

Nick Sousanis
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www.spinweaveandcut.com

EDUCATION

Teachers College, Columbia University, NYC

Doctorate of Education, Interdisciplinary Studies, May 2014

Dissertation: *Unflattening: A Visual-Verbal Inquiry into Learning in Many Dimensions*

Advisors: Dr. Ruth Vinz, Dr. Robbie McClintock, Dr. Maxine Greene

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Master of Arts (Painting), Dec 2002

Master of Interdisciplinary Studies (Mathematics & Art), May 2002

Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

Bachelor of Science (Mathematics), May 1995

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA

Associate Professor of Humanities & Liberal Studies, 2016-present

University of Calgary, Calgary, AB

Eyes High Postdoctoral Fellow in *Comics Studies* (Department of English),
Dec 2014-June 2016

Instructor: *Comics as a Way of Thinking*, Fall 2015

Co-Instructor: *Comics and Graphic Novels*, Winter 2016

Parsons | The New School for Design, NYC

Adjunct Faculty: *Reading Graphic Novels*, 2013-14

Teachers College, Columbia University, NYC

Instructor (course creator): *Comics in Teaching & Learning*, 2011-2014

University of Michigan School of Art & Design, *Work: Detroit*, MI

Director of Exhibitions, 2006-2008

thedetroiter.com [arts-culture web-magazine], Detroit, MI

Co-founder/Editor-in-Chief/Primary Arts Writer, 2002-2008

The Metro Times & Real Detroit Magazine, Detroit, MI

Contributing Arts Writer, 2004-2008

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Adjunct Faculty: *Intro to Public Speaking/Intro to Writing*, 2004-2007

PUBLICATIONS

Book

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

Unflattening translated editions:

Chinese: *Unflattening*. (2019). Ginkgo Book.

Italian: *Unflattening*. (2018). Lavieri Edizioni.

Poland: *Odpłaszczenie*. (2018). Prószyński.

Brazil (Portuguese): *Desaplanar*. (2017). Veneta.

Serbian: *Одрањивање*. (2016). Center for the Promotion of Science.

Korean: *Unflattening*. (2016). Chaek-Se-Sang Pub. Co.

French: *Le déploiement*. (2016). Actes Sud.

Select Reviews: Douglas Wolk, Sunday Book Review, *The New York Times* (May 29, 2015); Review, *Publishers Weekly* (Mar 16, 2015); Neel Mukherjee, Review Beyond the Frame, *New Statesman* (UK) (Oct 3, 2015); Jan Gardner, Book Discovery, *The Boston Globe* (May 23, 2015); Stephen Asma, “Imagining Unflattening,” *The LA Review of Books* (May 6, 2016); Ian Daffern, Review, *Quill & Quire* (Jun 2015); Peter Wilkins & Damon Herd, Review: “Unpacking Unflattening,” *The Comics Grid* (Aug 14, 2015); Von Marc-Oliver Frisch, Review: “Unflattening the World,” *Der Tagespiegel* (Berlin) (Aug 20, 2015); Matt Finch, Review: “On the Shores of Word and Image,” *The Brooklyn Rail* (May 6, 2015); Neel Mukherjee, Best Graphic Novels 2015, *Independent* (UK); David Dabscheck, 10 Best Books on Innovation, *The New York Observer*; Rob Salkowitz, 10 Best Graphic Novels of 2015, *Forbes*; 25 of the Best Design Books of 2015, *PrintMag*; Don O’Mahony, Best Comics of 2015, *Irish Examiner*; Recommended Reading 2015, *Kenyon Review*; Review, *Bibli* (Feb, 2017); Chryssa Themelis “Comics in Education: An Unflattening View,” *ACE Review* (Apr 7, 2018); Veličina Slova, “Vesti” Article, *National Geographic Serbia* (Oct 27, 2016); *Blic* [Serbian daily newspaper], (Oct 26, 2016); Nikola Dragomirović, “Ključ koji otvara kavez,” *Vreme* (Serbia), (Jan 12, 2017); “I doktorat i strip!” *PTC*, (Nov 27, 2016); Italian Edition reviewed in Los Pazio Bianco & Stay Nerd (Italy) (Nov 18).

Scholarly Reviews: Eszter Szép (2017) “A review of *Unflattening*” *Studies in Comics*, 8.2, 262-264; Stacey Pigg (2018) Unflattening Review, *Anthropologica*, Vol. 60, No. 1, pp. 353-355; Valentina Ramia (2017) “Graphic Thought” Review *Anthropology Now*, 9:3, 147-158; Frances Kelly, Review (PDF), *Journal of Higher Education Research & Development*, Vol. 26, Iss. 2, 2017, pp. 450-452; Lalitha Vasudevan & Kristine Rodriguez Kerr, “Unflattening’ Our Ways of Seeing, Reading, and Writing,” *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy*, Vol. 60, Iss. 1, Jul/Aug 2016, pp. 103-105; Gregory Steirer, Review (PDF Review), *Cinema Journal*, Vol. 56, No. 2, Winter 2017, pp. 168-173; Dino Sossi, review (PDF Review), *Visual Studies*, Vol 32., No. 2, pp. 193-194.

Select Interviews: Timothy Hodler, “Thinking through Images,” *The Paris Review* (Jul 20, 2015); Lynn Butler-Kisber “Articulating Ideas and Meaning Through the Use of Comics” *Learning Landscape Journal* (CA); Mike Rohde Podcast interview *Sketchnote Army* (Jun 2019); *Revista de Língua e Literatura* (Brazil, academic journal) interview (Jun 2019); Ramon Vitral, “Universities should open up to comics, says author of pioneering thesis [trans.]” *Folha (São Paulo)* ([google translate here](#)) (Aug 6, 17); Helô D’Angelo, “Barriers to academy are language, not intelligence, says comic book author”

[trans.],” *Cult Magazine* (Brazil) (Aug 21, 2017); Steven Heller, “Doctoral Dissertation as Graphic Novel,” *PrintMag* (Aug 5, 2015); Kaitlin Mulhere, “Seeing in New Dimensions,” *Inside Higher Education* (Mar 17, 2015); Henry Jenkins, “Geeking Out About The Comics Medium with Unflattening’s Nick Sousanis,” (in 4-parts) Jenkins’s *Confessions of an Aca-Fan* (Sept 21, 2015); Chris Richardson, *Unflattening interview*, *This Is Not a Pipe Podcast* (Oct 18); Jamie Oppenheim, “Award-winning graphic novelist teaches new comics courses at SF State,” *SF State News* (Jan 23, 2017); Stephen Asma, “The Power of Images (video),” *Meaning of Life TV* (Dec 20, 2016); Cory Doctorow, “Doctoral Dissertation in Graphic Form,” *BoingBoing* (Jun 21, 2015); Calvin Reid, *More to Come* (podcast), *Publishers Weekly* (Apr 03, 2015); Carla Nappi, *Interview* (podcast), *New Books Network* (Jun 12, 2015); Tomasz Żaglewski, trans. by Michal Błażejczyk, *Interview: “We Need Visual Literacy”* *Zeszyty Komiksowe* (Poland) Iss. 22, Comics – Theory, (Oct 2016); Steve McElwee “San Francisco-based artist and author nabs Penn State’s graphic novel prize” *Central Daily Times* (Pennsylvania) Oct 1, 2016); Bruna Souza Cruz, “Professor Publishes Doctoral Thesis in the Form of a Comic in US,” *UOL* (Brazil), (Jul 26, 2015); Feature in *Rolling Stone Italy* (Dec 18); China *Qdaily* *interview* (Apr 19); China *YangTze River Daily* *interview* (Apr 19); *Wayne State University* Grad School *Interview* (Mar 19); Jessica Carew Kraft, *Interview: “Nick Sousanis Unflattens the World”* *The Battery SF* (Oct 4, 2016); Eric Volmers, *Interview*, *The Calgary Herald* (May 9, 2015); Sydni Dunn, “Amazing Adventures of the Comic Book Dissertator” *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (Feb 28, 2014). John Reilly, “Visual Scholarship: Flatland, After Flatland.” *Varoom Magazine* 23 (UK) (Autumn, 2013); Katya Korableva, “Scientist Nick Sousanis: ‘Comics are a natural way of expressing our thoughts’,” *Theory & Practice* (Russia, [English text here](#)), (Oct 6, 2012); Anthony Salcito, “Drawing on Inspiration: Challenging the World of Learning through Comics,” *Microsoft’s Daily Edventures* (Apr 4, 2012). (All press links available www.spinweaveandcut.com/press)

Unflattening has been selected as schoolwide Common Read:

University of California Santa Cruz, Cowell Residential College, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

College for Creative Studies (Detroit) 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

College of the Atlantic (Maine) 2017

Wellesley High School (MA), *Evolutions Program*, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Scholarly investigations of *Unflattening*:

“Unfurling *Unflattening*” (forthcoming, MIT Press), edited collection of essays on teaching with *Unflattening* in various educational contexts. Edited by Amanda O. Latz, Janine Utell, and Andrea Kantrowitz.

AERA Conference Session “**Unpacking *Unflattening***” on

teaching with *Unflattening*, 2019

Unflattening in other media:

“Unflattening” composition by Philip Sheppard (recorded at Abbey Road Studios) available on his album *Fall from Earth*, 2018.

“Unflattening” art exhibition at the **National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea** (MMCA) in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the 1950-53 Korean War. (From the Korea Times: “The title “Unflattening” came from Nick Sousanis’ graphic novel as the exhibit aims to provide fresh, different perspectives on the war people think they all know.”) 2020.

“Unflattening: Flatness” choreographed dance by Alexia Petasis, University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2017.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOSDEXV5mCI>

“Desaplanando Horizontes” the 13th *Festival de Verão da UFMG*, Brazil, theme inspired by *Unflattening* (*Desaplanar* in Portuguese).

Articles/Chapters

“Accessible Comics for Blind and Low Vision Readers: An Emerging Journey” (forthcoming 2022). (Co-authored with Yue-Ting Siu, Emily Beitiks, and Chancey Fleet.) *Journal of Literary & Cultural Disability Studies*, special issue “Crippling Graphic Medicine”.

“Thinking in Comics: All Hands-On in the Classroom” chapter in *With Great Power Comes Great Pedagogy: Teaching, Learning, and Comic Books*. Edited by Susan Kirtley, Antero Gracia, and Peter Carlson. University Press of Mississippi.

“In the Cards: Collaboration and Comics-Making in the Traditional English Classroom” co-authored chapter with Frederik Byrn Köhlert in *With Great Power Comes Great Pedagogy: Teaching, Learning, and Comic Books*. Edited by Susan Kirtley, Antero Gracia, and Peter Carlson. University Press of Mississippi.

“Frames of Thought.” In *PMLA* special issue “How We Write Now: The Humanities, the Academy, and the Twenty-First-Century World.” Vol. 133, No. 1, Jan. 2018, pp. 154–159 (6).
<https://doi.org/10.1632/pmla.2018.133.1.154>

“Frames of Thought,” reprinted Jan. 2019, in *Humanities Futures/Franklin Humanities Institute* online publication.
<https://humanitiesfutures.org/papers/frames-of-thought/>

“Two Per Cent of What? Constructing a Corpus of Typical American Comic Books.” (2018). In *Empirical Comics Research: Digital, Multimodal, and Cognitive Methods*. Co-author with B. Beaty & B. Woo. Edited by A. Dunst, J. Laubrock, & J. Wildfeuer. Routledge Press.

- “Thinking in Comics: An Emerging Process.” (2017). In *Arts-Based Research in Education: Foundations for Practice*, 2nd Edition. Edited by M. Cahnmann-Taylor & R. Siegesmund. Routledge Press.
- “How to Draw Comics the Scholarly Way: Creating Comics-Based Research in the Academy.” (2017). In *The Handbook of Arts-Based Research*. Co-authored with P. Kuttner & M. Weaver-Hightower. Edited by P. Leavy. Guilford Press.
- “A Life in Comics: The Graphic Adventures of Karen Green.” (Summer 2017). Comic in *Columbia Magazine*.
- “Beyond Illustration.” (2017). Chapter in *Science Meets Comics: Proceedings of the Symposium on Communicating and Designing the Future of Food in the Anthropocene*. Berlin: Verlag.
- “The Fragile Framework.” Climate change comic. (Nov 2015). *Nature*, 527, p. 427–435. Co-authored with Richard Monastersky. Subsequently reprinted 2016 in comics anthology *World War 3 Illustrated*, #47, special environmental issue “Climate Chaos.”
- “Behind the Scenes of a Dissertation in Comics Form.” (2015). *Digital Humanities Quarterly*, Vol. 9, No. 4.
- “Against the Flow.” (Oct 4, 2015). Comic in *The Boston Globe* Ideas Section.
- “Grids and Gestures: A Comics Making Exercise.” (2015). *SANE journal: Sequential Art Narrative in Education*. Vol. 2: Iss. 1, Article 8.
- “Continuing a Conversation with Maxine Greene in Comics.” (2015). (Co-authored with Daiyu Suzuki). *Teachers College Record*, Vol. 117 No. 10, p. 1-6.
- “Upwards.” (May 24, 2015). Comic in *The Boston Globe* Ideas Section.
- “Envisioning possibilities: visualising as enquiry in literacy studies.” (Jan 2015). (Co-authored with Anna Smith and Matthew Hall). *Literacy*, Vol. 49, Iss. 1, p. 3-11.
- “Threads: A Spinning Fable.” (Dec 2014). Comic in *Journal of Curriculum and Pedagogy*, Vol. 11, Iss. 2, p. 102-106.
- “Reconsidering Scholarship through a Dissertation in Comics Form.” (Dec 30, 2014). Media Commons.
- “Why not? A partial postmortem on creating a dissertation in comics form.” (Nov 11, 2014). Media Commons.
- “Reframing the Discussion—a brief reflection on Genres of Scholarly Knowledge Production.” Jan 22, 2015. Medium.com.
- Cover for *Association of American Colleges and Universities* special issue on Diversity & Democracy, Winter 2015.
- “Comics as a Tool for Inquiry.” (2012). Image-text conference paper in *Juniata Voices*, Vol. 12, p. 162-172.
- “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.” (Mar 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.” (Oct 2010). (Co-authored with Ryan Goble) *The Journal of Staff Development (JSD)*, Vol. 31, No. 5.

“Creativity Reconsidered: Incorporating Care.” (Jul 2011). In *International Online Journal of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education*, Vol. 3: Proceedings of the 2009 Conference of the European Affective Education Network (EAEN).

“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.

“What’s Next, Charles?” & “A Conversation with Charles.” (2010). Essay & Comics Essay in the monograph, *Charles McGee: Eminent Artist*, *The Kresge Foundation*.

“Game Show Detroit: Possibilities.” (2006). Comics Essay, *Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit (CAID)*. (Reprinted for *Games+Learning+Society Conference, 2012*)

Interviews (general)

Parenthetical Recluse [Podcast Interview](#) (July 2021); *Well-Read Investor* [Podcast Interview](#) (Jun 2021); *San Diego Comic-Con @Home* [interview about my teaching of comics](#) with Susan Kirtley & Peter Carlson (June 2020); *Workshops Work* [podcast interview w/Myriam Hadnes](#) (June 2020); *Professor Latinx Podcast* (Frederick Luis Aldama) video interview on [Existence, Comics, & Comics Creation](#) (July 2020); “How We Write Now,” in *MLA Newsletter*, Vol. 50, No. 2, pp 3-4 (Summer 2018); *SFSU Alumni Mag* [interview](#) (Jun 2019); Sunday Page: “[Nick Sousanis on Frank Quitely](#),” *FumettoLogica* (Jan 21, 2018); Shea Fitzpatrick, “[Why You Should Draw Comics Even If You Can't Draw](#),” *The Quene* (Aug 20, 2017); “[Continuing a Conversation with Maxine Greene in Comics](#)” video interview in *TC Vialogues* (May 16, 2017); Carlos J. Rodriguez “[Comics as a Pedagogical Tool. Interview with Nick Sousanis](#)” in *Aprender Colaborando: Experiencias Educativas Para Mentes Colaborativas* (Dec 13, 2017); Jamie Oppenheim, “[SF State Humanities professor takes home Eisner Award](#),” in *SF State News* (Aug 2, 2018); Jamie Oppenheim, “[Award-winning graphic novelist](#)

teaches new comics courses at SF State, *SF State News* (Jan 23, 2017); Matt Itelson, “Prolific Comic Book Collection Donated to San Francisco State,” *LCA News*, (Aug 15, 2018); Paul Eichenholtz, “Superman no. 1 issue included in new comic book archive,” in *Golden Gate Xpress* (Sep 26, 2018); Amanda Aragone, “Teachers graphic novel inspires launch of comics studies minor” in *Golden Gate Express* (Oct 19, 2016); Kana Yasuda, “University encourages critical thinking with comics and zombies,” in *Golden Gate Xpress* (Feb 21, 2017).

INVITED TALKS

- 2022** **Symposium on Comic Arts (online)**, Invited Speaker
- 2021** **University of the Arts London, MA:UX Symposium “Being Here”** In conversation with Dylan Yamada-Rice ([recording](#))
- Camberwell College of the Arts**, London, Invited Speaker
- Franklin & Marshall College**, Invited Speaker ([link](#))
- University of California Santa Cruz Cowell Residential College**, Plenary Session (online) for *Unflattening* as Summer Common Read, 2021
- Transitions 9 (comics conference)**, Keynote, University of London, England, 2021
- University of Pennsylvania**, Panelist for Graphic Histories: Understanding the Middle East and Africa Through Comics
- 2020** **Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate (CPED)**, Keynote (online), 2020
- University of California Santa Cruz Cowell Residential College**, Plenary Session (online) for *Unflattening* as Summer Common Read, 2020
- Comic-Con @ Home, Teaching and Learning with Comics** (online) session, 2020
- Transitions 9 (comics conference)**, scheduled Keynote (cancelled: pandemic), University of London, England, 2020
- Michigan State University Comics Forum Conference**, Keynote, 2020
- 2019** **Claremont McKenna College, Athenaeum Lecture Series**, Invited Speaker, 2019
- University of California Santa Cruz Cowell Residential College**, Plenary Session for *Unflattening* as Summer Common Read, 2019
- Emory University, IDEAS Week**, Keynote and Class Visits, 2019
- Cycling 74 – Company Retreat**, Invited Speaker & workshop, 2019
- 2018** **Duke University – Franklin Humanities Center: Neurodiversities Symposium**, Invited Speaker & public workshop, 2018 (* Workshop/Interview [Video](#), longer [version](#))

- University of California Santa Cruz Cowell Residential College,**
Plenary Session for *Unflattening* as Summer Common Read, 2018
- Wayne State University** (Detroit), 2018
- National Resource Center for Swedish as a Second Language
Education Symposium,** Keynote (Virtual), Stockholm University,
2018 (*[Video Documentation](#) – also on [YouTube](#))
- UNICÓMIC XX: International Congress of Academic Studies on
Comics,** (keynote) University of Alicante, Spain, “Thinking in
Comics” and workshop “Comics as a Way of Thinking”
- University of Northern Colorado,** Visiting Artist (public talk and multiple
workshops with graduate art education students), 2018
- Chicago Humanities Festival,** Author Talk, 2018
- Claremont Graduate University,** “Re-Imagining the University Through
the Arts” invited lecture series, along with multiple workshops with
students and faculty, 2018
- University of Virginia,** “Diss-entangling from the Monograph: A Non-
traditional Dissertations Panel” Scholars Lab with A.D. Carson &
Amanda Visconti, 2018
- 2017** **International Comics Arts Forum (ICAF),** (keynote) *Comics Studies Society*
“Pedagogy Roundtable featuring Professor Nick Sousanis”, 2017
- University of Michigan Colloquium** “Humility in the Age of Self-
Promotion,” workshop, 2017
- College for Creative Studies** workshop & class visits as part of *Unflattening*
as Common Read, 2017
- University of California Santa Cruz Cowell Residential College,**
Plenary Session for *Unflattening* as Summer Common Read, 2017
- Making and Materiality Conference** (keynote) hosted by Penn Visual
Studies, 2017
- Temple University Graphic Thinking,** Philadelphia, 2017, 3 Events:
- Comics as a Way of Thinking** undergraduate workshop
 - Exploring Diverse Forms of the Dissertation** graduate student
lecture
 - Comics in the Classroom** faculty workshop
- 4as Jornadas Internacionais de Histórias em Quadrinhos Conference**
(4th Annual International Comics Conference), (keynote), São
Paulo, Brazil, 2017
- Instituto Europeo de Design (IDE),** public talk, São Paulo, Brazil, 2017
- Instituto Singularidades** (teachers college), public talk, São Paulo, Brazil,
2017
- ReGenring Academic Writing & Assessment Conference** (keynote),
Nottingham, UK, 2017

- Oxford University**, Critical Visualization Lecture, UK, 2017
- Arts One “Seeing & Knowing”** Lecture & workshop, University of British Columbia, Canada, 2017
- metaLAB @ Harvard**, Cambridge, MA, 2017
- Diablo Valley College author series**, Pleasant Hill, CA, 2017
- Journal of Language & Literacy Education (JoLLE)** (keynote), University of Georgia, GA, 2017
- European School of Visual Arts**, Angoulême, France, 2017
- 2016 **Annenberg School of Communication**, Penn, PA, 2016
- Davidson College**, Davidson, NC, 2016
- NextGen PhD Series**, University of Iowa, IA, 2016
- Image Lab @** University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2016
- The Battery**, San Francisco, CA, 2016
- Lynd Ward Prize Talk**, Penn State University, PA, 2016
- Jaipur Lit Fest Boulder**, CO, 2016
- San Francisco Art Institute**, 2016
- National Gallery of Art**, Washington, D.C., 2016
- Sketching in Practice Symposium** (keynote), Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC, 2016
- College for Creative Studies: Toyota Lecture**, Detroit, MI, 2016
- Franklin Humanities StoryLab @ Duke**, Raleigh, NC, 2016
- Tapestry: Data Storytelling Conference** (Keynote), Denver, CO, 2016
- Miami University: McComb Conference on Creative Writing** (Keynote), Miami, OH, 2016
- Kent State University**, OH, 2016
- University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign**, 2016
- WHERE NEXT?: Creative Writing, Narrative, Film and Contemporary Art** (Panelist), Alberta College of Art & Design, Calgary, 2016
- Centre for Contemporary Arts** (virtual), Glasgow, 2016
- NYC Department of Education: Comics in the Classroom Conference** (speaker/panelist/workshop), NYC, 2016
- 2015 **Vanderbilt Film Theory & Visual Culture Seminar**, Nashville, TN, 2015
- Moscow International High-Quality Fiction and Non-Fiction Book Fair** (*Virtual*), Moscow, Russia, 2015
- University of Oregon**, Eugene, OR, 2015

- Notre Dame**, South Bend, IN, 2015
- Texas Book Festival** (invited author), Austin, TX (2015)
- Science Meets Comics/Anthropocene Kitchen Symposium**,
Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, 2015
- Harvard Graduate School of Education**, Cambridge, MA, 2015
- Microsoft Research Cambridge**, MA, 2015
- College Unbound**, Providence, RI, 2015
- Teachers College, Columbia University**, NYC, 2015
- Brooklyn Book Festival** (invited author), NYC (2015)
- University of Washington Simpson Center for the Humanities**, Seattle, 2015
- Rochester Institute of Technology**, New York, 2015
- 2014 Princeton University Department of English**, NJ, 2014
- Toledo Museum of Art**, OH, *International Visual Literacy Association* Conference (Keynote), 2014
- CUNY Graduate Center**, NYC, (Panelist), *What Is a Dissertation? New Models, New Methods, New Media*, 2014
- UCLA – Charles E. Young Research Library**, Los Angeles, CA, 2014
- Reform Symposium Free Online Conference (RSCON5): The Future of Education** (Virtual Keynote): “Thinking through Comics,” 2014
- 2013 Visitors Studies Association Conference** (Keynote) Conference, Milwaukee, WI, 2013
- Microsoft Research** Redmond, WA (alongside solo exhibition), 2013
- Stanford University: Graphic Narrative Project**, CA, 2013
- Oakland University**, MI, 2012. “Comics and education”
- Detroit Opera House**, MI, 2007. “Detroit Arts Spaces.”
- Panelist, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MoCAD)**, MI, 2007: “State of the Art: Arts writing in Detroit.”
- University of Michigan School of Art & Design**, MI, 2007. Guest critic.
- Guest Speaker (in-person & virtual)** 2010-Present. Select locations: Georgia Tech, University of Georgia, University of Maryland Baltimore County, University of British Columbia, USC – Henry Jenkins’s grad seminar; Teachers College; Rutgers-Newark – Honors Living-Learning Community; NYU Steinhardt; Marymount Manhattan College, NY; UPenn; Northern Illinois University; Penn State; University of Washington; Providence College; Charles Darwin University (Australia); California College of the Arts; Glenbard School District (IL); University of Calgary; Adelphi University, NY; Kutztown University, PA; Wellesley High School, YouthWrite Camp, Calgary; CLmooc education network.

SERVICE

Comics Studies Minor, Coordinator
 Primary instructor, develop and propose new courses, coordinate with faculty and lecturers on classes, advise students

Comics Studies Affinity Group, Coordinator (2018-ongoing)

Adapting Comics for Blind & Low Vision Readers One Day Virtual Symposium, co-organizer, August 12, 2021

Adapting Comics for Blind & Low Vision Readers Roundtable Discussion, co-organizer, March 23, 2021

SFSU Comics in the Classroom Interactive Online Workshop, co-organizer, January 22, 2021

Thomas Bentley Rue Platinum & Golden Age Comic Book & Adventure Strips Archive, Faculty Coordinator
 Facilitated acquisition of nearly 1,000 comic books and related material, worked extensively with donor and campus partners, including Library where archive is now permanently housed

Planned and hosted reception for Archive at Library (2019), ~80 attendees: faculty, staff, students, and public

Coordinated participation in Undergraduate Research Showcase (2018, 2019)

Guest lectures and Comics workshops for various SF State faculty members

HUM-LS Lecturer Review Committee (2017, 2018)

Classroom Observations for Lecturer and Tenured Faculty (2018)

Mid-Term Department Chair (HUM-LS) Review Committee (2017-2018)

Advising, HUM & LS Students, (ongoing)

Advisor, Liberal Studies Student Organization (LSSO), (2017-2018)

External MFA Thesis Defense Reader for Shuchi Mishra, California College of the Arts, Comics (2019)

External Dissertation Advisor for Doctoral Candidate Rachel Kaminski-Sanders *University of Georgia* (2016-2018)

External Dissertation Advisor for Doctoral Candidate Aimee Jo Valentine *Western Michigan University* (2016-2017)

External Dissertation Advisor for Doctoral Candidate Michele Mercer Lee, *California Institute of Integral Studies* (2015-2016)

External MFA Thesis Defense Reader for Craig Campbell, California College of the Arts, Comics (2017)

MA Thesis Advisor for Brixby Larzelier – Geography (2019)

MA Thesis Defense Reader for Michael Villegas – Humanities (2018)

MA Thesis Advisor for Cathy Vo – Humanities (2017)

Faculty Commencement Speaker, Liberal Studies Graduation (2017, 2018)

Wrote numerous student recommendations for graduate school applications and scholarship awards

GRANTS

LCA Extraordinary Ideas Grant, San Francisco State University, for *Comics in our Classrooms* co-applicant with Jim Gilligan & Trevor Getz as *Comics Studies Working Group*, 2021
\$2,100

LCA Extraordinary Ideas Grant, San Francisco State University, for *Comics in our Classrooms* co-applicant with Yue-Ting Siu as *Comics Studies-Program in Visual Impairment* collaboration, 2020
\$2,000

LCA Extraordinary Ideas Grant, San Francisco State University, for *Comics in our Classrooms* co-applicant with Jim Gilligan as *Comics Studies Working Group*, 2019
\$2,100

Development of Research and Creativity (DRC) Grant, San Francisco State University, 2017-2018
\$7,791

Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Development Grant, for *What Were Comics* (as co-applicant with Bart Beaty and Benjamin Woo), 2015
\$280,879 (CAD)

Teachers College, Columbia University, Provost Doctoral Dissertation Grant, 2014

Office of the Provost, Teachers College Provost Investment Fund, for *Creativity, Play, and the Imagination across the Disciplines* conference (co-applicant with Suzanne Choo), 2011
\$20,000

Microsoft Research sponsorship for *Creativity, Play, and the Imagination across the Disciplines* conference, 2011
\$10,000

HONORS/AWARDS

2021 Marcus Transformative Research Award, San Francisco State University (Sabbatical Fall 2021)

2019 Presidential Award for Professional Development of Probationary Faculty, San Francisco State University, Awarded Sabbatical Spring Term 2019

2018 Eisner Award for Best Short Story for “A Life in Comics: The Graphic Adventures of Karen Green”

2018 HQ Mix (Brazil) for Best Theoretical Book on Comics for Portuguese language edition of *Unflattening (Desaplanar)*

- 2018 Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Design Award for Illustration (Bronze)** for “A Life in Comics: The Graphic Adventures of Karen Green” in Columbia Magazine
- 2018** *The Handbook of Arts-Based Research* (contributing author) winner of the **USA Best Book Awards: Education/Academic** category
- 2016 American Publishers Awards for Professional and Scholarly Excellence (PROSE Award)** in Humanities for *Unflattening*
- 2016 American Publishers Awards for Professional and Scholarly Excellence (PROSE Award)** in Media & Cultural Studies for *Unflattening*
- 2016 Lynd Ward Prize for Graphic Novel of the Year** for *Unflattening*
- 2016 Eisner Award Nomination for Best Academic/Scholarly Work** for *Unflattening*
- 2016 New England Book Show Best Graphic Novel** for *Unflattening*
- 2016 University of Calgary, Students’ Union Teaching Excellence Award**
- 2015 National Art Education Association, Elliot Eisner Doctoral Research Award, Runner-Up**
- 2006 Crain’s Detroit Business, “40 Under 40”**
- 2005 Almont High School, Commencement Speaker**
- 1995 Western Michigan University, Grover C. Bartoo Scholarship** for excellence in mathematics

ACADEMIC
CONFERENCES
Organizer

Creativity, Play, and the Imagination across the Disciplines

- 2011 Teachers College, Columbia University, NYC
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>

Game Show NYC (Concurrent art exhibition)

- Co-organizer, co-curator
Exhibition website: www.gameshownyc.com

Presenter

American Education Research Association (AERA)

- 2020 San Francisco
Multiple sessions – (cancelled pandemic)
- 2018 New York City
Workshop/Performance, *Improvising interventions: Drawing, Dance, and Comics* (w. Andrea Kantrowitz & Kathryn Ricketts)
Symposium, *Scholaristry in Arts-Based Educational Research*
Respondent, *Visual Inquiries into Borders and Perimeters of Learning*
- 2017 San Antonio, TX

- Symposium, *Novel Approaches to ABER* (“Unanticipated Journeys: Comics as Arts-Based Research”)
- Workshop, *How to Draw Comics the Scholarly Way* (“Comics-Based Research: Affordances & Process”)
- Workshop/Performance: *Visual Thinking in Action through Drawing & Comics* (“Thinking in Comics”)
- Roundtable Chair, *Drawing upon Arts-Based Educational Research*
- 2015 Chicago, IL
Symposium, *Aesthetics and Analysis as Self-Collaboration in Comics*
- Workshop, *Idea Generation through Improvisational Drawing*
- Invited talk, *Tribute to Maxine Greene: “Seeing Possibilities with Maxine”*
- 2014 Philadelphia, PA
Symposium, *Comics as Research: Toward an Imaginative Methodology*
- Demonstration/Performance, *Aesthetics and Analysis: Method in the Practice of Arts-Based Educational Research (Beyond Illustration: Shaping Thought Through Comics)*
- 2013 San Francisco, CA
Group, *Unflattening: Reimagining research through a visual-verbal dissertation*
- Group, *Blurring the boundaries: Emerging literacies research methods*
- Roundtable, *Comics as a tool for inquiry*
- Presentation, *Reenvisioning scholarly inquiry: A dissertation in comics form unites visual and verbal*
- 2012 Vancouver, BC
Presentation, *Reuniting visual and verbal: Integrating comics for expansive thinking across the curriculum*
- 2011 New Orleans, LA
Presentation, *Comic Books as Narrative Research Representation Method*

Modern Language Association (MLA)

- 2017 Philadelphia, PA
Panel, *“Leap Tall Buildings in a Single Bound”: Psychoanalysis, Comics, and Architecture*, (“Power in Flat Surfaces: Drawing & Meta-Drawing in Comics”)
- 2016 Austin, TX
Panel, *Developments in Comics Pedagogy*
- 2014 Chicago, IL
Panel, *Beyond the Protomonograph: New Models for the Dissertation*

National Art Education Association (NAEA)

- 2016 Chicago
Workshop, *Making Comics: Pedagogical Possibilities for Visual Literacy*
- Panel, *Graphic Transpositions: Traversing Race, Gender, and Social Justice*

Through Comics

- 2015 New Orleans
Presentation, *Research Works-in-Progress: Questioning the Answers*
Presentation, *Emergent Aesthetics: Image and Text in Arts-Based Research*
- 2013 Fort Worth, TX
Presentation, *Drawing Together: A Discussion on Graphic Novels in Art Education*

Association for Interdisciplinary Studies (AIS)

- 2018 Wayne State University, Detroit
Workshop/Performance, *Improvising Interdisciplinary Interventions: Drawing, Dance, and Comics* (w. Andrea Kantrowitz & Kathryn Ricketts)
- 2016 University of Ottawa, Canada
Workshop (virtual): *Making the Complex Visible: Drawing Interdisciplinary Concepts*
- 2014 Michigan State University
Workshop/presentation: *Integrating the Visual into Interdisciplinary Inquiry through a Comics Dissertation*
- 2013 Miami University, OH
Presentation, *Interdisciplinarity meets Multimodality: A Comics Dissertation Reinvents Inquiry*
- 2012 Oakland University, MI
Presentation, *Integrating visual and verbal: A dissertation in comic book form re-envisioning inquiry*
- 2011 Grand Valley State University, MI
Presentation, *Unflattening: A visual-verbal dissertation reimagines research*

HASTAC (Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory)

- 2015 Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Symposium, *Remix the Diss: Transforming the Dissertation*
Symposium/Workshop, *The Future of Text*
- 2013 Toronto, CA
Presentation, *Unflattening: A visual-verbal inquiry into learning in many dimensions*
- 2011 University of Michigan, MI
Presentation, *Rethinking (through) comics*

Imagining America (IA)

- 2013 Syracuse, NY
Group, *Incorporating Visual Thinking into Research Methodology and Representation*
- 2012 New York City
Group, (Session organizer w. Anastasia Salter & members of *Hack the Dissertation*): *Expanding forms of inquiry*

2011 Minneapolis, MN
Poster, *Unflattening: Reinventing research through a visual-verbal dissertation*

Genres of Scholarly Knowledge Production

2014 HUMlab, Umeå University, Sweden
Invited talk, *Unflattening: A Comics Dissertation Imagines Scholarship*

Thinking through Drawing Conference

2013 Teachers College, NYC
Presentation, *Comics as a Way of Thinking*

Graduate Research Arts Education (GRAE)

2012 Ohio State University, OH
Presentation, *Unflattening: A visual-verbal inquiry into learning in many dimensions*

Rocky Mountain Comics Conference

2012 Denver, CO
Presentation, *Comics as a tool for inquiry: A dissertation in comic book form reimagines scholarship*

Sequential Smart Conference

2012 Juniata College, PA
Presentation, *Comics as a tool for inquiry*

Creativity, Play & the Imagination across the Disciplines Conference

2011 Teachers College, Columbia University, NYC
Presentation (w. Michele Root-Bernstein), *Haiku and Comics: A conversation about Constraints and the Creative Process*

1st Annual International Conference on Fine and Performing Arts

2010 Athens, Greece
Presentation, *Unflattening Education: Creating Possibilities*

European Affective Education Network (EAEN) 10th International Conference

2009 University of the West of Scotland, UK
Presentation, *Creativity Reconsidered: Incorporating Care*

ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIPS

American Education Research Association (AERA), 2011-Present

National Art Education Association (NAEA), 2012-2017

Association for Interdisciplinary Studies (AIS), 2010-Present

Modern Language Association (MLA), 2012-Present

The Comics Studies Society, 2016-Present

HASTAC Scholar, 2011-12

Imagining America, Publicly Active Graduate Education (PAGE) Fellow,
2011-12

EDITORIAL/
CONSULTING

ethnoGRAPHIC: Ethnography in Graphic Form, University of Toronto Press
Series Advisor (2015-Present)

Manuscript Proposal Reviews for Routledge Press

Manuscript Proposal Review for Duke University Press

Peer Review for *Authorship* – academic journal

Peer review for *Open Access Journal of Scholarly Publishing: Communicating Science through Comics: A Method Publications*

SOLO
EXHIBITIONS

Moscow Polytechnic Museum [two-person exhibition], Russia, 2016

Davidson College, Davidson, NC, 2016

University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 2016

Educating Interdisciplinary: The Unflattening Exhibition

Moscow International High-Quality Fiction and Non-Fiction Book Fair, Russia, 2015

Utrecht University, the Netherlands, 2015

Educating Interdisciplinary: The Unflattening Exhibition

Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, 2013

Detroit Public Art Billboard, Ferndale, MI

“Free-Way” Public Art Billboard, 2005

GROUP
EXHIBITIONS

Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, Ohio State University, *Power Lines: Comics and the Environment*, December 2021-May 2022

Global Museum, San Francisco State University, *Climate Stories*, 2019

Bethany College – Mingenback Art Gallery, Kansas, *Seeking*, 2018

Modesto Junior College, California, *Pencils to Pixels*, 2018

Diablo Valley College, California *In Real Life – A Comics Art Show*, 2018

Teachers College, Columbia University, *Envisioning Pedagogical Inquiry, The Making of Arts-Based Educational Research*, NYC, 2017

Greater Denton Arts Council, *Heroes in the Making*, 2016, Denton, Texas

Society of Illustrators: Comics & Cartoon Art Annual, NYC, 2016

Breda, The Netherlands, *Graphic Design Festival*, 2015

Detroit Artists Market, Detroit, MI, *John Korachis Scholarship/Distinguished Alumni Show*, 2013, 2010, 2007

Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI, *Grammar of the Elite* (2012), *Quantified Self* (2012), *Imaging the Future* (2010), *Change* (2009), *Visual Storytelling* (2009)

The Peoples Art of Portland/Po Boy Art Gallery, Portland, OR, *The Comic Show*, 2011

The Ladybug Gallery, *EXIT Detroit*, Detroit, MI, 2010

Macy Art Gallery, Teachers College, *Studio Practices*, NYC, 2010

Detroit Artists Market, *That DAM Box Show*, MI, 2006

Detroit Opera House, *Bravo, Bravo*, MI, 2005

Zeitgeist Gallery, *Restoring the Tree of Liberty*, Detroit, MI, 2004

ADDITIONAL
EXPERIENCE

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

Manhattan Plaza Racket Club, NYC, Professional Tennis Instructor,
2008-2014

Peach Tree Tennis Club, Mount Clemens, MI, Professional Tennis
Instructor, 1999-2008

Port Huron Tennis Club, MI, Professional Tennis Instructor, 1997-1999