**ENGL 3374. Image+Text**

**[Writing, Rhetoric, and Multimodal Authoring]**

**Spring 2018**

**Instructor:** Dr. Cathy Corder

**Course Information**: PH 100 / TTh, 2 – 3:20pm

**Office/Hours**: Carlisle 210 – For appointment: http://www.uta.edu/english/Academics/advisors.php

**Email**: [ccorder@uta.edu](mailto:ccorder@uta.edu)

**Faculty Profile:** <https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/catherine-corder>

**Emergency Phone Numbers**: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

This class will investigate the multimodal juxtaposition of image and text—a merger of two semiotic systems, the linguistic and the visual. In other words, for this class you will be reading, analyzing, and creating picture books, comics, graphic novels and memoirs, comic/concrete poetry, hypertext stories, graphic journalism, and more. We will look at some important works in comic studies, visual literacy, and even typography and graphic design, as we gain an understanding about how authors create and readers construct meaning through the marriage of image and text. Our focus will primarily be on the rhetorical canons of *dispositio* (arrangement) and *elocutio* (style), and on how authors, artists, inkers, colorists, letterers, etc., collaborate to structure and fashion vivid narratives. We will also explore whether image+text can be deployed to tell a broad range of different kinds of stories and speak to diverse audiences.

**Goals and Objectives**

This course is designed to help students learn to appreciate the diversity and potential of the multimodal image+text as a distinct medium that authors may use to create a visual narrative and that readers may choose to interact with stories in a new way. To achieve that goal, students will be expected to achieve the following objectives:

* Build on pre-existing knowledge of the rhetorical situation (author-text-audience) to examine how visual storytelling/sequential art enhances discourse and to understanding the collaborative nature of creating different genres of image+text.
* Become familiar with theories of visual narrative/sequential art, together with the vocabularies that scholars employ to analyze and evaluate image+text.
* Look at how authors have drawn on those theories and vocabularies in a range of different contexts and genres; i.e., picturebooks and comics.
* Analyze and evalute image+text works using a variety of techniques, such as annotated visual analysis and close reading.
* Apply knowledge of the medium to the creation of an image+text work.

**Required Texts**

*Wonder Woman* by Greg Rucka and Liam Sharp. ISBN: 9781401267780

*Three Little Pigs* by David Wiesner. ISBN: 9781849394055

*Batman: The Dark Knight Returns* by Frank Miller. ISBN: 9781563893421

*Bats of the Republic* by Zachary Thomas Dodson. ISBN: 9780385539838

*Understanding Comics* by Scott McCloud. ISBN: 9780060976255

*Stitches* by David Small. ISBN: 9780393338966

*Maus I* by Art Spiegelman. ISBN: 9780394747231

*Black & White* by David Macaulay. ISBN: 9780618636877

*One! Hundred! Demons!* By Lynda Barry. ISBN: 9781570614590

Additional articles and essays are available on Blackboard.

**Assignments and Grading**

**Annotated Visual Analysis:** For this assignment, you will choose a page from a picturebook/comic of your choosing (you may also use an image+text that you have created) to visually annotate and analyze.

**Group Project**: For this assignment, you will be working with a group of your classmates to create a graphic adaptation of a fairy tale, an urban legend, or a myth. You may make any adaptations to the narrative that you choose to.

**Close Reading:** You will write careful, sustained analysis of any image+text that focuses on significant details or patterns and that typically examines some aspect of the text’s form, craft, meanings, etc.

**Character Analysis:** Select a character from an image+text, who has been especially meaningful to you. Write a 2- to 3-page paper that explores the development of that character visually and textually.

**Final Project:** Your culminating project for the semester may be either a creative work, author analysis, or a research paper. You will prepare a short proposal for your project.

Your final grade for this course will consist of the following:

Annotated visual analysis 10 percent

Group project 15 percent

Close reading 15 percent

Character analysis 20 percent

Final project 30 percent

Final project proposal 5 percent

Participation 5 percent

Final grades will be calculated as follows: A=90-100%, B=80-89%, C=70-79%, F=69%-and below; Z=see the Z grade policy above.

**Late Assignments.** Papers are due at 2pm on the due date specified. I do not accept late assignments, unless I have agreed to late submission *in advance of the due date*. If you must be absent, your work is still due on the assigned date.

**UTA Attendance Policy:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors must report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

* **My Attendance Policy:** I will take attendance at the beginning of each class, in order to comply with UTA data reporting requirements. **I will not supply what you miss by email or phone. It is your responsibility to conference with a peer to get this material or make an appointment to see me in person.**

**Classroom behavior.** Class sessions are short and require your full attention. **Turn your cell phones off and put them away!!!** Store materials from other classes, reading not related to this class, bulky bags, and other distractions so that you can concentrate on the readings and discussions each day. Bring book(s) and e-reserve readings (heavily annotated and carefully read) to every class. You are expected to participate respectfully in class, to listen to other class members, and to comment appropriately. I also expect consideration and courtesy from students. Professors are to be addressed appropriately and communicated with professionally.

According to *Student Conduct and Discipline*, "students are prohibited from engaging in or attempting to engage in conduct, either alone or in concert with others, that is intended to obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with, or that in fact obstructs, disrupts, or interferes with any instructional, educational, research, administrative, or public performance or other activity authorized to be conducted in or on a University facility. Obstruction or disruption includes, but is not limited to, any act that interrupts, modifies, or damages utility service or equipment, communication service or equipment, or computer equipment, software, or networks” (UTA Handbook or Operating Procedures, Ch. 2, Sec. 2-202). Students who do not respect the guidelines listed above or who disrupt other students’ learning may be asked to leave class and/or referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

**Classroom Visitors:**  Only students officially enrolled in this section are allowed to attend class meetings. Students may not bring guests (children, spouses, friends, family) to class unless an academic request has been submitted and approved by the instructor well in advance of the proposed class visit. Children are not allowed in class as visitors at any time

**Academic Integrity.** All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

You can get in trouble for plagiarism by failing to correctly indicate places where you are making use of the work of another or colluding with another to prepare assignments. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the conventions of citation by which you indicate which ideas are not your own and how your reader can find those sources. Read your textbook and/or handbook for more information on quoting and citing properly to avoid plagiarism. If you still do not understand, ask your instructor. All students caught plagiarizing or cheating will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

**Disability Accommodations:** UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

* **The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [**www.uta.edu/disability**](http://www.uta.edu/disability)or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [**www.uta.edu/disability**](http://www.uta.edu/disability)**.**
* **Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** [**www.uta.edu/caps/**](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) **or calling 817-272-3671** is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit*[*uta.edu/eos*](http://www.uta.edu/hr/eos/index.php)***.***

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit* [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](file:///C:\Users\rowntreem\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.IE5\IGVYXPA0\jmhood@uta.edu).

### Drop Policy. Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period (1/19). After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is your responsibility to officially withdraw if you do not plan to attend after registering. **I cannot drop you for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Student Support Services**:UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/learning-center/tutoring/index.php), [major-based learning centers](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/college-based-clinics-labs.php), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/advising.php), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/mcnair/index.php). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. **In the case of an emergency, exit the classroom, turn left and go through the glass door, then move out away from the building**. When exiting the building during an emergency, you should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist you in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc.—so I may only communicate with you through your official UTA email. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Conferences and Questions:** I am the full-time academic advisor for the department, so I do not have office hours where you can drop by to talk with me. Please use the link on the English Department’s website to schedule an appointment with me to discuss course assignments, grades, or other class-related concerns: <http://www.uta.edu/english/Academics/advisors.php> . If you receive a grade on an assignment or quiz about which you have questions, please wait twenty-four hours before discussing it with me. This gives you time to process the assignment comments and to think about how your course work meets the requirements set forth for each assignment. I do not discuss individual student issues in the classroom before, during or after class.

**Syllabus and Schedule Changes.** I always try to make my syllabus as complete as possible; however, during the course of the semester I may be required to alter, add, or abandon certain policies/assignments. I will inform you of any major changes in writing and by email.

**Class Schedule**

UC = *Understanding Comics by Scott McCloud*

1/16 Introduction & syllabus

1/18 Looking at picture books

**Read:** “Children’s Thoughts”

1/23 *Goodnight Moon*

**Read:** “Understanding Picture Books as Art”

1/25 *Black and White*

**Read:** UC, Chap 2, pp. 24 – 59

1/30 *Three Little Pigs*

**Read:** UC, Chap 5, pp. 118 – 37

2/1 Picture book analysis/creation

**Read:** UC, Chap 8, pp. 185 – 82

2/6 Picture book analysis/creation

2/8 What is comics? A sampling.

**Due:** Annotated Visual Analysis

2/13 Adaptations

**Read:** Two short stories by Poe and two graphic adaptations

2/15 *Wonder Woman*

**Read:** UC, Chap 3, pp. 80 – 93

2/20 *Wonder Woman*

**Read:** UC, Chap 4, pp. 94 – 117

Group project work

2/22 *The Dark Knight Returns*

Group project work

2/27 *The Dark Knight Returns*

Group project work

3/1 *Stitches*

**Due:** Group Project

3/6 *Stitches*

3/8 *Stitches*

3/13 Spring Break

3/15 Spring Break

3/20 *One! Hundred! Demons!*

3/22 *One! Hundred! Demons!*

**Due:** Close Reading

3/27 *One! Hundred! Demons!*

3/29 *Preacher*, Introduction

**Read:** “Comic Book Creators”

4/3 *Maus,* Vol. 1

4/5 *Maus,* Vol. 1

Character analysis/creation work

4/10 *Maus,* Vol. 1

Character analysis/creation work

4/12 *Bats of the Republic*

**Due:** Character Analysis/Creation

4/17 *Bats of the Republic*

4/19 *Bats of the Republic*

Final project work

4/24 *Bats of the Republic*

Final project work

4/26 Final project work

5/1 Final projects show-and-tell

5/3 Final projects show-and-tell