



Stories in Panels: A Non-Fiction Comics Reading Group

Summer 2025

Course InformationFacilitator: Caitlin Cook

Location: Clark College CCE (18700 SE Mill Plain Blvd,
Vancouver, WA), Room 316

Dates: Wednesdays, 7/23/25 - 8/13/25

Time: 7:00–8:00 PM

Materials: Weekly PDFs (sent via email), optional
supplemental readings

Course Description

Explore the world of non-fiction comics in this engaging, discussion-based reading group. Each week, you'll receive a short comic (10–20 pages) in PDF form, along with discussion questions and supplemental materials—such as interviews with the creators or articles that provide deeper context. Together, we'll explore a range of non-fiction comic genres, including graphic journalism, memoir, informational comics, and graphic medicine. No prior experience with comics is necessary—just curiosity and a willingness to explore stories told in ink and image.

Course Schedule

7/23 Week 1: Memoir

Reading: ???

We'll begin with autobiographical comics, exploring how artists depict personal experiences using visual storytelling. Topics may include memory, voice, and the use of metaphor or visual symbolism in recounting life events.

7/30 Week 2: Graphic Journalism

Reading: ???

We'll examine comics as a tool for reporting on current events or social issues. We'll discuss objectivity, voice, and the strengths/limits of comics journalism compared to traditional reporting.

Selected Bibliography/Resources:

Class Evaluation: Class evaluations are sent by email. Sometimes the email will be delivered to your “junk mail,” but we can assure you it’s from Clark College only. Your responses are completely anonymous. If you do not see your evaluation immediately after class, look in your junk mail and send it to your email address. If you do not receive an evaluation, please email Continuingeducation@clark.edu or call 360.992.2939.

Inclement Weather:

If the College cancels due to icy conditions, you can find this on the college website www.clark.edu. If Community Education concludes that the weather is too hazardous, we may also decide to cancel this class. In that case you will receive both a phone call and email. Make certain that we have your correct contact information by viewing the class roster.

Looking for classes? Visit our Community Education webpage: www.clark.edu/cce/