

Course Syllabus

Superpowered History and Theory

Instructor: Jasmine Bishop, M.Ed.



This syllabus contains the policies and expectations I have established for SKL 1168. Please read the entire syllabus as these policies and expectations are intended to allow for productive learning. If you do not abide by these policies and expectations, you risk losing the opportunity to participate in the course.

Course Description

For decades superheroes have played a wide role in American culture, with comics having denoted, inspired, and chronicled important cultural concepts and historical events through storytelling. This course explores how comics reflect and influence American society as it intersects with racism, sexuality, representation, science, and technology.

Course Instructor

Jasmine has a bachelor's in Software and Information Systems, a Graduate Certificate in Instructional Systems Technology with a concentration in Training and Development, and an M.Ed. in Learning, Design, and Technology with a concentration in Online Teaching and Learning.

She is a doctoral student in UNC Charlotte's Ed.D in Educational Leadership. In addition to formal education programs, she has earned certificates in business analysis, process and project management, higher education administration, and human resources through professional development programs. However, most importantly, she is an avid Marvel Comics fan!

Course Information

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 3

Syllabus Changes

The syllabus may be modified by the instructor as necessary. Students will be notified by email of any changes.

Course Goals

Upon completion of 'Superpowered History and Theory', students will be able to explain the relevance of comic books to American society and culture. (*Understanding*)

Learning Outcomes

- **Differentiate** the various types of storytelling used in comic books. (*Analyzing*)
- **Identify** the ways comic books have impacted American pop culture. (*Remembering*)
- **Interpret** the issues in the context of the American civil rights movement and how comic books were involved. (*Understanding*)
- **Differentiate** how the LGBTQ+ community is represented in comic book storytelling vs the past. (*Analyzing*)
- **Explain** the relationship between religion, myths, and comic book characters and stories. (*Understanding*)
- **Formulate** what possible discoveries could be made based on comic book inventions. (*Creating*)

Learners and Prerequisite Skills

Learners

Knowledge of comic books is not required for the course. It is open to any student interesting in understanding how comics play a part in American society and culture and in good academic standing at UNC Charlotte.

Delivery Method

This is a hybrid course with both online asynchronous (no scheduled meeting times) and synchronous (scheduled meeting times). The course was designed with some online synchronous sessions to allow greater freedom for students to actively contribute to discussions and participate with classmates.

Instructional Strategies

This course uses several instructional strategies to increase student performance and motivation. Students will experience cooperative Learning and roleplaying through synchronous sessions, defend conclusions they have come to through debate and discussion, record their feeling with response journals, and complete alternative assessments.

Course Projects/Activities

- **Introductory Video** – Learners will create and post an introductory video about themselves, why they choose this course, and what they hope to learn.
- **Discussion Boards** - Learners will need to post and then respond to 6 discussion boards throughout the course.
- **Role-playing Sessions** – Learners will participate in two virtual role-playing sessions in which they create and act out superheroes and relate them to American society
- **Final Paper** – Learners will develop a paper on the impact comics have had on and the influences it has taken from American society and culture.

Readings and Course Materials

Course Textbook

There are no purchasable materials required for this course. The course will include information from Openly Available Sources Integrated Search (OASIS).

- [Bulletproof Love: Luke Cage \(2016\) and Religion](https://jrfm.eu/index.php/ojs_jrfm/article/view/83) (https://jrfm.eu/index.php/ojs_jrfm/article/view/83)
- [Good White Queers? : Racism and Whiteness in Queer U.S. Comics](https://library.oapen.org/bitstream/20.500.12657/48339/1/9783839449172.pdf) (https://library.oapen.org/bitstream/20.500.12657/48339/1/9783839449172.pdf)

Supplemental Materials

The instructor will provide additional readings and multimedia via Canvas.

Grading Determination

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade
A	90-100
B	70-89.9
C	60-79.9
D	50-69.9
F	50 or below

Assignment Grade Breakdown

Assignment	Points per Assignment	Total Points
Discussion Board (6)	5	30
Roleplay Sessions (2)	10	20
Final Paper Topic	5	5
Final Paper Draft	10	10
Final Paper	35	35
Total		100

Course Policies

Attendance

- **Asynchronous Content** - You must meet the deadlines for course submissions outlined in the Canvas course modules for this content.

- **Synchronous Content** - You must attend scheduled sessions in order to fully participate in the course. If you fail to attend you will not receive full participate marks and risk not completing the course.

Participation

Students are expected to actively contribute to discussions boards and participate in role-playing sessions.

Missed/Late Assignments

If you are experiencing any issues that may impact your success in this course, please contact me for possible alternative arrangements.

The first late assignment/discussion post can be turned in one day late with no penalty. After that it any late assignment will lose 25% of its points a day.

Plagiarism

Students must follow the UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity, which can be found at:

<https://legal.uncc.edu/policies/up-407>

If you have plagiarized an assignment, you will receive a 0 and will need to schedule time for a consult with me. If it occurs a second time, you will be removed from the course.

Netiquette

Students must follow UNC Charlotte Netiquette guidelines, which can be found at:

<https://teaching.charlotte.edu/academic-technologies/canvas/canvas-students/canvas-netiquette-guidelines> [_ \(https://teaching.charlotte.edu/academic-technologies/canvas/canvas-students/canvas-netiquette-guidelines\)](https://teaching.charlotte.edu/academic-technologies/canvas/canvas-students/canvas-netiquette-guidelines).

Technology and Tools Usage

It is important that all distance education students have convenient access to appropriate technology. Please review the information on the Distance Education website for more details.

Equipment

Students will need the ability to record videos and be able to join virtual group video chats. A web camera and or cellphone camera is needed to participate in the course. A headset/microphone is also needed.

Canvas

This course uses Canvas as the learning management system to deliver course content, administer quizzes, submit assignments, and more, all in a secure online environment.

- [Learn how to use Canvas \(https://uncc.instructure.com/courses/342/pages/student-tutorials?module_item_id=10109\)](https://uncc.instructure.com/courses/342/pages/student-tutorials?module_item_id=10109)
- [Access the Canvas student guide \(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701)
- [Login to Canvas \(http://canvas.uncc.edu/\)](http://canvas.uncc.edu/)

Review the [minimum technical requirements \(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10720\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10720) to access Canvas.

Student Services

- [Office of Disability Services](https://ds.uncc.edu/) [\(https://ds.uncc.edu/\)](https://ds.uncc.edu/)
- [The UNC Charlotte Counseling Center](http://counselingcenter.uncc.edu/) [\(http://counselingcenter.uncc.edu/\)](http://counselingcenter.uncc.edu/)
- [Center for Graduate Life](http://gradlife.uncc.edu/) [\(http://gradlife.uncc.edu/\)](http://gradlife.uncc.edu/)