

Call for Papers and Presentations: Graphic Novels, Comics and Popular Culture-
SWPACA 2016

Southwest Popular Culture / American Culture Association
<http://southwestpca.org/>

Make plans to join the Southwest PCA/ACA for our 37th annual conference, February 10-13, 2016, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Conference Center in beautiful Albuquerque, New Mexico

The area chair seeks papers/presentation proposals on Graphic Novels and Comics and Popular Culture, due on November 1st, 2015.

Any aspect of Comics and Graphic Novels in Popular Culture will be considered.

Possible panel/discussion topics:

Comics podcasts. With so much comics-related news on websites, another form that has taken off in recent years includes the podcast/radio show. How well do these podcasts relate comic/graphic novels news? We have podcasts on the Golden Age of comics, superhero comics, and most recently *The Comics Alternative*, which goes beyond superheroes to discuss the independents. What impact do podcasts like this have?

The concept of the super-villain! There is much scholarly literature on the superhero but not nearly as much on the super-villain. Yet a superhero is usually only as good or interesting as the super-villain counterpart. Stan Lee said that coming up with interesting super-villains is often difficult. Why? How have super-villains in comics changed over the years? What makes a supervillain like the Joker or Magneto so compelling? We would welcome full panels on supervillains.

There has been a recent rise in superhero movies, What is the future of the superhero-based movie? Will the superhero movie continue to be popular? Has the superhero film run its course? Why are superhero movies still popular?

Pedagogical approaches to teaching graphic novel content. This has become an increasingly important part of comic studies, and the area chair seeks those scholars who would like to present on this topic.

Other topics:

World Comics and their history: manga, Bande dessinée, or fumetto
Sequential art and storytelling
Manga, anime and the movies
Comic conventions/fan culture
Particular artists or writers (Bendis, Steranko, Kirby, Everett, Niles, etc.)
The rise of the graphic novel
What is a graphic novel?
History of newspaper comics!

Gay characters in comics
Film and superheroes!
Adapting graphic novels for the screen
Racism and the X-Men
Spider-Man as the Everyman
Cartoon Network: Good or bad for comics?
Comics and philosophy
Graphic novels as outlets for social justice (e.g., World War III)
Comics as political satire (e.g., Tom Tomorrow, Addicted To War)
Horror comics
“The Resurrection of Captain America” - Why NO comic character ever stays dead.
DC, Marvel, and comic corporations
Comics studies and film studies: How do the two intersect?
The definition of the superhero
Indies and their role
Comics and graphic novels around the world (e.g., Tintin, Asterix)
The scholarly study of graphic novels/comics in the academy
Libraries and graphic novels

Please submit your paper title and 100- to 300-word abstract by November 1, 2015, through our database, which can be accessed at: <http://conference2016.southwestpca.org>

Please note there are monetary awards for the best graduate student papers in a variety of categories. See <http://southwestpca.org/conference/graduate-student-awards>

The organization also has a new open access peer reviewed journal that encourages you to submit your work. See: *Dialogue: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Popular Culture and Pedagogy* at <http://journaldialogue.org/>

37th Annual Conference Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Feb 10-13 2016 annual conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel & Conference Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Submission Deadline: 11/1/15

Conference Hotel:
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Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA 87102
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For more information, please contact:
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