
LIT 307 FINAL PROJECT

Fall 2017

OVERVIEW

You'll be creating a website that analyzes a graphic novel we have not read this course. The project will showcase both your knowledge of the formal devices used by comics artists as well as your ability to integrate outside research into your arguments. We'll have some time to work on the project in class. I'll ask to see a draft of your project before you turn in the final version, which will be due on the last day of class (11/29).

REQUIREMENTS

I've split the requirements into a few sections to help you better understand what I expect from you for this project. The goal is to create a document that creatively presents your analysis and critical opinions

PRIMARY SOURCES

You'll discuss at least two primary sources. It may be helpful to think of a genre (e.g. family memoirs) or author (e.g. Allison Bechdel) that interests you, and then branch out from there. Your primary focus of analysis should be your outside source, but you should at least incorporate some discussion of one of the graphic novels/comics listed on the syllabus. Your primary sources should be in comics form (other types of sources like film, TV, etc. may be useful to your written or visual analysis, but will not count as a primary source).

SECONDARY SOURCES

I expect to see you incorporate and discuss at least three critical sources in your analysis. You must utilize two critical readings from our syllabus (from two different authors) and one outside critical reading. To find an outside critical reading, it may be helpful to look at the authors/works cited in critical readings we covered in class. Note: for your outside source, I'm looking for something published in an academic journal or book, not a book review or blog piece.

IMAGE ANALYSIS

You should select, scan, and include at least six images from the texts you are analyzing. Use assistive features to support your opinions and augment your analysis: captions, callouts, arrows, brackets, etc.

WRITTEN ANALYSIS

I expect to see 2,000 words of original analysis on your site. I encourage you to pull limited quotations from critical sources, interviews with the author, popular press reviews, etc. That being said, don't abuse copy and paste and submit a project that is lacking on your input. For this assignment, you can mix in some opinion in the form of subjective critique, but critique is not limited to "I liked it." Your critique should be supported by textual evidence and respond to critical discourse.

SUMMARY

| | Primary sources (comics) | Secondary sources (critical analysis) | Image analysis | Written analysis |
|----------------|-----------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|
| From syllabus | one | two (from different authors) | at least six, split at your discretion | 2,000 words of analysis |
| Outside source | one | one | | |

WORK PROCESS

I'll expect to see a draft/outline of your work on or before 11/20/17. In my experience, most students that fail to turn in a draft usually end up procrastinating and turning substandard work or failing to finish by the deadline. Your draft is not a finished product. It must only paint the picture of where you're going. You'll ask me some targeted questions when you submit the draft (i.e. more focused than "what do you think about this?"). I'll get back to you with my responses.

The final version of your project is due on the last day of the course (Wednesday, 11/29/17, 11:59pm); late submissions will receive no credit.

EVALUATION

I'll evaluate you on the following criteria:

- Arrangement
 - Design is creative and well organized
 - Easy to read and navigate
- Analysis
 - Meets minimum standards of analysis set forth in assignment
 - Provides original analysis
 - Subjective opinions are nuanced and justified with examples
 - Visual analysis is insightful and easy to follow
 - A draft has been submitted and suggestions are addressed
- Style and clarity
 - Analysis is concise and to the point
 - Care is given to minimizing errors