

Spring 2026
ENGL 4430 - Graphic Novel Credit Hours: (3)
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"Marvel's Black Panther and Radical Imagination"

Catalog Description:

Close study of the nature and cultural significance of the graphic novel genre, characterized by interplay between verbal and visual. PREREQUISITE: ENGL 1010, 1020, and 2201 or 2202 with a "C-" or better, or their equivalent.

Course Description:

Students will engage selected volumes of *Black Panther* graphic novels written by a variety of Black authors including Christopher Priest, Ronald Hudlin, Ta-Nahesi Coates, Nnedi Okorafor, and Karama Horne.

Students will then examine how origin stories and representations of heroes and heroines originating from the African diaspora interrupt commonly held beliefs about who qualifies to be a superhero or superheroine.

Course Objectives:

- Recognize the relationship between visual and textual information in graphic novels.
- Analyze visual elements as both artistic and literary components of the form.
- Explain the relevance of archetypes in graphic novels.
- Recognize the value of graphic novels as vehicles for social justice commentary and radical imagination.