

# COURSE DETAIL

## HISTORY OF COMICS IN THE USA

**Country**

France

**Host Institution**

University of Bordeaux

**Program(s)**

University of Bordeaux

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

English

**UCEAP Course Number**

139

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

HISTORY OF COMICS IN THE USA

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

HIST COMICS USA

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

## Course Description

This course discusses North American comic books as an ever-transforming form of popular culture from the mid-19th century to the early 21st century. The approach is mostly chronological, from the “invention” of comics in Europe in the 19th century to the rise of graphic novels in the United States since the turn of the 21st century. It also includes examples of the way comics have served as an inspiration for other media – most notably in the contemporary wave of superhero films – and have conversely adapted or imported content origination in other media, from silent movie stars to literary classics. Beyond specific examples, the course offers theoretical approaches to intermediality, with a special focus on adaptation, and address such key notions as genre and cultural hierarchies. The course explains the interactions between technology, market forces, aesthetic choices, intermedial circulation, and social uses in specific comics. It conducts a range of readings including select examples of comics and theoretical texts before each class.

### Language(s) of Instruction

English

### Host Institution Course Number

1MIAM37

### Host Institution Course Title

HISTORY OF COMICS IN THE USA

### Host Institution Course Details

### Host Institution Campus

UNIVERSITÉ BORDEAUX MONTAIGNE

### Host Institution Faculty

### Host Institution Degree

Master

**Host Institution Department**

Etudes anglophones

**Course Last Reviewed**

2024-2025

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