

## Nonfiction Comics

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TR by appointment  
F 11-12, 1:30-2:30

**Course Objectives:** This course is designed to help the student to develop the habits, tools, and techniques to create nonfiction comics worthy of publication.

**Grading:** Points will be distributed as follows: Comics Creation Assignments (550 pts.), Exercises (150 pts), Analysis Assignments (100 pts.), Formatting for Publication (100 pts.), Participation (100 pts.).

Minimum points needed for each grade are as follows: A – 920, B – 820, C – 720, D - 620

**Textbook:** *Creating Comics as Journalism, Memoir & Nonfiction* (Routledge 2015) by Duncan, Taylor, and Stoddard

**Attendance and Make-up Policy:** You are expected to be in attendance and on time for each scheduled class meeting.

- Many of the exercises are in-class activities that cannot be made-up.
- Assignments turned in late will not receive full credit.
- Henderson has a strict policy against bringing children to class. If you cannot get a sitter, please do not attend class that day.

**Students with disabilities:** Anyone who feels he/she may need an academic accommodation based on the impact of a disability (e.g.: sensory, learning, psychological, medical, mobility) should contact me to arrange an appointment to discuss your needs. I rely on the Disability Resource Center for assistance in verifying your eligibility for academic accommodations related to your disability. If you have not previously contacted the Disability Resource Center (Foster Hall), I encourage you to do so. For more information, visit the DRC website at [www.hsu.edu/disability](http://www.hsu.edu/disability).

**Grievance Procedures:** If you wish to appeal a grade in this course you should schedule an appointment with the professor and explain the reasons for your appeal. The professor will explain the basis for the grade. If you are still not satisfied, you should see the chair of the Communication and Theatre Arts Department.

***Please silence cell phones before coming to class!!***

## Course Outline

- R Jan. 21 introduction to the course / Ex 1 – brainstorming (10 pts.)
- T Jan 26 Read: Chapter 1 / Read: Chapter 3, pgs. 64-68; 74-78 / Read: Chapter 8  
Ex. 2 - rule of thirds (10 pts.)
- R Jan 28 Read: Chapter 9 / Due: Ex. 3 – mini-script & thumbnails (20 pts.)
- T Feb. 2 Read: Chapter 3, pgs. 68 – 74 /  
Due: Ex. 4 – finding ideas: page 77 ex. 1 or 3 (10 pts.)
- R Feb. 4 Read: Chapter 4 / Due: Ex. 5 – **Mini-Memoir** finished product (25 pts.)
- T Feb 9 Read: Chapter 5 / Due: **Teaching Comic** Concept Statement (25 pts.) /  
Ex. 6 – finding experts: page 117 ex. 1 (10 pts.)
- R Feb 11 Alec Longstreth from CCS /
- T Feb 16 Due: **Reporting Comic** Concept Statement (25 pts.) /  
Due: *Analysis*: Encapsulation & Layout Choices (25 pts.)
- R Feb 18 Read: Chapter 6 / Ex. 7 – setting and images (10 pts.) /  
Due: **Teaching Comic** Research (50 pts.)
- T Feb 23 Read: Chapter 7, pgs. 138-154  
Due: Ex. 8 – narrator and style: page 169 ex. 1 & 2 (10 pts.)
- R Feb 25 Due: *Analysis*: Narrative Techniques (25 pts.) /  
Due: **Teaching Comic** Script/Synopsis and Thumbnails (50 pts.)
- T March 1 Read: Chapter 7, pgs. 158-160
- R March 3 Due: **Teaching Comic** Rough Draft (50 pts.)
- T March 8 Due: *Analysis*: Composition & Form (25 pts.)
- R March 10 Read: Chapter 3, pgs. 58-63 / Due: **Teaching Comic** Finished Product (100 pts.)
- T March 15 CMA / NO CLASS - work on Ex. 9 – dialogue: page 169 ex. 4 (20 pts.)
- R March 17 Share dialogue exercises

SPRING BREAK

- T March 29 Due: **Reporting Comic** Research (50 pts.) / meet in AH Computer Lab
- R March 31 AH Computer Lab
- T April 5 Read: Chapter 10 / Ex. 10 – fair use and Mickey Mouse: pg. 243 ex. 2 (10 pts.)
- R April 7 Due: **Reporting Comic** Script/Synopsis and Thumbnails (50 pts.)
- T April 12 Ex. TBA
- R April 14 Guest Artist: Andy Warner / Due: **Reporting Comic** Rough Draft (50 pts.)
- [Monday, April 18 – Sonny Liew will be on campus]
- T April 19 Ex. TBA
- R April 21 Due: *Analysis*: Legal & Ethical Considerations (25 pts.)
- T April 26 Due: **Reporting Comic** Finished Product (100 pts.)
- R April 28 Chapter 9 revisited
- T May 3 Due: Formatting for Publication (100 pts.)
- R May 5 What next?
- T May 10 1:00- 3:00 – a non-exam