GETTING STARTED IN COMICS STUDIES

DATE  2021  VENUE  COMICS & POPULAR ARTS CONFERENCE
How to Become a Comics Scholar

1. Read Comics
2. Write about Comics
3. ???
4. Profit!
Critical Approaches to Comics
Theories and Methods

More Critical Approaches to Comics
Theories and Methods

COMICS SCHOLARS USE VARIOUS CRITICAL APPROACHES
DRAWN FROM A VARIETY OF DISCIPLINES

Edited by Matthew J. Smith & Randy Duncan

Edited by Matthew J. Brown, Randy Duncan, and Matthew J. Smith
GRADUATE STUDY
Graduate Programs for Comics Studies

- University of Florida, Department of English, Comics and Visual Rhetoric Track
- University of Dundee, UK, English Programme, MLitt & MDes in Comics & Graphic Novels
- University of East Anglia, MA Comics Studies
- University of Valencia, Masters of Comics & Education (Spanish)
Studying Comics in Another Program...
Fields of and Approaches to Comics Studies

- Media Studies
- Art / Art History
- Literature / English
- Cultural Studies
- History
- Communication
- Journalism
- Philosophy
- Women’s & Gender Studies
- Critical Race / Ethnic Studies
- Anthropology
- Linguistics & Cognitive Science
- Economics / Business
Comics-Friendly Graduate Programs

- Western Ontario University
  English or Media Studies
- Memorial University of Newfoundland - English
- Indiana University
  Library Science, Info Science
- Idaho State Univ - English
- Indiana Univ. of Pennsylvania
  Literature & Criticism,
  Composition and Applied
  Linguistics
- DePaul University
  Comm and Media
- Henderson State - Liberal Arts
- Columbia - American Studies
- Univ of Connecticut - English
- The University of Texas at Dallas - Humanities
- Tilburg Univ - Cognition and Comm, Comm and Info
  Science, Language and Comm
- Univ of Southern California
  Comparative Studies in
  Literature and Culture
- Univ of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
  English, History
Other Graduate Resources

* Caroline and Erwin Swann Foundation for Caricature and Cartoon for MA or PhD students
  http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/swann/swann-fellow.html

* Comics Studies Society Graduate Student Caucus
  http://gradcaucus.comicsssociety.org/
Mission

The Comics Studies Society (CSS) is an interdisciplinary society open to all who share the goals of promoting the critical study of comics, improving comics teaching, and engaging in open and ongoing conversations about the comics world.

One Year Membership Fees:

- $42 for students
- $52 for independent scholars, contingent faculty, cartoonists/comics professionals, emeritus faculty
- $84 for tenure-line faculty, administrators, librarians, or curators
- $208 for institutions
Academic Conferences

- Comics Studies Society Annual Conference
- Popular Culture Association, Comics and Comic Art Area
- University of Florida Conference on Comics and Graphic Novels
- The International Comic Arts Forum
- Comics Forum, Leeds UK
- International Graphic Novels and Comics Conference
- International Bande Dessinée Society
- Michigan State University Comics Forum
- ... and many one-off events
Academic Conferences at Conventions

- Comics and Popular Arts Conference at DragonCon (CPAC)
- Comics Arts Conference (CAC) at SD Comic-Con International and at WonderCon
- Fandom and Neomedia Studies (FANS) Conference at A-Kon (anime/manga con in Dallas)
## Academic Journals

- Inks: The Journal of the Comics Studies Society
- ImageText
- Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics
- International Journal of Comic Art
- European Comic Art
- Studies in Comics
- The Comics Grid: Journal of Comics Scholarship
- Studies in Comics
- Comicalités: Studies of Graphic Culture
- Signs: Studies in Graphical Narratives
- Mechademia (Anime, Manga, & Fandom)
- Image & Narrative
- SANE (Sequential Art Narrative in Education) Journal

... and consider media studies, pop culture, cultural studies, and similar journals
Online Resources

- Comix Scholars Listserve: comics.english.ufl.edu/comic-scholars-discussion-list
- ComicsResearch.org
- Nick Sousanis, Spin Weave and Cut, Comics Programs and Resources spinweaveandcut.com/comics-programs
- comics.english.ufl.edu/resources