument) through 16 (Blister).

August 4: Reading: David Mazzucchelli, *Asterios Polyp*, Chapters 17 (Orpheus) through 21 (Treehouse).
Assignment: Comics/Art Paper Due

August 5: Reading: Charles Hatfield, “An Art of Tensions,” in *A Comics Studies Reader*, 132-148 [ELMS]

Week 5

August 8: Reading: 2-3 Updates of 3 Webcomics of Students’ Choice

August 9: Selections from *An Anthology of Graphic Fiction, Cartoons, and True Stories* [Course Reserves]
Assignment: Reflection

August 10: Museum Visit: National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC (1:30-3:30 pm)
Assignment: Museum Reflection (completed at NGA)

August 11: Reading: TBD

August 12: Reading: David Carrier, “Posthistorical Art; or, Comics and the Realm of Absolute Knowledge,” in *The Aesthetics of Comics*, 107-123. [ELMS]
Assignment: Reflection



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Week 6

August 15: Catch-up Day

August 16: Student Presentations I
Assignment: Final Projects due

August 17: Student Presentations II

August 18: Student Presentations III

August 19: Final Class Gathering
Assignment: Reflection

