

Nick Sousanis

Curriculum Vitae

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www.spinweaveandcut.com

Education

- 2014 Doctorate of Education in Interdisciplinary Studies – Teachers College, Columbia University (New York, NY)
- 2002 Master of Arts in Painting – Wayne State University (Detroit, MI); *summa cum laude*
- 2002 Master of Interdisciplinary Studies: focus on Mathematics & Art – Wayne State University (Detroit, MI); *summa cum laude*
- 1995 Bachelor of Science in Mathematics – Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo, MI); *summa cum laude*

Teaching Experience

- 2013-2014 **Adjunct Faculty:** Reading Graphic Novels – Parsons | The New School for Design (New York, NY)
- 2011-2014 **Instructor (course creator):** Comics in Teaching and Learning – Teachers College, Columbia University (New York, NY)
- Course wiki: www.thinkingincomics.com
- 2004-2007 **Adjunct Faculty:** Introduction to Public Speaking/Introduction to Writing – Wayne State University (Detroit, MI)
- 1997-Present **Professional Tennis Instructor** – Manhattan Plaza Racket Club, *current* (New York, NY); Peachtree/Port Huron Tennis Clubs, *former* (MI)
- 2006 **Guest Instructor:** InsideOut Literary Arts Program – Detroit Public Schools (Detroit, MI)
- 2003 **Educational Facilitator:** Working the Angles workshop on mathematics, art, & geography education (Thompsonville, MI)
- 2002 **Special Topics Instructor:** Intertwining Science & Ecology – Amérris High School (Oxford, MI)
- 1994-1999 **Substitute Teacher:** Physics – Almont High School (Almont, MI)

Publications

Unflattening. (2015). Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

“Envisioning possibilities: visualising as enquiry in literacy studies.” (January 2015).

- (Co-authored with Anna Smith and Matthew Hall.) *Literacy*, Vol. 49, Iss. 1, p. 3-11. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/lit.12050/abstract>
- “Threads: A Spinning Fable.” (December 2012). Comic in *Journal of Curriculum and Pedagogy*, Vol. 11, Iss. 2, p. 102-106.
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15505170.2014.893216#.VQYCT0LZoW8>
- “Comics as a Tool for Inquiry.” (2012). Image-text conference paper in *Juniata Voices*, Vol. 12, p. 162-172. <http://www.juniata.edu/services/jcpress/voices/>
- “101 Miles of Monument.” (2012). Comic (illustrator, story by Jim Ottaviani) in *District Comics: An unconventional history of Washington, D.C.* Golden, CO: Fulcrum Publishing.
- “The Shape of Our Thoughts.” (Summer, 2012). Comics Essay in *Visual Arts Research*, Vol. 39, No. 1.
- “The Importance of Seeing Double.” (March 2011). Comics Essay in *Integrative Pathways*, Vol. 33, No. 1.
- “Mind the Gaps.” (2011). Comics Essay, chapter in Vinz & Schaafsma *On Narrative Inquiry*, New York: Teachers College Press.
- “A different kind of diversity: Collaboration across content areas intensifies learning.” (October 2010). (Co-authored with Ryan Goble) *The Journal of Staff Development (JSD)*, Vol. 31, No. 5, www.learningforward.org.
- “Creativity Reconsidered: Incorporating Care.” (July 2011) In *International Online Journal of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education*, Vol. 3: Special Issue on Creativity and Emotional Wellbeing from the proceedings of the 2009 Conference of the European Affective Education Network (EAEN).
<http://interactivediscourse.com/>
- “Journeys Past; Futures Forged.” (2010). Comics Essay, *Speaking Worlds: Oral Histories from...(District 79)*, Student Press Initiative, Teachers College.
- “Maxine Says.” (2010, 2008 original). Comics Essay in *Dear Maxine: Letters from the Unfinished Conversation*, Teachers College Press.
- “Horror in the Postmodern Classroom.” (2008). Comics Essay (Co-authored with Suzanne Choo) *Inter-view*. Teachers College.
- “Charles McGee: Ever a Student.” (2010). Catalog Essay in *Signatures: Charles McGee and Students*. Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center.
- “What’s Next, Charles?” Essay, and “A Conversation with Charles.” (2010). Comics Essay in *Charles McGee Eminent Artist* monograph, *The Kresge Foundation*.
- “Game Show Detroit: Possibilities.” (2006). Comics Essay, *Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit (CAID)*. (Reprinted 2012 for *Games+Learning+Society Conference*)
- Used as text for college games courses including *UM Flint*

Select Press

Amazing Adventures of the Comic Book Dissertator *The Chronicle of Higher Education* – Interview by Sydni Dunn (February 28, 2014).

<https://chroniclevitae.com/news/361-the-amazing-adventures-of-the-comic-book-dissertator>

“This dissertation will be comic.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education* – Interview by Nick Desantis. (April 1, 2012). <http://chronicle.com/article/A-Comic-Dissertation/131393/>

“Visual Scholarship: Flatland, After Flatland.” *Varoom Magazine* # 23 (UK) – Interview (Autumn, 2013). <http://www.varoom-mag.com/?p=6019>

“Scientist Nick Sousanis: ‘Comics are a natural way of expressing our thoughts.’” *Theory & Practice* (Russia*) – Interview (October 6, 2012).

<http://theoryandpractice.ru/posts/5580-uchenyy-nik-sousanis-komiksy--estestvennyy-sposob-formulirovat-nashi-mysli>

* English text <http://spinweaveandcut.blogspot.com/2012/10/interview-in-russian-journal-theory-and.html>

“Drawing on inspiration: Challenging the world of learning through comics” *Microsoft’s Daily Edventures* – Interview (April 4, 2012).

<http://dailyedventures.com/index.php/2012/04/04/drawing-on-inspiration-challenging-the-world-of-learning-through-comics-usa/>

“A comics dissertation.” *Diamond Bookshelf* – Interview (January, 2011).

<http://www.diamondbookshelf.com/Home/1/1/20/835?articleID=117751>

“How do we help students by teaching them comics?” – *iTeach Podcast* (University of Alaska Fairbanks), Interview, (December 24, 2012). <http://idesign.uaf.edu/iteach-podcast-003-how-do-we-help-students-by-teaching-them-comics/>

“Why can’t I have pictures in my dissertation too?” – *iTeach Podcast*, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Discussion of my dissertation, (November 26, 2012).

<http://idesign.uaf.edu/iteach-podcast-001-why-cant-i-have-pictures-in-my-dissertation-too/>

“Comics in the classroom.” *Books and Adventures* (UK) – Interview (June 14, 2012)

<http://matthewfinch.me/2012/06/14/comics-in-the-classroom-guest-post-nick-sousanis-of-teachers-college-new-york/>

Invited Talks

2014 Invited speaker, Princeton University, NJ.

2014 Keynote, *International Visual Literacy Association* Conference, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH.

2014 Panelist, *What Is a Dissertation? New Models, New Methods, New Media*, CUNY Graduate Center, NYC.

- 2014 *Keynote (virtual), Reform Symposium Free Online Conference (RSCON5) on The Future of Education: “Thinking through Comics.”*
- 2014 Invited speaker, UCLA – Charles E. Young Research Library, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2013 Keynote, *Visitors Studies Association (VSA) Conference*, Milwaukee, WI.
- 2013 Invited speaker (in conjunction with solo exhibition), *Microsoft Research*, Redmond, WA.
- 2013 Invited speaker, Stanford University – *Graphic Narrative Project*, CA.
- 2013 Invited speaker, Adelphi University, NY: “A dissertation in comics form reimagines scholarship.”
- 2012 Invited speaker, Kutztown University, PA: “Comics as Education.”
- 2012 Invited speaker, Oakland University, MI. “Comics and education.” Part of college-wide speaker series on *Creative & Critical Minds*.
- 2011 Invited presenter, *Student Press Initiative Summer Institute*, Teachers College, NYC: Comics and Education.
- 2011 Invited presenter, *Creativity, Imagination, and Innovation Symposium*, Teachers College, NYC: Salon Session on Creative Process in Comics.
- 2010-Present Guest lecturer (physical and via skype) on comics and education, including: Teachers College (frequent); NYU Steinhardt; Marymount Manhattan College, NY; UPenn; Northern Illinois University; and Penn State.
- 2007 Public lecture, Detroit Opera House, MI: “Detroit Arts Spaces.”
- 2007 Guest lecturer, University of Michigan Dearborn, MI: “Comics as Literature.”
- 2007 Panelist, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MoCAD), MI: “State of the Art: Arts writing in Detroit.”
- 2007 Guest Critic, University of Michigan School of Art & Design.

Academic Conference Presentations

- 2014 Conference presentation, *Genres of Scholarly Knowledge Production*, HUMlab, Umeå University, Sweden: “Unflattening: A Comics Dissertation Imagines Scholarship.”
- 2014 Conference presentation/workshop, *Association for Interdisciplinary Studies (AIS) Conference*, Michigan State University, MI: “Integrating the Visual into Interdisciplinary Inquiry through a Comics Dissertation.”
- 2014 Symposium, *American Education Research Association (AERA)*, Philadelphia, PA, “Comics as Research: Toward an Imaginative Methodology.”
- 2014 Demonstration session, *American Education Research Association (AERA)*, Philadelphia, PA, “Aesthetics and Analysis: Method in the Practice of Arts-Based Educational Research”

- 2014 Group session, *Modern Language Association (MLA)*, Chicago, IL, “Beyond the Protomonograph: New Models for the Dissertation.”
- 2013 Conference presentation, *Association for Interdisciplinary (formerly “Integrative) Studies (AIS) Conference*, Miami University, OH: “Interdisciplinarity meets Multimodality: A Comics Dissertation Reinvents Inquiry.”
- 2013 Conference presentation, *Thinking through Drawing Conference*, Teachers College, NYC: “Comics as a Way of Thinking.”
- 2013 Group session, *Imagining America (IA) Conference*, Syracuse, NY: “Incorporating Visual Thinking into Research Methodology and Representation.”
- 2013 Group session, *American Education Research Association (AERA) Conference*, San Francisco, CA, “Unflattening: Reimagining research through a visual-verbal dissertation.”
- 2013 Group session, *American Education Research Association (AERA) Conference*, San Francisco, CA, “Blurring the boundaries: Emerging literacies research methods” (session title, last minute invitation to participate on panel).
- 2013 Roundtable session, *American Education Research Association (AERA) Conference*, San Francisco, CA, “Comics as a tool for inquiry.”
- 2013 Conference presentation, *American Education Research Association (AERA) Conference*, San Francisco, CA, “Reenvisioning scholarly inquiry: A dissertation in comics form unites visual and verbal.”
- 2013 Conference presentation, *HASTAC Conference*, Toronto, CA, “Unflattening: A visual-verbal inquiry into learning in many dimensions.”
- 2013 Group session, *National Art Education Association (NAEA) Conference*, Fort Worth, TX, “Drawing together: A discussion on graphic novels in art education.”
- 2012 Conference presentation, *Graduate Research Arts Education (GRAE)*, Ohio State University, OH: “Dissertation presentation: Unflattening: A visual-verbal inquiry into learning in many dimensions.”
- 2012 Conference presentation, *Association for Integrative Studies Conference*, Oakland University, MI: “Integrating visual and verbal: A dissertation in comic book form re-envisions inquiry.”
- 2012 Conference presentation (Session organizer co-presenting with Anastasia Salter and members of Hack the Dissertation), *Imagining America (IA) Conference*, NYC: “Expanding forms of inquiry.”
- 2012 Conference presentation, *Rocky Mountain Comics Conference*, CO. “Comics as a tool for inquiry: A dissertation in comic book form reimagines scholarship.”
- 2012 Conference presentation, *Sequential Smart Conference*, Juniata College, PA: “Comics as a tool for inquiry.”

- 2012 Conference presentation, *American Education Research Association (AERA)* Conference, Vancouver, BC, “Reuniting visual and verbal: Integrating comics for expansive thinking across the curriculum.”
- 2011 Conference presentation, *HASTAC* Conference, University of Michigan, MI, “Rethinking (through) comics.”
- 2011 Conference presentation, *Association for Integrative Studies (AIS)* Conference, Grand Valley State University, MI, “Unflattening: A visual-verbal dissertation reimagines research.”
- 2011 Poster presentation, *Imagining America* Conference, Minneapolis, MN: “Unflattening: Reinventing research through a visual-verbal dissertation.”
- 2011 Conference presentation (with Michele Root-Bernstein), *Creativity, Play, and the Imagination across the Disciplines* Conference, Teachers College, Columbia University, NYC: “Haiku and Comics: A conversation about Constraints and the Creative Process.”
- 2011 Conference presentation, *AERA*, New Orleans, LA: “Comic Books as Narrative Research Representation Method.”
- 2010 Conference presentation, 1st Annual International Conference on Fine and Performing Arts, Athens, Greece: “Unflattening Education: Creating Possibilities”
- 2009 Conference presentation 10th *International Conference of the European Affective Education Network (EAEN)*, University of the West of Scotland, UK: “Creativity Reconsidered: Incorporating Care.”

Academic Conference Organization

- May 2011 **Co-creator, co-organizer** (with Suzanne Choo) *Creativity, Play, and the Imagination across the Disciplines*: International Academic Conference – Teachers College, Columbia University (New York, NY)
- Developed initial concept, coordinated all elements of conference
 - Awarded \$20,000 *Provost Investment Fund*, competitive grant by the Office of the Provost, Teachers College
 - \$10,000 sponsorship from *Microsoft Research*
 - Conference wiki: <http://createplayimagine.wikispaces.com>
- May 2011 **Co-organizer, co-curator** *Game Show NYC*: Art Exhibition – Macy Gallery, Teachers College (New York, NY)
- Exhibition website: www.gameshownyc.com
 - Installation images: www.gameshownyc.blogspot.com

Arts Writing/Editing Experience

- 2002-2008 **Co-founder, Editor-in-Chief, Primary Arts Writer**
www.thedetroiter.com (arts/cultural web-magazine)

- (Detroit, MI)
- Wrote art reviews, interviews, features, and editorials
 - Edited all content, managed and maintained site
 - Organized and coordinated contributor offerings, oversaw interns

2004-2008 **Contributing Arts Writer** *The Metro Times and Real Detroit Magazine* (Detroit, MI)

2006 **Guest Essayist** *WDET Radio* (Detroit, MI)

Arts Programming and Administration Experience

2006-2008 **Director of Exhibitions**, *University of Michigan School of Art & Design's Work : Detroit* exhibition space (Detroit, MI)

- Inaugural director: developed mission, oversaw physical design
- Conceived exhibitions, coordinated with artists, community, media
- Select Exhibition sites: www.intersection.blogspot.com;
www.whyproject.blogspot.com

2005-2007 **Board Chairman** *Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit (CAID)* (Detroit, MI) (Active board member, 2004-2007)

- Select Exhibition website: www.gameshowdetroit.com

Honors/Awards

2015 National Art Education Association: Elliot Eisner Doctoral Research Award in Art Education Runner-Up Award

2014 Provost Doctoral Dissertation Grant, Teachers College, Columbia University

2011-2012 Humanities, Arts, Sciences, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC) Scholar

2011-2012 Imagining America: *Publicly Active Graduate Education (PAGE)* Fellow

2006 Crain's Detroit Business "40 Under 40" Class of 2006

2005 Almont High School, Commencement Address, Invited Speaker

Association Memberships

2013-Present *Ideograph*: Stanford Graphic Narrative Journal, Art & Innovation Editor

2011-Present American Education Research Association (AERA), Member

2012-Present National Art Education Association (NAEA), Member

2012-Present Modern Language Association (MLA), Member

2010-Present Association for Interdisciplinary Studies (AIS), Member

Exhibitions

- 2013 Solo exhibition: “*Unflattening*,” Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA
- 2013 *John Korachis Scholarship/Distinguished Alumni Show*, Detroit Artists Market, Detroit, MI
- 2012 *Grammar of the Elite*, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2012 *Quantified Self*, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2011 *The Comic Show*, The Peoples Art of Portland/Po Boy Art Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2010 *Imaging the Future*, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2010 *EXIT Detroit*, The Ladybug Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2010 *John Korachis Scholarship/Distinguished Alumni Show*, Detroit Artists Market, Detroit, MI
- 2010 *Studio Practices*, Macy Art Gallery, Teachers College, New York, NY
- 2009 *Change*, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2009 *Visual Storytelling*, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2007 *John Korachis Scholarship/Distinguished Alumni Show*, Detroit Artists Market, Detroit, MI
- 2006 *That DAM Box Show*, Detroit Artists Market (DAM), Detroit, MI
- 2005 *Bravo, Bravo*, Detroit Opera House, Detroit, MI
- 2004 *Restoring the Tree of Liberty*, Zeitgeist Gallery, Detroit, MI.
- 2004 “*Free-Way*” *Public Art Billboard* (solo project), three month installation, Ferndale, MI http://www.thedetroiter.com/APR04/ns_billboard.html