

# COURSE DETAIL

## PARADIGMS OF AMERICAN LITERATURE: AMERICAN GRAPHIC MEMOIR

**Country**

Germany

**Host Institution**

Humboldt University Berlin

**Program(s)**

Humboldt University Berlin

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Women's & Gender Studies English American Studies

**UCEAP Course Number**

114

**UCEAP Course Suffix**

A

**UCEAP Official Title**

PARADIGMS OF AMERICAN LITERATURE: AMERICAN GRAPHIC MEMOIR

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

AMER GRAPHIC MEMOIR

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

## UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

### Course Description

The course discusses contemporary U.S. American graphic memoirs, exploring how comics serve as a powerful medium for autobiographical storytelling. It examines how artists narrate personal and intimate experiences through the interplay of image and text. Students analyze how image and text work together to visualize trauma, self-representation, memory, and resilience—and learn what makes the comic medium such an affective space for narrating stories of illness, displacement, queerness, race, and coming of age. The exploration focuses on both the form and content of these works, analyzing how issues of gender, class, and race are portrayed within these narratives and how they engage with broader U.S. American cultural, social, and political contexts. Readings include a diverse range of voices and styles, from graphic memoirs like Art Spiegelman's *Maus* and Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home*, to more recent works by George Takei, Cece Bell, Nora Krug, and Kindra Neely. As part of the course, students have the opportunity to create their own short graphic memoirs, using accessible tools such as *Making Comics* by Lynda Barry, Canva, or StoryboardThat. This activity is planned to invite students to experiment with visual storytelling and reflect on their own experiences—no artistic background or drawing skills required.

### Language(s) of Instruction

English

### Host Institution Course Number

5250042GS

### Host Institution Course Title

PARADIGMS OF AMERICAN LITERATURE: AMERICAN GRAPHIC MEMOIR

### Host Institution Course Details

<https://agnes.hu-berlin.de/lupo/rds?state=verpublish&status=init&vmfile=no&publ...>

**Host Institution Campus**

**Host Institution Faculty**

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

Zentrum für Transdisziplinäre Geschlechterstudien

**Course Last Reviewed**

2025-2026

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